

Spring Open House March 12, 2021!

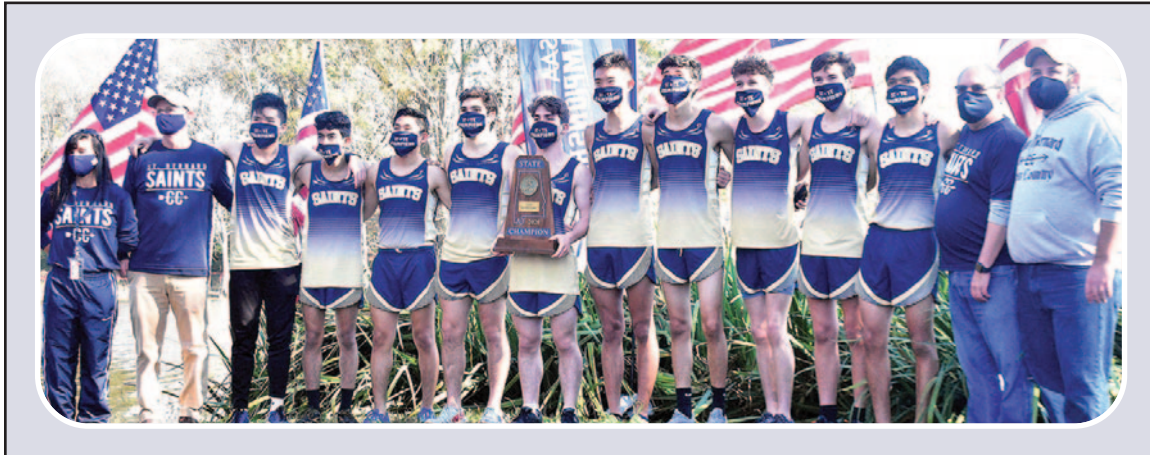
St. Bernard Happenings



St. Bernard Preparatory School

Winter 2020-21

St. Bernard Cross Country Claims 3A State Title



St. Bernard Cross Country Team

Assistant Coach Katie Clemmons, Coach William Calvert, Peter Tran, Adrian Cortes, David DeJesus, Francisco Tona, Daniel Bamberry, Nikolas Borths, Joseph Arriaga, Elijah Loyd, Cole Bissot, Jiovany Arriaga, Assistant Coach Deacon Tim Vaughn, and Griffin Whacker.

The St Bernard Boys Cross Country Team took home the Class 3A title at the AHSAA State Cross Country Championships held at the Oakville Indian Mounds Park on November 14, 2020. The Saints won by 5 points over 2nd place J.B. Pennington. It was the first state title since winning the 2016 1A-2A title. St. Bernard is a 1A school, but competes in the 3A division in cross country due to the AHSAA Private School Competitive Balance Factor Rule.

The Saints were led by senior Joseph Arriaga, who earned All-State honors for

the 2nd straight year by finishing in 15th place (17:43). Fellow senior Eli Loyd was right behind him in 16th place (17:44) Jiovany Aguilar-Arriaga (26th), David De Jesus (28th) and Peter Tran (31st) rounded out the top five scoring for St. Bernard. Nikolas Borths Francisco Tona, Adrian Cortez, Cole Bissot and Daniel Bamberry also contributed to the Saints successful championship run.

William Calvert, coach for the team, said the following:

“When practices started in
(Continued on page 8)

St. Bernard Finishes First Semester In Session

Blessing is the first word to come to mind as St. Bernard students finished first semester exams at St. Bernard Prep. President and Development Director, Fr. Joel Martin said the school had certainly been blessed as the coronavirus has not been in contact with anyone residing on campus.

“We had students to quarantine

locally due to exposure to the coronavirus, but to my knowledge, no one on campus has been sick,” Fr. Joel said. The monks are eagerly waiting for the vaccine to arrive and be treated for the deadly virus that has claimed the lives of many they serve.

The first semester proved to be eventful in spite of the many covid challenges. Saint Bernard hosted the

4th Annual Bernard Blues and BBQ in October. The Saint Bernard Boys Cross Country team claimed the Class 3-A State Cross Country title. The Lady Saints Bowling Team earned a trip to represent St. Bernard Prep in the state playoffs for their competitive efforts in January. Meanwhile, in-

person classes as well as online classes have been successful.

Basketball season is a wrap as students played area games over the holidays which had been postponed during season play.

“I am continually amazed at the
(Continued on page 2)

Bloomin' Festival set for April 17-18

Spring is on its way and so is the 37th Annual Bloomin' Festival, April 17 and 18, 2021. St. Bernard Prep School is preparing to welcome over 150 artisans and thousands of patrons to our campus for this annual two-day festival of arts and crafts, with food, music and entertainment for all.

Festival Director Joyce Nix is excited to see so much interest at this early date. Everything from pottery and ceramics, to stained glass, woodwork, birdhouses, jewelry, clothing, dolls, brooms, fresh ground cornmeal and grits, to funnel cakes, kettle corn, roasted almonds, fudge, cookies, and St. Bernard's Best Bread will be

available. Ave Maria Grotto has reduced rates to only \$4 per person for the entire weekend.

