

# Fall Open House November 13, 2020!

St. Bernard

# Happenings



St. Bernard Preparatory School

Fall 2020

## SBP Administrative Assignments Announced

St. Bernard Preparatory School began the 2020-21 academic year with two leadership changes. In order to respond to the changes brought about because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the office of President and Headmaster was

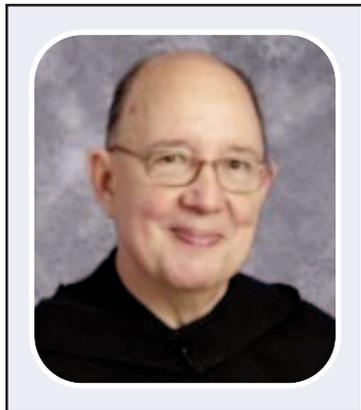
combined with Fr. Joel Martin serving in that capacity. In addition, Fr. Linus Klucsarits now serves as the Director of Admissions.

“Fr. Joel is no stranger to the Headmaster’s Office,” said Abbot

Marcus Voss, Chairman of the St. Bernard School Board. “He has had many years of experience in that office prior to his appointment as the school’s President. Under his leadership as President/Headmaster, I look forward to seeing the school community vigorously respond to the challenges of providing a high quality education during this time of the pandemic.”

“Fr. Linus will make good use of his administrative experience of the past two years as he now becomes the Director of Admissions,” Abbot Marcus continued. “He will oversee the promotion of St. Bernard Preparatory School not only in the local area but also in other communities in north Alabama and beyond. Because we are a

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Fr. Joel Martin, O.S.B.



Fr. Linus Klucsarits, O.S.B.

[HTTPS://STBERNARDPREP.COM/BERNARD-BLUES-BBQ](https://stbernardprep.com/bernard-blues-bbq) (256) 739-6682

## 4th Annual Blues and BBQ Festival Oct. 31 - Nov. 1

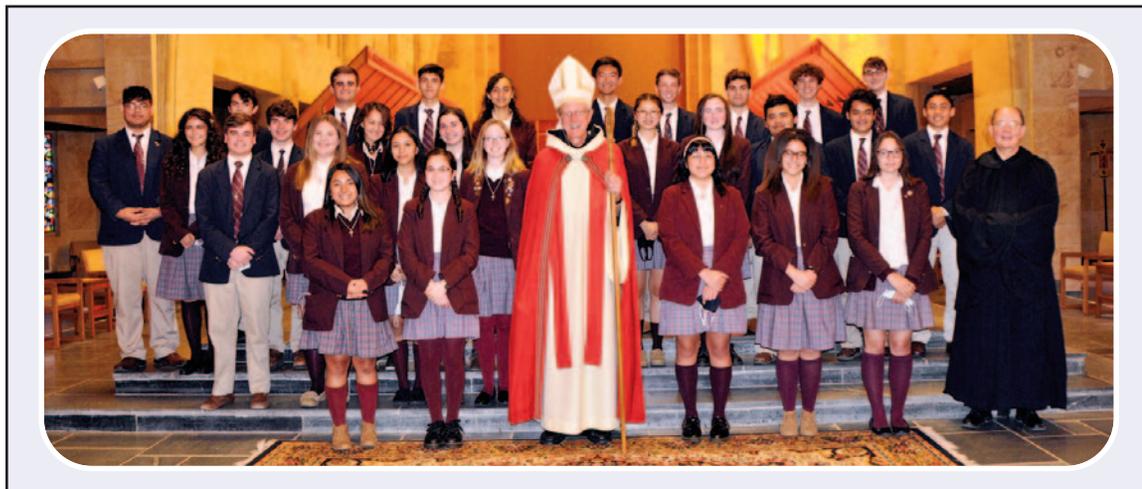
The 4th Annual Bernard Blues and Barbeque is set for Saturday and Sunday, October 31 and November 1, 2020, at St. Bernard Preparatory School in Cullman with all safety protocols in place.

With the ongoing pandemic forcing St. Bernard to cancel this year’s Bloomin’ Festival, festival director Joyce Nix says the school is ready to host a fun weekend and appreciates all prayers and support for a successful fall festival.

Nix continued, “We are making public safety a top priority. We are following all the safety measures and will allow ample space for vendors to spread out to allow for social distancing. We ask patrons to wear masks and be respectful of one another and the art by asking for assistance from the vendors or by applying hand sanitizer before touching.”

More than 100 arts and crafts booths are expected to set up on the beautiful grounds of the Abbey and Prep School. Everything from pottery and ceramics to clothing for the family can be found in addition to birdhouses, handmade brooms, wood turnings, yard art, cypress furniture, quilts, jewelry, purses, soaps and honey and the list goes on.

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### Senior Dedication

Front (L-R): Lupe Ponce-Marquez, Samantha Stefani, Abbot Marcus Voss, Chloe Tombo, Mariane Pichardo, Isabella Warden, and Fr. Joel Martin. 2nd row (L-R): Luis Garcia, Kathleen George, Justin Anders, Caleb Norman, Daniel Bamberry, Toni Shuper, Katherina Gil, Daisy Gutierrez, Anna Beth Guthery, Sara Barck, Helen Kim, Alex Lewis, Daniel Campos, Gary Contreras, and David De Jesus. Back row (L-R): John-David Grey, Joseph Arriaga, Jackelyn Arteaga, Nik Borths, Conor Berry, Francisco Tona, Eli Loyd, and Francis Mami. Not pictured: Girvin Garcia, Zahra Wilson.

## Senior Dedication Held at St. Bernard

Saint Bernard recognized the Senior Class recently during a ceremony in the Abbey Church. Family members along with the Junior Class gathered at 11:10 a.m. on Thursday, October 1st, to recognize each Senior and commend them for their

leadership in the student body at St. Bernard.

The Rt. Rev. Marcus J. Voss gave the homily and reminded seniors that they are the leaders for underclassmen to follow. “I encourage you to recognize the role you play in setting the pace

for the school to follow. Do your best in everything you do!”

“St. Bernard takes pride in its Benedictine tradition,” Abbot Marcus continued. “I encourage each of you to dedicate your lives to work and prayer,

(Continued on page 2)

# St. Bernard Happenings

## Blues & BBQ Oct. 31-Nov. 1

(Continued from page one)

Freddie Day Catering is offering his special barbeque pulled pork, ribs, and chicken. In addition to barbeque, All Steak and Dyron's Lowcountry are joining the festivities providing their world-famous orange rolls and delicious seafood gumbo to the menu. Parents and volunteers are looking forward to grilling hamburgers, hot dogs, and polish sausages as well as strawberry waffles and funnel cakes. All proceeds from the festival benefit St. Bernard Prep School.

On Saturday, children are encouraged to visit the festival in costume at 2 p.m. for a costume contest. Following the contest, children may trick-or-treat the booths until the close of festival at 5 p.m.

Entertainment on Saturday is provided by Incognito Cartel who performs at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The Sinners will take the stage at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Sunday afternoon from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Deja Blue Horns will perform. Following the performance, St. Bernard will draw for winners of over \$12,000 in cash prizes.