At the conclusion of the festival on Sunday afternoon, April 18, St. Bernard will give away a 2021 Jeep Renegade from Cullman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram. Other prizes include a set of Apple AirPods, Fitbit Charge 3 watch, Google Nest Hub, and a special Electric Oral B Toothbrush.

Tickets are available at the school or Ave Maria Grotto for a donation of \$5 per ticket or \$25 for a sheet of 6 tickets. Now more than ever, these donations are vital to the

(Continued on page 3)



Leonda Whetstone of Huntsville, AL will be bringing handmade baskets to the festival.

St. Bernard Happenings

30 Days of Thanks and Giving Raises 333% of Goal

30 Days of Thanks and Giving 2020 was a resounding success raising \$50,000 over the month-long Giving Tuesday campaign set to raise \$15,000 for new benches to add and replace needed outdoor seating across campus.

Development and Alumni Officer Tyler Hooper (PS '07) is ecstatic over the response of the project, "I expected we would reach our initial goal, but I had no idea that we would exceed the goal by the leaps and bounds that we did. I received many phone calls and emails from across the

country from donors and alumni that wanted to participate in the program. We even had to expand the zones on campus to accommodate more benches! It was very humbling to see the tremendous response and outpouring of love for St. Bernard."

30 Days of Thanks and Giving is an annual autumn campaign that celebrates St. Bernard and its most important asset — our people. Each year in the month leading up to Giving Tuesday, we ask our monks, faculty, staff, parents,

alumni, and friends, "Why are you thankful for St. Bernard?" These sentiments of gratitude are then shared across our website, Facebook page, and OneCause giving site.

Donors, including friends of the Abbey and School from many walks of life, were able to sponsor benches which include customized recognition plaques mounted to them, creating commemorations that will last for generations to come. Hooper said, "The most enjoyable part of the project was getting to listen to the donors' stories about the

people being honored or memorialized through the benches. These physical connections to St. Bernard for the donors are gifts that will continue to give as they will provide ample seating for our students, monks, guests, visitors — all who venture to this special place."

The benches were delivered to St. Bernard in January 2021. Hooper said, "The benches are now in the capable hands of our physical plant. This team is now working to assemble and place them. I am currently in the preliminary stages with our

engraver to ready the bench plaques. We are ahead of schedule and should easily meet the goal of having every bench and plaque installed in time for Bloomin' Festival 2021, April 17 and 18. I speak for all of us at St. Bernard when I say 'Thank you!' to each and every donor who participated so generously in *30 Days of Thanks and Giving 2020*."

To learn more about the project visit stbernardprep.com/30-days.

St. Bernard Prep Finishes First Semester In Session

(Continued from page 1) talents of our teachers and students. When school closed last March because of the virus, the faculty had little time to prepare for remote classes, but they pull it off like the champions they are. It is wonderful to watch our teachers interact with their students while in quarantine," Fr. Joel said. "They participate from the comforts of their homes as if they were in the classroom."

Everyday classes are recorded at St. Bernard to ensure that all students have access to the same quality instruction. "It's the next best thing to being there," laughed Fr. Joel. "We do the best we can with what we have."

St. Bernard Preparatory School is a co-educational, residential and day school for grades 7-12 located in Cullman Alabama. St. Bernard offers a rigorous college preparatory education steeped in the

Benedictine tradition, designed to help the student grow in BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT.

Anyone interested in making application for 2021-2022 academic year may apply online at www.stbernardprep.com.

For a campus tour, contact Fr. Linus Klucsarits (256) 255-5890; (256) 727-0980 cell; or email: frlinus@stbernardprep.com.

Honor, Merit Roll

The following students achieved an average of 95.0 and above for the first semester:

HONOR ROLL

Grade 9
Scarlette DeCicco
Audrey Gil
Will Lyons
Amelia Tafazoli
Andrew Tombo
Sydney Watwood
Ethan Wu

Grade 10
Cole Bissot
Ava Buckingham
Mary Ella Cockerham
Adrian Cortes-Villegas
Kiara Garcia
Natalie Garcia
Charles Gil
Elizabeth Hazard
Ashley Morris
Xavier Pautler

Grade 11
Claudia Fallin
Riley Holmes
Maggie Holsomback
Joseph Keith
Maddie McBride
David Pascual-Contreras
John Pechon
Merrilee Scharitung
Morgan Waites
Piper Watson

Campbel Whaley
Emma Whaley
Mollie Woods
Grade 12
Justin Anders
Jackelyn Arteaga
Sara Barck
Conor Berry
Nik Borths
David DeJesus
Kathleen George
John-David Grey
Anna Beth Guthery
Alex Lewis
Caleb Norman
Marianee Pichardo
Toni Shuper
Izzy Warden

Middle School
Grade 7
Charli Roberson
Sarah Woods

Grade 8
Marissa Hazard
Madi Kerber
Abby McBride
Willa Smith

The following students achieved Merit Roll status at St. Bernard Prep with their semester average of 90.0-94.9:

MERIT ROLL
Grade 9
Cesar Hernandez
Ashton Lindsey

Emma Powell
Caroline Sidley

Grade 10
Jiovany Arriaga
Brianna Garcia
Allison Stidham

Grade 11
Adrian Gershfeld
Enrique Gutierrez
Joseph Sammon
Xiran Shu

Grade 12
Joseph Arriaga
Luis Garcia
Helen Kim
Samantha Stefani
Chloe Tombo
Francisco Tona

Middle School
Grade 7
Katie Chamblee
Nic Fallin
Danny Garcia
Parker Guthrey
Gavitt Lewis
Josh Marks
Abel Morris
Alexander Nacilla

Grade 8
Makenzie Cruce
Carter Daily
Lesly Garcia
Madison Moody
Jade Nguyen
Joey Shadowens
Allie Stewart

JOIN US!

Saint Bernard Prep School OPEN HOUSE

**Friday
March 12th, 2021**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

(256) 739-6682

Happenings

Bloomin' Festival set for April 17-18

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operation of St. Bernard Prep School.

"I am very optimistic that this will be one of the largest festivals in recent history for the school," said Nix. "While Covid-19 is still in our midst, St. Bernard will be following all health and safety protocols while ensuring that vendors and guests stay as safe as possible, socially distanced. We had a great test run of our safety measures at our fall Bernard Blues and

Barbeque. We ask for prayers that the pandemic will subside and our festival can take place safely as our artisans and school community carry out this beloved St. Bernard tradition," Nix said.

The festival is held out of doors. Festival hours are 9 am - 5 pm on Saturday and 9 am - 4 pm on Sunday. For more opportunities to win, please visit our website at www.bloominfestival.com. Commemorative t-shirts will also be available.



Bab Schnabl of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin is excited to be with us with her beautiful pressed flower art. Visit her online at www.windowstothegarden.com



Liping Jackson of Clinton, Mississippi returns with fun clay animals.



Jerry Lashley of Lithia Springs, Georgia will have plenty of nice cypress outdoor furniture available at Bloomin' Festival.



Finklea's freshly popped kettlecorn is always a crowd favorite

37th Annual
Bloomin' Festival
Arts and Crafts Fair
April 17-18, 2020 9-5 p.m. Saturday, 9-4 Sunday
Be watching for your tickets in the mail to win the following:
 1st Prize – 2021 JEEP® RENEGADE
 2nd Prize – Apple AirPods
 3rd Prize – Fitbit Charge 3 Watch
 4th Prize – Google Nest Hub
 5th Prize – Oral B Toothbrush
 Visit the website www.bloominfestival.com or like us on <https://www.facebook.com/bloominfestival/>

St. Bernard Happenings

4th annual Bernard Blues and BBQ deemed success

CULLMAN, Ala. – The 4th Annual Bernard Blues and BBQ is in the books at St. Bernard in Cullman, Alabama. Nearly 100 Artisans came from across the Southeastern United States to participate in the new and upcoming fall event.

Festival Director, Joyce Nix, was very pleased with the outcome in spite of Covid-19. “We had steady crowds both days with the majority observing the social distancing guidelines set

forth by the CDC.”

Saturday was filled with fun as Incognito Cartel and the Sinners Band entertained the crowds. A dress up Halloween contest provided added entertainment as all contestants paraded the back quad area and finished their parade with a train ride around the grounds before trick or treating the vendor booths. On Sunday, De’ Ja Blue delighted the crowds capping off a perfect weekend.

The artisans were

exceptional! Fantastic displays of personalized artwork, fiber art, pottery, jewelry, clothing, yard art, lawn furniture, plants, wood turning, wind chimes, soaps, honey, quilts, home décor, handmade dolls and purses, and specialty cookies decorated the campus of Saint Bernard.

A sweepstakes drawing was held at the conclusion of the show for cash prizes. Amelia Neese, daughter of Richard (SBP ‘05) and Kathryn (SBP ‘08) Neese,

did the honors, drawing tickets for Fr. Joel Martin and Nix to announce.

Winners were as follows: \$10,000 – Woodrow J. Soderlind of Pensacola, FL; \$1,000 – Mary Sue B. Pruett of Alabaster, AL; \$500 – Mark Little of Madison, AL; \$250 – Kelly Maher of Cleveland, Tennessee; and \$100 – Norman Thrash of Morris, AL.

Nix said it takes a village to pull off this kind of event. “We appreciate our many sponsors who believe in us

and help us promote our festivals. Without their support this would be impossible. We also want to recognize the many volunteers who make it special. The festival relies on the school community to volunteer their time to work the two-day event. We just could not do it without them.”

Saint Bernard plans to host the 5th Annual Bernard Blues and BBQ on October 30-31, 2021.



St. Bernard Happenings

Giving Day 2021 Set for March 21

The St. Bernard Development Office is pleased to announce that St. Bernard's second annual Giving Day is set for Sunday, March 21, 2021 – the Feast of St. Benedict. Development and Alumni Officer Tyler Hooper (PS '07) said of Giving Day, "I am very excited to announce the return of Giving Day! We had a tremendous response from our donors last year. By 5:30 pm on Giving Day we had met our \$30,000 goal. The St. Bernard Family stepped up in true Bernardian fashion and answered our call. Even with the onset of a pandemic, our donors saw the value in our need to support our students now more than ever."