Ave Maria Grotto is offering reduced admission prices the entire weekend of only \$4. Tickets for the sweepstakes as well as festival t-shirts are available online and at Ave Maria Grotto until the festival. To purchase online visit:

<https://one.bidpal.net/bernardblues/browse/all>

An admission donation of \$5 per person is requested at the gates. Children 5 and under are free. For more information visit [www.stbernardprep.com/bernard-blues-bbq](http://www.stbernardprep.com/bernard-blues-bbq) or call (256)739-6682.

## Senior Dedication held at St. Bernard

(Continued from page 1)  
hospitality, and hard study. Your role of leadership makes St. Bernard a better place because of what you do today."

Senior Class President, Nikolas Borths echoed sentiments about the uniqueness of St. Bernard which he witnessed during his six years as a student. Borths said, "St. Bernard is a unique place and what makes it unique is the relationships with teachers, students, sports team and coaches."

"I'm a better person today because of the blessings of being at St. Bernard. Our

senior class strives to maintain a high level of maturity and sophistication. We want to be successful, and we have a drive and focus for standing up for what is right," Borths said.

Borths continued by saying, "Now is not the time to let-up. We must work harder as we take up this tremendous responsibility for this school. Lead by example through this challenging time and ask for prayers to accomplish good things during our senior year."

Abbot Marcus blessed the crosses and was assisted by Headmaster, Fr. Joel Martin in presenting them to the class.

Abbot Marcus reminded the students that St. Bernard is a unique place. "Benedictines have been sponsoring schools for 1,500 years. It's rare that a high school has a monastery in the middle of its campus. St. Bernard does. What a wonderful place to receive an outstanding high school education."

Music for the occasion was presented by the St. Bernard Choral Music Program under the direction of Mrs. Ashleigh Russell. Russell also served as organist. Following the service, lunch was provided in the Abbey Byre.



### Middle School SGA

Front row (L-R): Makenzie Cruce - President; Jade Nyugen - Vice President; Aubrey Hastings - Secretary; Sarah Woods - Treasurer; Reid Bissot - 7th grade representative. Back row (L-R): Katie Chamblee - 7th grade representative; Elle Tillitski - 8th grade representative; Nic Fallin - 7th grade representative; Abby McBride - 8th grade representative; Lesly Garcia - 8th grade representative.

### Middle School SGA Officers

(L-R): President - Makenzie Cruce;  
Vice President - Jade Nyugen; Secretary - Aubrey Hastings;  
Treasurer - Sarah Woods.



# St. Bernard Happenings



## Senior Class Officers

Seated (L-R):  
Vice President -  
Anna Beth Guthery;  
Treasurer -  
Toni Ann Shuper.  
Standing (L-R):  
President -  
Nik Borths;  
Secretary -  
Jackelyn Arteaga.



## Junior Class Officers

(L-R): Secretary/Treasurer - John Pechon; President - Merrilee Schartung,  
Vice President - Campbel Whaley.



## Sophomore Class Officers

(L-R): Secretary/Treasurer - Allison Stidham; Vice President -  
Adrian Cortes; President - Ashley Morris.



## Freshman Class Officers

(L-R): Vice President - Grayson Olszowka; President - Emmanuel Santiago;  
Secretary/Treasurer - Scarlette DeCicco.

# SBP Administrative Assignments Announced

(Continued from page one)  
residence school, he will also expand our outreach to other parts of the United States and plans to recruit internationally as more than 125 students began "in-person classes" on Monday, August 17th. The school spent the past few months building and implementing a robust COVID-19 school action plan which prioritizes the safety and wellness of all our students and staff. Over the summer, the dorms have been completely refurbished with new sinks, fresh paint and the restoration of the old

hardwood floors. The campus Quad has received new turf while the Abbey Church has received a new main entrance with new sidewalks and an ADA-compliant ramp.

Since 1891, St. Bernard has offered a well-rounded program in a quiet, safe environment. St. Bernard is a college preparatory program for students in grades 7-12. Anyone interested in the boarding or day program should visit [www.stbernardprep.com](http://www.stbernardprep.com) or call the Admissions Office at (256) 739-6682.

# St. Bernard Happenings

## Students Confirmed at St. Bernard Prep

Sixteen St. Bernard Prep students and two alumni received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday evening September 18, 2020 at Saint Bernard Abbey Church in Cullman, AL.

The Rt. Rev. Marcus J. Voss, Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey, celebrated the Mass and confirmed the students at the request of the Bishop of the Diocese of Birmingham, the Most Rev. Steven Raica.

After a gospel reading by Deacon Tim Vaughn, faculty member of the school, Abbot Marcus gave the homily encouraging those to be confirmed to be the light of Christ in the world. Afterwards the ancient Catholic ritual of Confirmation was performed, with the laying-on-of-hands by the Abbot and priests present, imparting the power of the Holy Spirit on those presenting themselves for the sacrament. Afterward, each candidate was

presented by his or her sponsor, stating the confirmation saint's name of that candidate. Abbot Marcus then anointed the candidates with the oil of Chrism, making the sign of the cross on the forehead of each as he stated their names and said, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."

In his homily, Abbot Marcus said, "Confirmation strengthens and deepens one's relationship with God, giving the power to live as Christ in the world, to fight the good fight. It means accepting responsibility for your faith and destiny. As a childhood you're told what to do, and you react positively to reward and negatively to punishment. In adulthood you do what is right on your own, not to avoid punishment or get a reward, but merely because it's the right thing to do. Confirmation gives to power to enter into that adulthood in Christ. The focus is

on the Holy Spirit, who empowered the apostles on Pentecost and gave them courage

to live their faith. Catholics believe that the same Holy Spirit confirms Catholics during the

Sacrament of Confirmation and gives each the power needed in life."



### Confirmation Candidates

Front (L-R): Fr. Linus Kluscarits, Abbot Marcus Voss, and Deacon Tim Vaughn. (L-R): Joseph Sammon, Maggie Holsomback, Jaya Bahadursingh, Campbel Whaley, Arturo Calinao, Josh Kennedy, Maddie McBride, Gary Contreras, Diego Garcia – Cerna, Emma Whaley, Francis Mami, Enrique Gutierrez, Macy Whaley, David Pascual, Mollie Woods, Riley Holmes, John Pechon, and Jose Zatarain.

## Christmas at Ava Maria Grotto

After last year's successful debut of Christmas at the Grotto, staff at Ave Maria Grotto have decided to turn the event into an annual festival with additional dates and expanded lighting features and activities throughout the grounds.

"Even though we had a limited amount of time to prepare for last year's event, we still had a good turnout," said Roger Steele, Director of the Grotto. "We only had time to light up approximately half the garden so this year we will have the entire grounds lit up so that visitors can get the full effect of Br. Joseph's work as seen during the night."

In addition to expanding lighting throughout the grounds, plans are in place to have live singers, food and also craft vendors on certain dates. "We really want to make this a premier Christmas event in North Alabama, so we hope to have live singers positioned throughout the grounds on certain days in order to create a sacred music experience for our attendees," said Steele. "We also are working with local craft vendors to schedule a 'Christmas Craft Show.' This will be scheduled for one weekend so stay tuned for future

announcements once plans are finalized."

The staff at the Grotto is working closely with St. Bernard Prep in order to find ways for the students to participate in the event to help raise funds for the school as well.