Giving Day 2020 raised \$36,126 for the St. Bernard Educational Foundation. This year the event will once again support the Foundation with an increased goal of \$40,000. Hooper noted the significance of this year for the Abbey and School, "As we celebrate St. Bernard's 130th anniversary in 2021 and as we continue to endure this pandemic, it is critical that the Foundation continues to receive support so that we can provide a quality education to our many deserving students

with financial need. Donor support is a major part of ensuring that St. Bernard is here to serve for another 130 years."

While Giving Day is designed to fundraise in 24 hours, donors are invited to make their gifts well in advance of March 21. Hooper said, "OneCause will again serve as our site host for Giving Day online donations. We plan to open the site to accept donations beginning in late February and continue through the end of March. Once the Giving Day site is live, donors will be able to make secure gifts instantly, read answers to our most frequently asked questions, view photos, and more." Donors may also give by mailing a check to: St. Bernard Prep School, Attn: Tyler Hooper, 1600 St. Bernard Dr. SE, Cullman, AL 35055. When making a gift by check, please note on the memo line that your gift is for Giving Day 2021.

New for Giving Day 2021: Make a gift of \$100 or more to Giving Day and you will receive a special St. Bernard gift exclusively available to Giving Day donors! More details to come.

Hooper said he issues a challenge to all St. Bernard alumni, friends, family, and

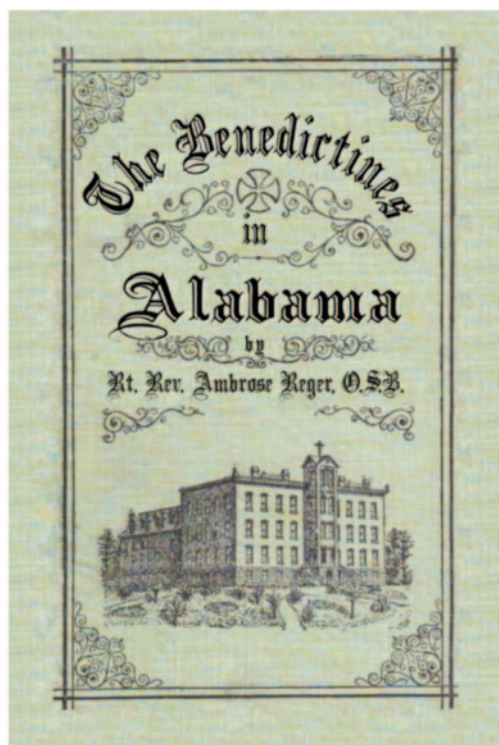
benefactors to participate, especially in this milestone 130th anniversary year. No gift is ever too small. Another way you can help us reach our Giving Day goal is to participate in your company's charitable giving match program, if offered. Contact your HR department or the St. Bernard Development Office if you

have questions. To learn more about Giving Day visit stbernardprep.com/giving-day. If you would like to learn more about the Development Office's work, contact Tyler Hooper at (256) 255-5857 or thooper@stbernardprep.com.

About the Foundation: The St. Bernard Educational Foundation is a 501(c)(3)

non-profit charitable organization incorporated in 1998 to support the ongoing educational ministry of St. Bernard Preparatory School. The foundation's goals align with the St. Bernard legacy of providing an exceptional education to all who have a love of learning and the drive for achievement.

New from Saint Bernard Scriptorium



Hardcover, 6 x 9 inches, 318 pages, illustrated with color and black & white photographs.

Buy it now at:

www.avemariagrotto.com

Or: www.amazon.com

Or at the *Ave Maria Grotto Gift Shop*
in Cullman, Alabama

The Benedictines in Alabama, by Abbot Ambrose Reger, OSB

In the late 19th century, German monks of the Order of Saint Benedict who had previously settled in Pennsylvania traveled to Alabama to minister to German immigrants who were colonizing the area. It was soon decided to establish a new monastery there, and so Saint Bernard Abbey was founded in 1891. Just one year later, young Ambrose Reger came from Germany to join the fledgling monastery, and, shortly thereafter, he wrote an account of the abbey's founding and early years. This is the story of those brave and selfless men of faith who dedicated their lives to the praise of God and the spread of the Gospel in a foreign land.

**Only
\$34.⁹⁵**

Find Us Online:

www.stbernardprep.com

www.stbernardabbey.com

www.avemariagrotto.com

www.bloominfestival.com

Facebook: Saint Bernard Preparatory School

Facebook: Bloomin' Festival Arts and Crafts Fair

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St. Bernard Abbey news

“Christmas at the Grotto” - Festive Christmas Lights

The 2nd Annual Christmas at the Grotto began on December 3rd and ran for 12

nights, ending on December 31st. Close to 5,000 people from all over Alabama

attended this year's festivities and represented a significant increase over last year's

attendance.

“We had roughly 5,000 people come though the Grotto this year and that was close to a 4,000 overall increase from the previous year,” said Roger Steele, the Director of the Grotto. “We think this is a great sign for the continued growth of the event for the foreseeable future.”

For this year, the event featured several changes, including expanding the event to 12 nights and also lighting up the entire park. “We wanted to make sure we had several dates this year to account for any bad weather and also just give our visitors several options throughout the Christmas season to visit us,” said Steele. “We also had the entire park covered with Christmas lights this year and also we placed spotlights at strategic locations that we thought really brought out Br. Joseph's work in a new and unique way – I think people really enjoyed it.”

The highlight of the event occurred on December 19,

which featured choirs throughout the night. “We had a wonderful group from St. Symeon Orthodox Church in Birmingham sing for us and also our very own Gregorian chanters from the Abbey blessed our visitors with a few chants,” said Steele. “That night was very special, we had close to 900 visitors and they were treated with a very special Christmas experience – we were so happy to see so many families and also people from out of town.”

With the success of this year's event, plans are already being made to expand for next year. “We hope to add a crafts fair next year, maybe on multiple days,” said Steele. “We also hope to expand lights inside and outside the park and also add more food vendors on certain nights.”

The future of Christmas at the Grotto is very bright. Not only will it continue to bring needed resources to the Abbey, but it will also continue to bless our visitors with the real meaning of Christmas.

Four Candidates Make Final Oblation

St. Bernard Abbey recently had four candidates make Final Oblation as Oblates of St. Bernard Abbey: Leonard Collier, Deacon Peter Nassetta, his wife Sondra Nassetta and Rev. Benjamin “Chip” Oakley. Leonard, Deacon Pete and Sondra are from Cullman and are members at Sacred Heart Church in town. Rev. Chip is a pastor in the United Methodist Church. All have a deep love for St. Bernard, the monks, and the wider community. Abbot Marcus officiated at their oblation ceremony, which was celebrated in the Abbey Church with the monastic community and other oblates of St. Bernard present.

Oblates are Christian faithful who live the Benedictine spirituality through promises of obedience, stability and conversion in so far as their state in life permits. Oblates of St. Bernard have a close association with the monks of St. Bernard Abbey and benefit in a special way through their prayer and work. Any baptized Christian who feels called to Benedictine spirituality can become an Oblate.

For more information on the Oblates of St. Bernard Abbey, please contact the Oblate Director: Br. Benedict Dyar, O.S.B. 256-255-5845.

(Picture on next page)



St. Bernard Abbey news

From the Abbot's Desk...

The joyous Feast of Christmas opened with the celebration of our mid-night Mass in the Abbey Church. Normally, the Church would have been filled with guests, coming to join the monks for this first Mass of the Christmas season. Afterwards, we would have gathered for breakfast in the Dining Hall to continue the celebration into the early hours of Christmas morning. But this year it was not to be.

In order to avoid the strong outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in north Alabama, only the monks gathered to celebrate this joyous feast of Christmas in the middle of the night. Likewise, throughout the day, the celebration of Christmas was a quiet event in which only our monastic family participated. But, unbeknown to us, the virus was already among us.

Before New Year's day, seven of our members had tested positive for the virus and had to be quarantined. But, by the grace of God and under the

guidance of the medical personnel that support us, all those affected are now making good progress toward a full recovery.

As we look to the New Year, our hearts are full of gratitude for what God is doing for us. We are grateful that both our monastic community and our school community are in line to receive the vaccine for the COVID-19 virus and we look forward to renewing the kind of social interaction we enjoyed before the virus came among us.

We are deeply grateful for the significant outpouring of financial support given to St. Bernard Abbey and School during the 2020 calendar year. The generosity of so many alumni, friends and benefactors has made it possible for us to navigate through some very turbulent financial waters.

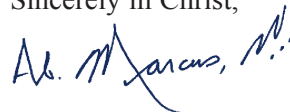
We are grateful for a well-attended and fun-filled Bernard Blues and Barbeque Festival which was a ray of bright sunlight onto the autumn landscape.

We are grateful for a successful first semester for our school both academically, as students daily attended classes, and athletically, as our Boys Cross Country Team won the State of Alabama Championship Trophy.

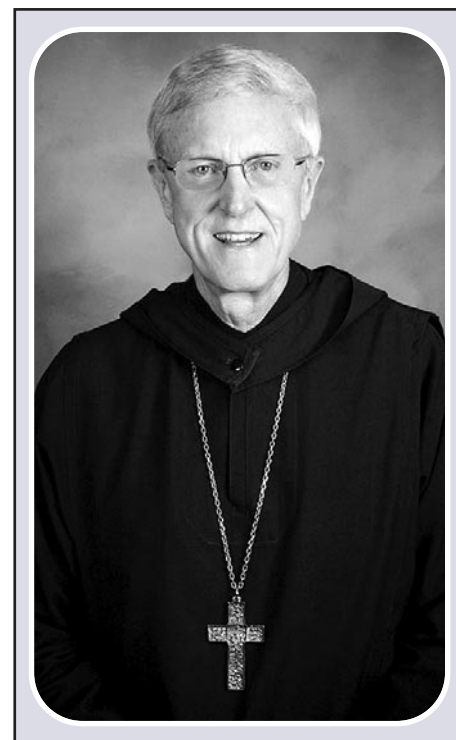
We are grateful that in the New Year we will be able to invite several new candidates to enter our monastic formation program. This is the first step toward their entry into the monastery to become members of the St. Bernard community.