Plans are being made to expand the dates for the event. "We simply did not have enough dates for the event last year to accommodate all of the interest," said Steele. "This year, we plan

on opening the gardens shortly after Thanksgiving and having them remain open through New Year's day. An official schedule of dates and times will be published soon."

"With plans to expand this year's event, the festival will be taking another step toward becoming one of the premier holiday events in the region," said Steele. "The future certainly looks bright for Christmas at the Grotto."



## Saint Bernard's Best Cookies!

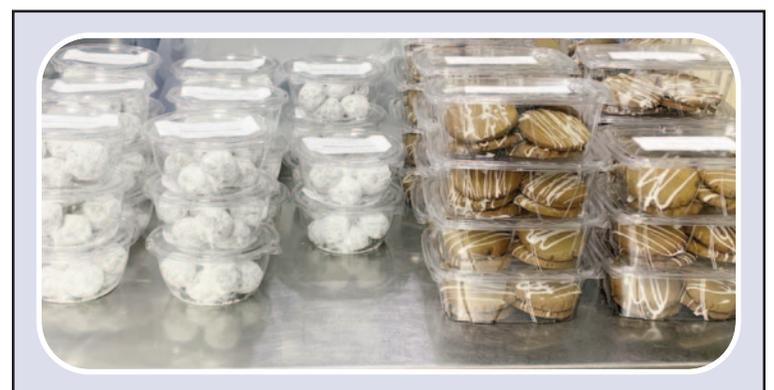
The monks have started baking cookies to be sold at the Grotto alongside Saint Bernard's Best Breads. While 2020 has been a tough year for everyone, filled with a lot of isolation and concerns, the monks would like to bring a little cheer to those who visit Saint Bernard Abbey by sharing something from their own kitchen. Changes have been made to some classic cookie recipes that have resulted in a very tasty and delicious spiced cookie.

Cookie sales began in time for the City of Cullman's Annual OctoberFest. "We started with a nod to our monastery's German heritage by producing spiced cookies called Pfeffernüsse, which is traditionally a Christmas Cookie. Even if you've tried Pfeffernüsse before, we highly recommend you taste one of ours as we have designed the recipe to appeal to both young and old," commented Fr. Bede Marcy, who serves as the Director of St. Bernard Dining Facilities.

"Playing off the theme of the coming holidays, our second cookie is a Gingerbread Cookie," Fr. Bede continued. "The gingerbread cookies are just the thing for cooler temperatures with those wonderful warming spices that make us think of Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas – but why stop there? These wonderful treats can be enjoyed throughout the year."

As for the future, the monks are looking at other treats for the holidays and into the coming year, but for now that is being kept under their hoods.

Feel free to stop by the Grotto and pick up a loaf of bread and some cookies to share with your family and friends. Items are available also by calling 256-734-4110, or on-line.



# St. Bernard Abbey news



Tyler Hooper presents Abbot Marcus Voss, O.S.B. with a check from Daniel Foundation

## Daniel Foundation Supports SBP With \$25K Challenge Grant

For the past several years, Saint Bernard has been improving the looks of the campus since the completion of the newly renovated Heidrich Building.

However, renovations come with a hefty price, but for Jennifer Gray, Program Associate for the Daniel Foundation in Birmingham, Alabama, the decision was easy to make after visiting St. Bernard to evaluate and learn more about Phase II of the Central Campus Improvement Project.

Leveraging work off the completed Central Campus Improvement Project - Phase I, Phase II is focused on the area adjacent to the Quad and Abbey Church. This includes landscaping of a central courtyard to encourage and improve pedestrian activities and flow, adding a handicapped accessible church entrance with door openers and ramp as well as lighting to bolster a safe environment in our greenspaces. This outdoor area is the central hub for our monks, students, staff

and tens of thousands of guests.

Tyler Hooper (PS '07) who joined Saint Bernard Prep School's Development Office just over one year ago is excited to see the project underway and hopes others will join the efforts to see the project completed.

Hooper said, "I am thrilled to have secured a \$25,000 challenge grant from the Daniel Foundation for the project. While we never could have predicted that a pandemic would occur when we began this process in 2019, per the grant terms, we had to regroup and move forward. We are so grateful to our donors that stepped up and committed funds to match the grant requirements. St. Bernard expects to see increased usage of greenspace in the Quad and lake areas and with expanded greenspace and ADA-accessible entry to the Abbey Church, this will provide increased value to our students, festivals, camps, visitors, and groups.

Only funds designated by donors specifically for this project have been used to advance Phase II."

Hooper continued, "Once completed, users will be able to enjoy and commune with nature, even past sunset, through expanded and connected walking paths, refreshed exercise space, and expanded outdoor classroom space for our students."

Feedback from students, faculty, staff, visitors, and guests is they are pleased with the existing greenspace and that expanded greenspace would be of tremendous value for campus connectivity.

We are very appreciative of the long standing support from the Daniel Foundation, and look forward to working with others," Hooper said.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Saint Bernard Central Campus Improvement Project should contact Tyler Hooper by calling (256) 255-5857.

## From the Abbot's Desk...

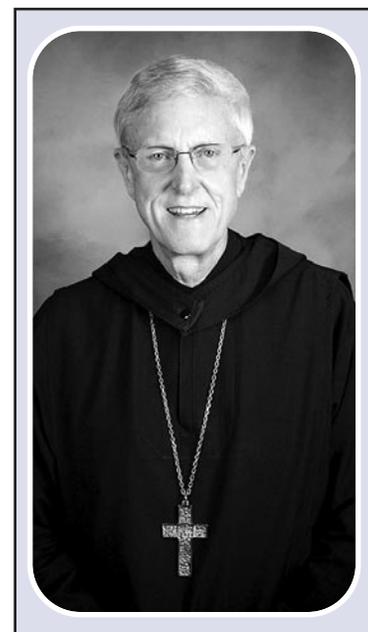
The cool days of autumn have finally arrived at St. Bernard and the campus has begun to dress itself in the wonderful colors of the season. Preparations are being made for the Bernard Blues and Barbeque Fall Festival and the athletic department is preparing for Octoberfest Cross Country event on our campus. Everything seems normal until we see our students and faculty wearing their masks and having their temperatures taken each day they arrive on campus.

The concerns and protocols of the Covid-19 pandemic are still very much with us. When we opened school on August 17th, it was a happy day indeed. Faculty and students were once again in the classroom and the academic program was moving forward, but with a difference. Now, everyone wears a mask, keeps the six-foot distance protocol and, thanks be to God, has remained safe and well.

Along with this good news, the pandemic has certainly brought some major financial challenges in its wake. One such challenge has been the 20% drop in our enrollment, which has resulted in a \$600,000 shortfall in our budget.

By the generous response of our alumni and benefactors to our Summer Appeal, our Special Appeal and our Annual Appeal, we are meeting the challenge of this unprecedented time of need. When the history of St. Bernard is written, those who have supported us during this time of the pandemic, will be especially remembered.

In addition to the news about the pandemic, I'm



Rt. Rev. Marcus J. Voss, O.S.B., Abbot

happy to report that we currently have seven of our monks enrolled in studies. Fr. Bernard Denson, Br. Irenaeus Ceballos, Br. Dominic Lee, Br. Paschal Pautler, Br. Pachomius Alverado, Br. Romanus Davitt and Br. Andrew Peterson will be returning to St. Bernard in the coming years to take their places in the many ministries God has given us. I thank God for these good men and look forward to their return.