So, as we welcome the year 2021, I ask the Lord to let his face shine on all of us. May he hold our alumni, friends, and benefactors in the palm of his hand. May he look kindly on our Abbey, our School and all our ministries. May he bless our country and give our world his peace.

Sincerely in Christ,



Abbot Marcus, O.S.B.



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

Fr. Bernard Denson Completes Degree at Sant'Anselmo

On Friday, December 4, at the Benedictine Order's Pontifical University of Sant'Anselmo in Rome, Fr. Bernard J. Denson O.S.B., a monk of St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL,

successfully defended his thesis entitled "The Presence of Christ in the Thought and Aesthetic of Percy Bysshe Shelley." He earned the canonical degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology,

with specialization in the History of Theology. He completed his degree with the distinction, "summa cum laude."

Shelley, who was a major poet of British Romanticism,

was known for his atheism.

Fr. Bernard's work strives to demonstrate the importance of theology's interdisciplinary dialogue with the arts in order to gain a greater understanding of

the history and significance of both.

Fr. Bernard has already begun the program for his doctorate in sacred theology in the same specialization.



Final Oblation

Pictured (L-R): Br. Benedict Dyar, Leonard Collier, Sondra Nassetta, Pete Nassetta, and Abbot Marcus Voss, O.S.B.



Fr. Bernard Completes Degree

Pictured (L-R): Abbot Edmund Power OSB, abbot emeritus of the Abbey of Saint Paul Outside the Walls, Rome, and professor emeritus of sacred theology at Sant'Anselmo; Fr. Bernard Denson OSB (Saint Bernard Abbey, USA); Fr. David Foster OSB, professor of philosophy at Sant'Anselmo (Downside Abbey, UK); Fr. Eduardo Lopez-Tello Garcia OSB, Dean of the Faculty of Theology, (Archabbey of Sankt Ottilien, Germany).

8 St. Bernard Sports



Cross Country Teams

Kneeling front (l-r): Abby McBride, Madi Kerber, Kathleen George, and Sara Barck. Standing back (l-r): Deacon Tim Vaughn, Adrian Cortes, Peter Tran, David DeJesus, Francisco Tona, Daniel Bamberry, Nikolas Borths, Elijah Loyd, Joseph Arriaga, Jiovany Arriaga, Cole Bissot, and Coach William Calvert.

St. Bernard Cross Country Claims 3A State Title

(Continued from page 1)
June, we knew we didn't have an outstanding frontrunner. But we had a lot of guys who could run well. We talked daily about running as a pack and keeping our one- through- five split close. That was the key to winning this championship — the unity of those guys and commitment to the team and finishing together. With a half-mile left, we had about three runners who needed to finish together for us to win. They stepped up, and we had our best one-through-five split of the year (40 seconds). It was a great day for St. Bernard. The senior leadership on this team has been

exceptional. The dedication to hard work and to each other was a real key to our success. They had to overcome many challenges caused by the corona virus pandemic but the team met them with grace and poise. I am very proud to be associated with such a fine group of young men."

It was a magnificent ending to a stellar season for the Saints. St. Bernard Prep won seven Invationals and the 3A Section 4 Championship on the way to the state title. It was the 9th straight Sectional Championship for the Saints.

Madi Kerber Earns All State Honors for 2nd Year

St. Bernard 8th Grader Madi Kerber earned All-State Honors for the 2nd straight year finishing in 12th place (20:55) in the 3A girls division of the AHSAA Cross Country State Championships held at the Oakville Indian Mound on November 14,

2020. Abby McBride, also an 8th grader, placed 26th (21:54) in her first year of cross country competition. Seniors Kathleen George and Sara Barck also qualified for the state meet for the 5th straight year.

Varsity Boys Basketball

(l-r): Peter Tran, Nicholas Fallin, Nikolas Borths, José Zatarain, Emmanuel Santiago, and Ethan Powell. Not pictured: Eli Loyd.



Cheerleaders

Front row (l-r): Aaliyah Parrish, Ashley Morris, Charli Roberson, Elle Tillitski. Back (l-r): Merrilee Schartung, Claudia Fallin, Maddie McBride, Abigail McBride, and Toni Shuper. Not pictured: Riley Holmes.



Varsity Girls Basketball

Front row: Ava Buckingham, Emma Powell, Makenzie Cruce, Lesly Garcia. Back row: Arrianna Rossie, Claudia Fallin, Elana Steele, Toni Shuper, Sarah Woods, and Amelia Tafazoli. Not pictured: Marianne Pichardo.

Borths Named Bryant Jordan Scholar Athlete Winner

Congratulations are in order to Nikolas Borths of Decatur, Alabama who is the Area 12 Winner for the Bryant Jordan Scholar Athlete Award. The award, developed by the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in conjunction with the Alabama High School Athletic Association, recognizes Alabama high school seniors who have achieved a high level of excellence not only athletically but academically as well.

Athletic Director and Cross Country Coach William Calvert has nothing but good things to say about Nikolas. "Aside from excelling in basketball, cross country and track and field for the Saints, Nikolas is an extraordinary student in the classroom and serves as President of his Senior Class. He is very active in church and community service and recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout," commented Calvert.

Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant and Auburn Coach Ralph "Shug" Jordan earned their reputation as much by their accomplishments off the playing field as by the victories on it. Their actions touched the lives of athletes everywhere especially those you athletes who looked to them for leadership and

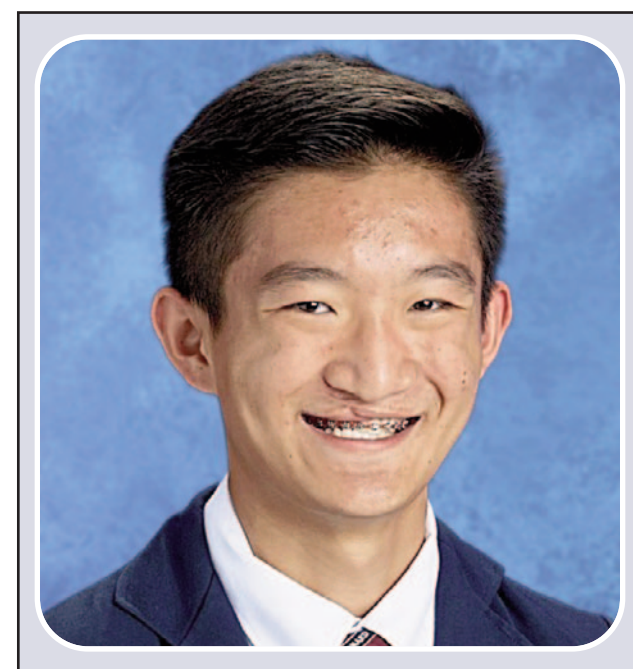
inspiration. To award scholarships in their names not only helps to perpetuate the memory of their accomplishments, but also serves as inspiration for a new generation of athletes.

For athletic purposes, the secondary schools in Alabama are divided into seven classifications by enrollment, with 1A being the smallest and 7A being the largest. Each is then divided into eight regions, consisting of two areas with 4-6 schools each. Each school determines their nominees to be submitted for area competition. A committee of school principals selects the area winners to be submitted for regional completion. School administrators in each region are responsible for determining region winners.

Borths now advances to the Region Competition which will be held in February. Region winners are then put into competition before a selection committee to determine the winner in each class. Each nominee must be a high school senior and demonstrate a commitment to both high academic and athletic achievement. Criteria includes: scholastic standing, sports participation, athletic honors,

school leadership, and community involvement.

Nikolas is the son of Jim and Kathy Borths of Decatur, Alabama.



Nikolas Borths

Lady Saints Bowling Team Qualifies for Regionals

For the first time since the inception of bowling in the Alabama High School Athletic Association in 2016, Saint Bernard Prep's Girls Bowling Team qualified for the 1A-5A North Regional Tournament play. The girls earned the runner up position in the region by defeating

Priceville by 80 pins after losing to the same team earlier in the season. The Lady Saints regional record was 3-3. SBP is by far the smallest school in the region with all other school being 4A or 5A schools.

The Regionals which were held at Vestavia

Bowling Center on January 22nd proved to be a wonderful experience for the young team. The Lady Saints were 1 of only 8 teams from North Alabama competing for a birth in the State Bowling Tournament but were eliminated by Etowah County who finished runner up in the regionals.

Coach Elicia Fallin said her girls were extremely excited about qualifying for the regionals and looked forward to the experience.

"We have a young team with rookie bowlers. The good thing is with the exception of one, all will be back next year," Fallin said.

Top scorers for the Lady Saints throughout region play were Senior Helen Kim and juniors Claudia Fallin, Maddie McBride and Merrilee Schartung. Senior Katherina Gill and juniors Piper Watson, Emma Whaley, Riley Holmes and Mollie Woods also contributed to the team's successful season.



Bowling Team

Kneeling front (l-r): Riley Holmes and Merrilee Schartung. Back row (l-r): Katherina Gil, Piper Watson, Claudia Fallin, Coach Elicia Fallin, Mollie Woods, Emma Whaley, and Maddie McBride.

St. Bernard Alumni News

Congratulations



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lee Cochran

Scarlett (Chandler) Cochran (PS '08) and **Michael Lee Cochran** were married on January 2, 2021. Scarlett is a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Nurse and Michael is a Manufacturing Engineer in Huntsville. The couple resides in Harvest, Alabama.

New Arrivals



William Frederick Cross

Joseph and Emily (Wells) Cross (PS '05) announce the birth of their son, William Frederick Cross who was born on March 28th, 2020 in West Chester, Ohio. William weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and measured 21 inches long. He is the grandson of Gary and Martha Wells (C '70) of Cullman, AL.



Riley Joseph Stephen Kendrick

Joey and Erin (Wachter) Kendrick (PS '01) announce the birth of their son, Riley Joseph Stephen Kendrick who was born on Jan 17th, 2021. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and measured 19.75 inches. Riley joins his big sister, Reagan and big brother Ryder at their home in Springville, AL.



Ayden Alexander Rohrscheib

Payton and Julia (Wimberly) Rohrscheib (PS '09) announce the arrival of their son, Ayden Alexander Rohrscheib born at 1:33pm on 1/25/21. Ayden weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces and measured 20 inches long. He joins his mom and dad at their home in Cullman, AL.