I pray that God's protecting hand will be with each of you. I sincerely thank you for your support of St. Bernard especially now, in our hour of need. Your generosity, plus the hard work of the monks, faculty and staff, bodes well for our future.

Know that, when the monks gather in the Church for Mass and prayers, you are being remembered.

*Ab. Marcus, M.S.*

Abbot Marcus J. Voss, O.S.B.

## SBP Cross Country Season Underway

The St Bernard Saints Cross Country teams are off to a great start this fall with major wins in three invitational meets and 2nd and 3rd place finishes in two other meets. The Saints began their 2020 season with a 3rd place finish in the

North Alabama Twilight Invite held at Cullman's Cross Creek Golf Course on August 31. The Saints finished behind 6A Cullman and 5A Randolph in a 10 team meet. Scorers for SBP included: Eli Loyd - 10th (16:16) Joseph Arriaga -

12th (16:31), Nikolas Borths - 16th, David De Jesus - 19th (17:03) and Jiovany Arriaga - 20th (17:07). Also contributing to the team's success were Peter Tran - 30th place, Francisco Tona - 34th place, Cole Bissot - 37th place, Daniel Bamberry - 46th place and Adrian Cortez - 49th place.

The first win for the Saints this year was in the 3A-4A Division of the Chickasaw Trail Invitational at the Oakville Indian Mounds on September 11th where they defeated 20 other schools by a comfortable margin of 25 points. Joseph Arriaga finished in 7th place and Eli Loyd placed 12th to lead the way again for the Saints. Borths, De Jesus, and Jiovany Arriaga placed 16th, 19th, and 20th respectively to round out the scoring.

St. Bernard lost a close one at the Fairview Invitational on September 19th. The Saints lost by one point 75-76, to state contender Pleasant Valley. Brothers Joseph Arriaga (4th place) and Jiovany Arriaga (15th place) went 1-2 for the Saints. Loyd (16th), Borths (18th), and Tran (28th) also contributed to the scoring.

SBP won its second major

Invitational of the year on September 26th at the Cold Springs Kudzu Hills Invitational. The Saints soundly defeated nine other teams by over 40 points including Pleasant Valley. Top five scorers were Joseph Arriaga (3rd), Loyd (8th), De Jesus (10th), Borths (14th) and Jiovany Arriaga (17th).

The Saints took first place in the prestigious Jesse Owens Classic on October 2nd.

Saint Bernard is hosting the 12th Annual St. Bernard Oktoberfest Invitational on October 17th. In addition, SBP and Cullman High will co-host AHSAA Sectional Meets for 1A-2A, 3A and 6A schools on Thursday November 5th. at St. Bernard.

Coach Calvert commented, "The senior leadership on our team this year is phenomenal. We have 6 seniors that have set the tone by training hard and racing with tenacity. The rest of the boys have responded accordingly. We have good depth this year with 10 runners on the varsity team and 7 on the junior high team. If we continue to improve and keep the tight 1-5 split, we should be able

to compete for sectional and state honors in November. "

The Lady Saints Cross Country Team are thin in numbers but big in heart and competitive spirit. Madi Kerber, an All- State Runner in 2019, leads the way for the girls' team. Kerber, an eighth grader, won first place in the NOLA Twilight 2.1 mile run (13:51), finished 15th at Chickasaw Trails 5K (22:58), 3rd at the Fairview Invitational (20:36), 4th at the Cold Springs Kudzu Hills Invitational (21:41), and placed 5th at Jesse Owens Classic.

Newcomer and fellow eighth grader Abbi McBride has burst on the scene with some outstanding performances. Abbi placed 4th at the NOLA Twilight 2.2 mile run (14:46) and ran 22:34 in her first 5k (14th) at the Fairview Invitational. Seniors Kathleen George and Sara Barck are running strong with some top 25 finishes as well.

Coach Calvert's said, "Our girls have trained with purpose and raced with intensity, despite the fact we do not have a full team this year. The goal is for each one of them to qualify for state as individuals."



### Lady Saints Cross Country

(L-R): Sara Barck, Kathleen George, Madi Kerber, and Abbi McBride.



### Varsity Cross Country Takes First Place at Jessie Owens

(L-R): Fr. Linus Kluscarits, Deacon Tim Vaughn, Jiovany Arriaga, Peter Tran, Cesar Hernandez, Daniel Bamberry, David De Jesus, Nik Borths, Daniel Garcia, Eli Loyd, Francisco Tona, Joseph Arriaga, Coach William Calvert and Bill Ellis.

# Volleyball Teams Rebuild at SBP

It's like starting at ground zero for the Saint Bernard Volleyball team. The new year started with brand new players and a brand new coach. With the loss of last year's team which consisted of senior girls, Saint Bernard has a fresh new look of young talent from grades 8-12.

The season has been an incredible experience. First year Coach Alli Messick (SBP '16), has been impressed with the young talent. "I could not ask for a better group of girls to begin my coaching career. They each possess their own unique personality, and every young lady has played a vital role in our season."

The junior varsity and varsity teams have shown tremendous improvements throughout the season. Messick said, "We have had some big victories with

outstanding performances, with two wins against Hanceville and Brilliant! Both teams are very young, with only one senior on varsity.

"The girls played some difficult teams, both within their area and above their class division. Two teams included Meek and Marion County which are ranked in the top ten in the state." Messick said, "We were able to compete with both teams in each match. Even though these games have been tough as well as mentally and physically strenuous, these young ladies continue to demonstrate poise. I see their fire to become better in volleyball grow every day."

Messick sees the Saints Spirit building within her team. "With every good pass, set, and hit, their hunger for learning more,

and trying new things, becomes even greater."

While the girls are having fun honing their volleyball skills, Messick

looks forward to guiding SBP to an even better season next year! "I cannot wait to see how these coming years only benefit

these young women, and the experiences and memories they will cherish forever."



*Varsity Volleyball*

Front row (L-R): Makenzie Cruce, Emma Powell, Amelia Tafazoli, and Brianna Garcia. Back row (L-R): Coach Alli Messick, Toni Shuper, Mollie Woods, Mary Ella Cockerham, and Ashley Morris.

## *Jr Varsity Volleyball*

Front row (L-R): Elle Tillitski, Sarah Woods, Emily Garcia, and Aubrey Hastings. Back row (L-R): Coach Alli Messick, Caroline Sidley, Elana Steele, and Arriana Rossie.



# St. Bernard Happenings

## St. Bernard Band Program Growing

Enrollment in the Saint Bernard Prep School's Fine Arts program is at an all-time high in the beginner band program. However, this has presented a challenge for Band Instructor, Jonathon Farley.

"We are very excited about the future of the band program here at Saint Bernard Prep," Farley said. "This year we have the largest beginner band class the school has ever had. This wonderful news is met with many needs to ensure the success of both current and future students."

Thirty-six additional chairs are needed in the classroom and at least twelve more music stands. Looking ahead, it is necessary to build the school's instrument inventory and music library to provide the best experience for our students. The chairs and stands come with a price

tag of approximately \$2,500.

For the beginning set of instruments Farley plans on finding used instruments so the cost would be significantly less while still providing instruments that are going to be reputable brands. Currently students provide their own instruments, but are multi-talented and may wish to play two instruments.

"Our hope is to stay below \$250 on each," Farley said. "If we could get 5 flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, and trombones that would be an outstanding start. Other wind instruments that the school could use include a Tuba (\$3,000), French horn (\$1,500), and Euphonium (\$1,500). I am also looking for a mallet percussion instrument of some sort. The best option I have found so far is around \$1,000 for a practice

marimba that would work for a program of our size," continued Farley.

"Students would then be able to rent the instruments from the school, before purchasing an instrument to make sure they want to continue in band."

Farley concluded by saying "St. Bernard Prep welcomes gently used instruments anyone may have that are no longer being used. The instruments do not have to be in perfect condition as all instruments can be checked by a repair tech and brought back to new life."

For more information or to make a monetary or instrument donations, contact Jonathon Farley at [jfarley@stbernardprep.com](mailto:jfarley@stbernardprep.com).



### Saint Bernard Prep School Instrument Drive

Our band program is GROWING!!!!

How can you help?

We are looking for any instruments you may have in your attic or closet that you would be interested in donating to the band program.

These instruments will be used to provide instruments for our beginners whose family may not be able to afford an instrument otherwise.

If you have an instrument or any questions, contact Mr. Farley at [jfarley@stbernardprep.com](mailto:jfarley@stbernardprep.com)



*Band instructor Jonathon Farley adjusts David Zatarain's Euphonium*



### Student Government Officers

Front (L-R): President: Alex Lewis, Vice President: Claudia Fallin  
Standing back (L-R): Treasurer: John-David Grey, Secretary: Caleb Norman.

# St. Bernard Alumni news

## Class of 1950 President Revisits St. Bernard

When John Murphy visited St. Bernard during this September, he brought with him his two daughters, Monica and Mary, so he could verify all the stories he had told them since their childhood. For three days they toured the campus as John relived the years when he was enrolled at St. Bernard Junior College.

He first heard of St. Bernard right after he joined the U.S. Army in 1945. "I was doing my basic training at Fort McClellan and some of the guys in my group had graduated from St. Bernard," he said. "They're the ones who encouraged me to come here for college."

After being honorably discharged from the military early in 1947, John enrolled at St. Bernard. "My roommates were Joe Bob Norman and John Paulovich and our room was on the top floor of the Administration Building," John continued. "The high school students were in a big dormitory on that floor, but there were a few rooms that were on the south end of the building for those of us in the Junior College. Fr. Jerome Diffley was our prefect and kept us in line."

"Getting to chapel was no problem since it was just down the hall on the second floor in a building

that was attached to the Admin Building. Also, in that building was the dining hall," he said. "Most of meals were fairly good but sometimes we got a piece of meat that was hard to chew. We called it 'mule meat.' Cullman was a dry county back then but, since I was a veteran, I was eligible to go the VFW in town. On occasion, some of us would walk to town for a visit there."

John went on to say, "I especially remember Fr. Louis Funk who taught us English. We were part of a fraternity he started named Sigma Beta Kappa which had chapters at Catholic University, Manhattan College in New York and St. Francis College in Loretto, Pennsylvania."

John was president of Sigma Beta Kappa as well as the president of his 1950 graduating class. In his course of studies, he had Fr. Andrew Capesius, who taught History, and he remembers his brother, Fr. John Capesius. The old Dramatics Hall was still standing and it was here that Fr. Hilary Dreaper was in charge of the St. Bernard orchestra. Fr. James Morrison taught Math and Fr. Bernard Patterson taught Speech.

Along with his teachers, John was also very  
(Continued on page 10)



John Murphy visits St. Bernard Campus with his daughters (L-R) Mary and Monica.

## Alumni Congratulations



Katelyn Cowie, center, awarded Outstanding Major in Accounting Award

**Katelyn Cowie (PS '17)** an upcoming senior at the University of South Alabama was recently awarded the Outstanding Major in Accounting Award at the University. This award is typically awarded to a senior with the highest GPA. Cowie was nominated by faculty for this award as a Junior based on her tenacity, determination, extracurriculars, GPA, and commitment as an officer in Beta Alpha Psi, as well as her involvement in the Mitchell College of Business. She is currently serving an internship at Horton, Burton, and Lee CPA firm in Birmingham, AL. From left to right are the partners Brian Burnett, Lee Benson, Patricia Oh, H.B Lee III, and Thomas Grainger.

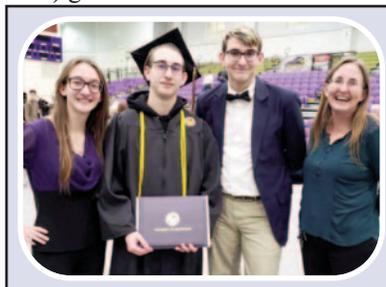
**Theresa Gamble (PS '16)** graduated virtually from the University of Alabama with a BS of Education in the Multiple Abilities Program (teaching certification in both General Ed and Special Ed for Pre-k through sixth grade). She has accepted her first teaching job at Northside Middle School in Northport, AL.

**Jang Kim (PS '15)** Graduated from King's College London in 2020. He earned his first classification BA degree in European Politics. Jang will head back in South Korea to serve in the military for the next year and a half. After his military service is completed, Jang plans to return to Great Britain in order to start law school.



Jang Kim

**Steven Mami (PS '16)** graduated December 2019 Summa Cum Laude from the University of Montevallo with a Bachelor of Science Degree majoring in Mass Communication with a focus on Broadcasting and a minor in Psychology.



Steven Mami  
Montevallo Graduate

**Dani Moeller (PS '16)** recently graduated from UAB with a B.S. in criminal justice and a minor in forensic psychology.

**Dr. Beth Hereford Patin (PS '95)** is currently in her 21st year of teaching. Beth is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Syracuse University in the School of Information Studies and teaches Introduction to Library

and Information Science, Motivating 21st Century Learners, School Library Management, and recently designed a new course on Cultural Competence for Educators and Information Professionals. Her research focuses on information justice for communities that have been historically marginalized or currently facing crisis.

**Drs. Paul (PS '07) and Whitney Richard** graduated from the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2013 and completed their residency at the Montgomery Family Medicine Residency Program with Baptist Hospital in Montgomery, AL. Both are working in Enterprise, AL where Paul is a hospitalist at Medical Center Enterprise and Whitney is a primary care physician at a clinic in town.



Drs. Paul and Whitney Richard

**David Schartung (PS '16)** recently graduated from Auburn University with a Chemical Engineering Degree. He started Medical School at UAB on July 27, 2020.

**Isabella Smith (PS '16)** graduated from Sewanee - the University of the South Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's of Science in Chemistry and minors in Mathematics and Environmental Studies. In the fall Izzy will be attending the University of Southern California to pursue a Ph.D. in Ocean Science.



Isabella Smith

# Alumni News

## NEW ARRIVALS



Roman Axl Nuss

**Patrick (PS '02) and Sara Nuss** welcomed their third son, Roman Axl Nuss to the family on June 14, 2020. Roman weighed 7 lbs, 4 oz. and will join his parents and two older brothers, Troy and Ian, at their home in Tennessee.



Drew Catherine Swartz

**Aileen Cunningham Swartz (PS '96) & Andrew Swartz** welcomed their daughter, Drew Catherine, into the world at 2:36 pm June 4, 2020. She weighed 6 lb, 7 oz, and was 19". Drew Catherine joins her brothers Ryan (12), Blake (10) and sisters Hailey (8) and Claire (5) at their home in Georgia.

## WEDDING

**John Paul Stolz (PS '15)** and Berklie Nix were wed on Saturday, July 11, 2020 in the Abbey Church at St. Bernard. Rev. Joel Martin, OSB officiated the ceremony. The couple resides in Town Creek, AL. JP works for Adventech where he develops technical documentation such as work instructions and procedures.

## '50 Class President Revisits St. Bernard

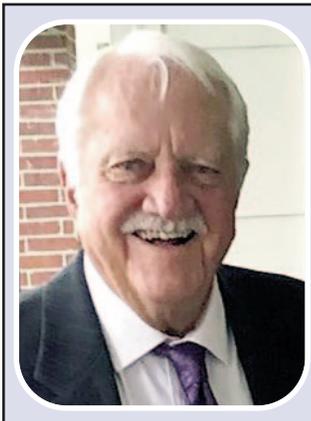
(Continued from page 9)  
close friends with the Kramer family in Cullman and enjoyed his visits with them while a student at St. Bernard. Mrs. Kramer was the sister to Fr. Mark Mages, O.S.B.

"Tom Zimmer was a good friend while I was at St. Bernard," John said. "He played football his freshman year but did not return his sophomore year because the football program had been discontinued. His brother, Dick Zimmer also attended St. Bernard High School and I've stayed in touch with the Zimmer family to this day."

After graduating with an AA degree from St. Bernard, John graduated with a BA degree from Villa Madonna College, KY, which became Thomas More University, KY. He then earned his MBA degree from Xavier University, Ohio.

While at Villa Madonna College, he met Virginia Molloy. They married and became the proud parents of five children, Mark, Matt, Monica, Michael and Mary Ann. A successful businessman, John spent his career in sales, working mainly for General Foods. John was happy to say that Fr. Aloysius Plaisance, the St. Bernard Development Director, visited their home in Miamisburg, Ohio, several times and they shared stories about St. Bernard. John celebrated his 93rd birthday this past April and the stories of his life are as vivid today as they were on the day they happened. Today, John spends his days with his family and takes great pride in his eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. After his three day stay at his Alma Mater he said, "I look forward to my next visit to St. Bernard."

## In Memory



Dwight Price Bennett

**Dwight Price Bennett (HS '59)**, of Cullman passed away at the age of 88. He was a graduate of the University of Alabama and worked in Human Resources in the manufacturing industry. He was a veteran, having served in the United States Air Force. He taught bowling lessons and managed the Cullman Bowling Alley. He is survived by his wife Brenda Couch

Bennett; daughters: Wendy (Carson) Glasscock, Leanna (Scott) MacRae and Kristi (Mike) Wilson; sons: Ken (Lisa) Bennett, Cary (Amy) Bennett and Todd (Catherine) Bennett; step daughters: Bonita Hutchinson and Bonnie (Roby) Coley; step son, Benson (Valerie) Clark; 21 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

**Benton David Blake (C '73)** of Pensacola passed away on July 9, 2020. He attended Catholic High School where he was MVP of the football team for two seasons. After graduating from St Bernard College, he was, for many years, a manager in the Auto Salvage business, in Miami, Tallahassee, and Pensacola. David is remembered as a great athlete, a truly kind and caring son, brother, and uncle with a dry sense of humor. He is survived by siblings Bobby, Tommy, Drew, Mary Hardin, Chris and Paul and many nieces, nephews and cousins.



James Charles Brocato, Jr.

**James (Jim) Charles Brocato, Jr. (HS '54 JRC '56)**, age 84, of Huntsville, passed away Wednesday, May 27th. Jim was a Captain in the Fire Department of Huntsville, AL. He was an active member of the St. Bernard Alumni. He is survived by his wife, Ann Covington Brocato; daughters, Lynn Giddings (Jerome), Karen Warmbrod, and Kelly

Capone, 7 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

**Frances Louise Riddle Passarella Brown, 95**, life-long friend of St. Bernard, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 25, 2020. Ms. Louise was a pioneer in Telecommunications, beginning in August, 1946. For 72 years, she was at the helm of Loretto Telephone Company. She and her husband, Ralph Joseph Passarella donated and installed the first campus-wide automated telephone system at St. Bernard Abbey and School. She remained a generous benefactor to St. Bernard throughout her life. She is survived by twin daughters, Desda Katherine Passarella Hutchins (Jim) and Tanya Passarella Sandy (John); sons, Daniel Henry "Dan" Passarella (Anita); Samuel Adam "Sam" Passarella (companion, Linda Boan) and AJ Passarella (HS'61-62) (Mary Beth); and 12 grandchildren, 20

great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, 12 step-grandchildren, four step-great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

**Judith Fiorentino** passed away in her sleep at her home on Sunday evening, June 28, 2020 at the age of 80. She was an accomplished equestrian and took top honors during her career. She took great pride in training with her good friend and expert horsemen, Jim Graham, considered one of the foremost Eventing trainers and riders in the world. Judith gave her students the ability, confidence, and discipline to unlock and optimize their full potential, both "in" and "out" of the saddle. Judith is survived by her husband, Brigadier General William J. Fiorentino U.S. Army (Retired), her brother, William Clippard of Germany and eleven nieces and nephews.

**Betty Crim Glasscock** passed away on September 10, 2019 at age 88, peacefully in her home. Betty received her BS from St. Bernard's College (Cum Laude), and received an MSSW from University of Tennessee in 1966. From there, Betty launched her 30 year career of Social Work service before her "official" retirement in 1996. Betty worked with Children's Services before beginning her long affiliation with the School of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she moved from Instructor, through the ranks, to Associate Dean of Student Affairs for the School of Public Health.



Betty Crim Glasscock

**Charles Edward "Ed" Henke (C '57)** passed away at the age of 86 on August 3, 2020. A native of Cullman, AL, Ed received his B.S. Degree from St. Bernard College in 1957, after serving in the U. S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant while serving in the Army Reserve. He continued his government service at Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center. Ed served on the civic and church boards throughout his life and was a member of St. John's Evangelical Church for many years. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Doris Schafer Henke; daughter, Teri Hansen (David); son, Tim Henke (Tracy); and four grandchildren.

**Kevin Kisbey-Green, age 64**, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Tuesday, July 21, 2020. All three of his children are alumni of St. Bernard Prep School. He is survived by his wife: Dolores Kisbey-Green; mother: Eithne Maire Hogan Kisbey-Green; son: **Brendan Kisbey-Green, (PS '01)**; daughters: **Angela (Chris) Ascherman (PS '02)** and **Kathleen (Patrick) Whatley (PS '05)**; and, nine grandchildren.

**Most Reverend Oscar Hugh Lipscomb JC'51**, Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Mobile, died peacefully on the morning of Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at Sacred Heart Residence of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Mobile. After graduating from St. Bernard Junior College in Cullman, AL, he went on to study theology at The Pontifical North American College and Gregorian University in

# St. Bernard Alumni news

## In Memory

Rome. He was ordained to the Priesthood on July 15, 1956 in Rome. He earned an M.A. (1960) and Ph.D. (1963) in History from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Most Reverend Oscar H. Lipscomb was ordained as the First Archbishop of Mobile on November 16, 1980 at the Mobile Civic Center by Most Reverend John L. May, his predecessor. He is survived by his nephew, Joseph M. Bolton, Jr. (Linda) of Daphne, his cousin, Mrs. Raye White of Houston, Texas, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

**Andrew Odine Nacilla (PS '07)** passed away on June 30, 2020.

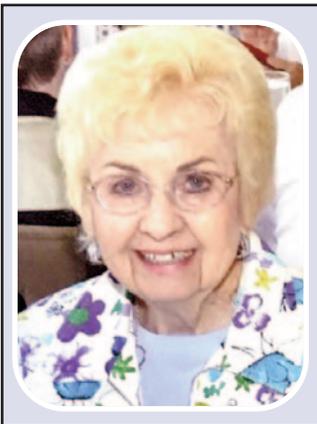
**Kim Annette (Boike) Nuss, age 58,** passed away Saturday, August 22, 2020 in Blountville, TN. She graduated with a degree in Accounting from Palm Beach Atlantic University in 1983. After practicing many years in the business world Kim decided she was more interested in medicine. In 2004 Kim graduated with a master's degree from Bethel University in McKenzie, Tennessee as a Physician Assistant. Kim loved medicine and helping others. Kim was married to her high school sweetheart Aaron Joel Nuss for 40 years. Kim's legacy is her three children **Patrick Aaron Nuss, PS '2002** (wife Sara Nuss), **Kristin Marie Bridewell, PS '2002** (husband Mark Bridewell), and Amber Alayne Hetzler (husband Jeremy Hetzler); seven grandchildren.



*Robert Carl Phillips*

his wife of 57 years, Jeanne Livingston and sister, Betty Smith, nieces Kristy (Paul) Pinyon, Deanna Little, Karin (Terry) Ritchey and nephews Mark (Stacey) Goodwin, Eddie (Melanie) Goodwin. He was predeceased by his parents Carl and Gladys Caple Phillips and sister, Marge Goodwin.

**Mildred Eudy Terrell (C '60)** passed away on April 9, 2020 at the age of 90. She received her B.S. degree from St. Bernard, her M.A. plus additional graduate work at the University of North Alabama. Mildred taught in the Cullman County School System for 30+ years and taught adjunct at Wallace State, Hanceville, AL. Mildred is survived by her son, Bobby (Paula) Terrell; Tusculumbia, AL; her daughter, Tina Hulse, Cullman, AL.



*Mildred Eudy Terrell*

**Dr. Nancy Freebairn Thornton, mother of Wren (PS '17) and Will Thornton** died July 6, 2020, following a lengthy illness. Nancy graduated from Arizona State

University with a degree in Urban Planning. She later earned a Master's degree in Management from the University of Oklahoma and a Doctorate in Psychology from the Forest Institute of Professional Psychology.

Nancy joined the Army in February 1971. During her distinguished military career, she had many firsts, and received many awards.

After retirement from the Army, Dr. Thornton was in private practice as a psychotherapist in both Jasper and Cullman, Alabama, and served as adjunct faculty at Bevill Community College and Wallace Community College.

Nancy is survived by her husband of 14 years, LTC (ret) Michael Burchett; brother, John Arthur Black, Jr. in Sedona, Arizona; brother, Bruce Leonard Black in Portland, Oregon; sister, Jane Akin Gilbert in Flagstaff, Arizona; seven children - Doug (Anita) Burchett, Bloomburg, Texas; Ann (Mark) Wilkinson, Jonesboro, Georgia; Bethea (Frank) Burchett, Linden, Texas; Michelle (Omar) Valentin, Bivins, Texas; Jeb (Mary) Burchett, West Chester, Pennsylvania; twins, **Will and Wren Thornton**, Cullman, Alabama; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Burial was at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC.

**Fr. Henry Thorsen (HS '45, JC '47),** age 92, of Pensacola passed away Monday, July 13, 2020. Fr. Thorsen took his first studies in the priesthood at St. Bernard Minor Seminary, prior to completing his preparation at the Major Seminary at St. Mary's in Baltimore, MD. On May 23, 1953 Fr. Thorsen was ordained by Bishop (Archbishop) Thomas J. Toolen. After early parish assignments, Father Thorsen entered the Air Force as a Captain in November of 1962. He retired as a Major in November of 1982 and returned to the Birmingham Diocese, where he continued his parish ministry. In the years since retirement, Fr. Thorsen assisted priests in Alabama, as well as the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee. Fr. Thorsen is survived by his sister, Annie E. Klipp; brother, James A. Thorsen (Mary A.) and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Dr. Stephen John Toner (HS '57),** 79, passed away on July 7, 2020. He married Renee in August 1962. They had two children, Christiana and Michael. After graduating from the University of Alabama Medical School in 1966 and completing his residency, Steve served two years at Eglin Hospital in the Air Force from 1971 to 1973. He then then began his Ear, Nose and Throat practice in Panama City, which he continued until his death. He is survived by his wife, Renee, his children and three grandchildren.



*Dr. Stephen John Toner*

**Anna "Anne" Voelmle** of Richboro died peacefully on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was 90. Anne was the beloved wife of 65 years to the late John J. "Jack" Voelmle Sr. She was devoted to family and helping those less fortunate. She was a true role model of the Catholic faith. Anne's professional career spanned over 30 years as an office manager for an ENT Practice at Frankford Torresdale Hospital; she retired in 1995. She is survived by her children, Carol A. Zernick and her husband, Ronald, of Ivyland, Barbara M. Holdren and her husband, Donald Sr., of Holland, **John J. "Jack" Voelmle Jr. (C '78)** and his wife, Mariann, of Hershey, and Alison T. Cacchio and her husband, John, of Richboro. She is also survived by her 13 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

**Mike Wells (C '66)** passed away peacefully at his home in Fort Payne, surrounded by his family on September 3, 2020. He received a B.A. degree in Business Administration from St. Bernard College, with later certification in Geographic Information Systems from Lawson State Community College.

He was active in both church and community life serving as Boy Scout Leader and was awarded Order of the Arrow. He used his business degree and began his career in computers at King Pharr Canning Operation. He lived in Marion Alabama, where he met Elizabeth Crabtree, whom he married in March 1975. When King Pharr Company closed. Michael began work at Grey Printing, as office manager and installed the company's first computer system. Michael began his twenty-five-year career at Alabama Power/Southern Company developing and designing both mainframe and PC based systems; he retired as a Senior Lead Analyst in 2000. His next career move was with Blue Cross Blue Shield, which enabled him to work as Senior Statistician for Cahaba Government Benefits Administration, retiring in 2015. He was an active member of the Vestavia hills Baptist Church. He served as President of the Alabama Archeological Society and Birmingham Genealogical Society. He was active on the local, state, and national levels of Sons of the American Revolution. Most important to Michael was his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth Crabtree Wells, and his daughter, Michaele Wells Jones (Chris), his two grandsons, Tucker and Hudson, his brothers Richard H. Wells (Donna), and James "Jimmy" F. Wells (Cindy), and numerous nieces and nephews.



*Mike Wells*

**Peggy Chow Weinzierl,** age 69, passed away suddenly in her sleep on Saturday evening, June 27, 2020. A native of Taiwan, she move to the United States with her husband in 1978. Peggy loved the quiet, southern, suburban lifestyle in Madison, AL, and became involved in many philanthropic Madison City and St John the Baptist Catholic Church activities to which she devoted many hours. Peggy was most happy being mother, wife, and homemaker to her family. Those who knew her were impressed most by her beauty, charm, wisdom, and a deep love for our Lord. She is survived by her husband of 43 years, William George Weinzierl; son, **William Garrett Weinzierl (PS '03);** daughter, **Chelsy Nicole Weinzierl (PS '02 - '03)** and extended family.

**James "Jim" Stalls (C '64)** lost his hard-fought battle with metastatic melanoma in the Butterfly Wing of the Hospice of Baton Rouge on September 30, 2020. He was President and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of South Central Louisiana from 1994 until his retirement in 2018. Jim was highly recognizable because of his frequent radio and television appearances, offering consumer advice on fraudulent offers plaguing the area. After receiving his BA degree from St. Bernard College, he served in the U.S. Army Reserves for six years. Jim began his BBB career in Memphis, before accepting the presidency of the BBB of Delaware. He ran organization for 17 years, then came to Baton Rouge in 1994. A devout Catholic, Jim was an active parishioner at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Jim leaves to cherish his memories, his wife of 51 years, Julie Stalls, his beloved daughter Amy Linton, her husband Jeremy and their daughter Kathryn.

# St. Bernard Happenings

## 30 Days of Thanks and Giving Invites Donors to Beautify Campus This Year

Our annual *30 Days of Thanks and Giving* campaign officially begins November 2, however the giving site is now open and live at [donate.onecause.com/sbp30days](https://donate.onecause.com/sbp30days). The campaign annually takes on a specific, unique project to St. Bernard. In 2019 the campaign supported the St. Bernard Educational Foundation.

This year, the month-long campaign aims to raise \$15,000 for new benches to add and replace needed outdoor seating across five zones: Abbey Church, Boys' Dorm, Fazi-Richard Athletic Center, Heidrich Library,

and the Quad.

For a tax-deductible gift of \$1,500 you can sponsor a weather-resistant coated steel bench which includes a customized donor recognition plaque mounted onto the bench, creating a commemoration that will last for generations to come. The bench and plaque materials selected are designed to endure the variable Alabama seasons. Benches measure approximately 7.5 feet wide, 3 feet tall, and 1.5 feet deep.

Each year in the month leading up to Giving Tuesday (this year on December 1), we ask our

monks, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and friends, "Why are YOU thankful for St. Bernard?" Quotes collected are then shared across multiple digital platforms including Facebook, [stbernardprep.com](https://stbernardprep.com), and our OneCause giving page.

There's still time to share your quote! Visit [surveymonkey.com/r/2KZ7W7J](https://surveymonkey.com/r/2KZ7W7J) or call (256) 255-5857.

Development and Alumni Officer Tyler Hooper (PS '07) stated that St. Bernard is long overdue for safer, updated outdoor seating options: "The majority of

our limited outdoor seating dates from when St. Bernard College was in operation – over 40 years ago. We are in need of modern, safer seating options across our campus. In alignment with the Benedictine core value of hospitality, this will give more seating options to our students for outdoor classrooms, a need noted by our faculty in these socially distanced times. Benches will also be utilized during break and after school, as well as for our monks and visitors including retreat guests, Camp St. Bernard campers, festival attendees, and beyond."

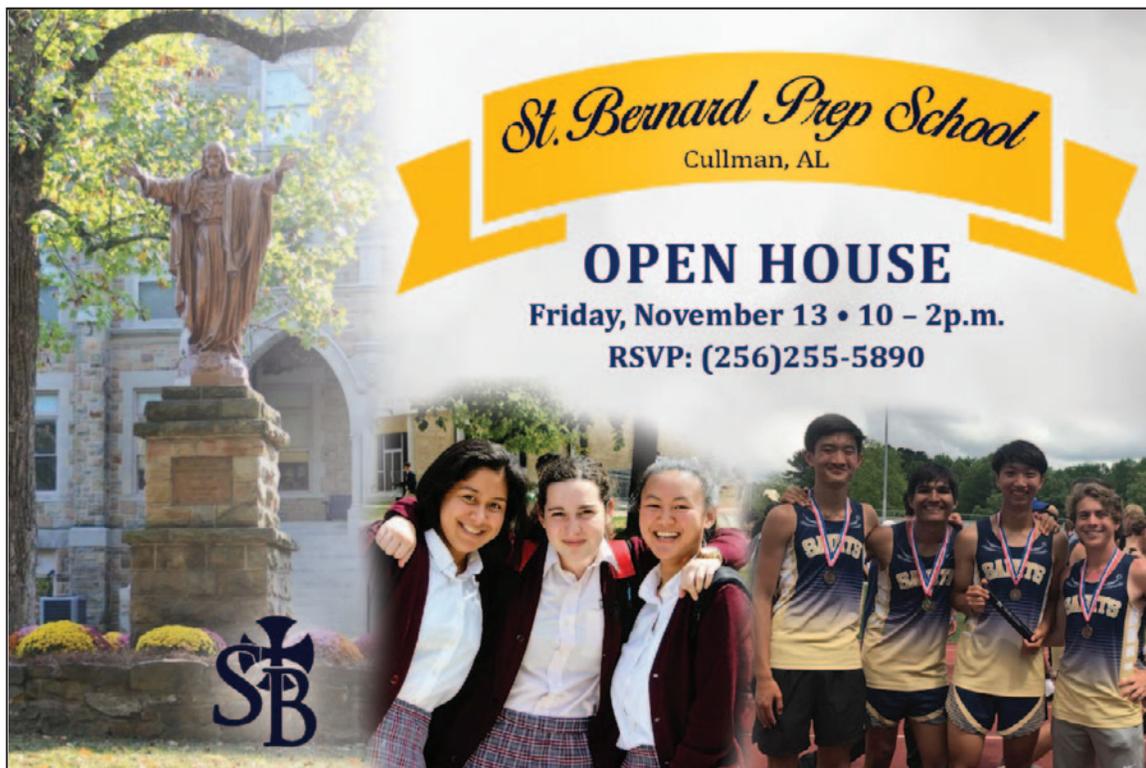
Making a gift online is easy. Visit [donate.onecause.com/sbp30days](https://donate.onecause.com/sbp30days) to give securely and instantly from your computer, tablet, or smartphone. While there, you can view bench and plaque samples, learn more about the project, and review our most frequently asked questions.

Hooper noted that some bench sponsor commitments are already in and placement requests for benches are honored *first come, first served*: "I am thrilled that we

already have commitments and encourage all interested to make a gift as soon as possible to ensure a better chance of having your bench site request honored."

Contact the Development and Alumni Office at (256) 255-5857 if you have additional questions, need more information, or would like to make a gift by mail.

Hooper concluded, "I invite any individual, company, group, or alumni class to sponsor a bench. It is a perfect, lasting tribute to individuals or an event, especially those with a St. Bernard connection: a beloved monk, teacher, a Saints team victory – the possibilities are endless! These benches will beautify our campus and show everyone the pride and love we have for St. Bernard."



Maggie Holsomback and Joseph Keith enjoy their lunch break on the quad



Old Bench in Disrepair

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