In Memoriam

Prayers are requested for family and friends:

Camillus Joseph (Bep) Clos (HS'42, JC'43), 95, of Marietta Ga., passed away on December 6, 2020. A native of Cullman, AL, he graduated from St. Bernard High School and Junior College. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps on Okinawa and China during World War II and in the Korean War. Later, he moved to Marietta GA where he worked as a machinist at Lockheed/ Martin for more than 30 years before retiring. He was a founding member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Marietta. St. Bernard School and Abbey were always dear to his heart. He was a member of the St. Bernard Clairvaux Society. Mr. Clos is survived by a sister, Mary Therese Clos Daniels of Atlanta, GA, and many nieces and nephews.

John R. Dowd, Sr. (HS'60), passed away peacefully on November 8, 2020. After graduating from St. Bernard Prep School, he earned his law degree from the Florida State University College of Law. He practiced his profession with his father-in-law, Ernest Wimberly and later became the Okaloosa County Attorney, where he served for forty years, the longest tenure of any County Attorney in the State of Florida. His confident nature and unwavering positivity will be profoundly missed. He is survived by his beloved wife of 35 years, Carol Dowd, son, John R. Dowd, Jr. (Martha), daughter, Tracy Overman, stepchildren, Tracy Gifford Chlebo (Paul) and Angela Crutchfield, seven grandchildren.

John Marston Evans, Jr. (HS'56), 83, of Tuscaloosa, AL passed peacefully January 1st 2021. He served in the U.S. Army and National Guard from 1961-1964. John met the love of his life, Lodema Westmoreland Evans, in Birmingham, Alabama and married her in 1964. In 1967 he graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in

electrical engineering and enjoyed a distinguished career with Alabama Power for 31 years. He is survived by his wife, Lodema Westmoreland Evans, daughter Paula Evans (Lisa Muncher), and son David Neal Evans, as well as his sisters, Dorothy Kay Evans Frament (Paul) and Rosemary (Rosy) Rita Evans Fox, (Rob), and his brother, Thomas D. Evans (Marie), as well as a host of nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews.

Jerry Rogers Faulkner (C'75), 69, of Oneonta, AL., passed away on November 14, 2020. Survivors include his wife Robin McCroskey Faulkner; sons Jeremy (Perri) Faulkner, Skyler Faulkner and Trent Faulkner; and a host of nieces and nephews.

John Harley Fowler (C'67) died July 28, 2020. He graduated from Webb School and Saint Bernard College in Cullman, Alabama, where he met his future wife. He served in the Army, taking him to Vietnam, after which he earned his law degree at UT and practiced for more than three decades



John Marston Evans



John Fowler

in Knoxville and Sevierville. He married Joanna Virgone in 1975, and they were devoted parents to sons Alex and Michael. He is survived by his son, Alex (Jeanine), Michael (Terry Valencia), step-granddaughter Kyra along with sisters Louise and husband Rob Daves, and Marie and husband Bob Alcorn. sister-in-law JoAnn Fowler, brother-in-law Brent Soper.

Michael "Mike" R. Heatherly (C'74), age 68, the 2nd of December 2020 in the presence of loved ones. Mike earned his Bachelor's degree at St. Bernard College, where he lettered on the collegiate tennis team. He then finished his Master's and Ed.S at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. He began his career in education in 1974 at Fairview School where he served for 18 years. He then served as Principal at Vinemont High School for 6 years. He finished his 40-year career in education as a member of the faculty at Athens State University. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Daily Heatherly, his sons, Brian (Heather) and Ben (Loren), and four grandchildren.

Richard Kent McCollum (PS'02) passed away peacefully on December 28, 2020, surrounded by his loving family. He enjoyed hiking, especially on the Appalachian Trail, mountain biking, and canoeing. Richard will always be remembered for his incredible compassion for the less fortunate and the joy he brought with him. He loved his years



Michael R. Heatherly

(Continued on next page)

St. Bernard Alumni News

Athletic Boosters Host Swamp John's Meal

While the pandemic has hit the pocketbooks of the world, it has also had an effect on the Saint Bernard Athletic Boosters. The Annual Booster Club Drawdown, which is typically held the Saturday before Super Bowl Sunday, has been cancelled due to restrictions placed on indoor gatherings because of the COVID protocols.

Athletic Director, William Calvert, said for the protection of our community, the decision

was made in December to cancel the twenty-year tradition for the 2021 year, but looks forward to its return in 2022.

"While the drawdown provides a considerable percentage of our budget, we want our supporters to be safe and be here next year to enjoy the festivities in 2022," Calvert said.

"With spring sports being cancelled last year, and the schedule being reduced this

year, there has been a reduction in the demands placed on the Boosters," continued Calvert. "Last year's drawdown was fantastic and has allowed the sports program to operate at minimal capacity. The fear is that next year might be a struggle when it's time to order new uniforms, equipment and other items needed to start the athletic seasons."

This year, instead of the drawdown, the St. Bernard

Boosters will host a Swamp Johns carry out dinner on Saturday, February 6 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Plates will cost \$12.00 each and will include a choice of shrimp, chicken, fish or a combination of two. Dessert will be included.

"We want to keep that date and invite everyone in our community to support our Saints program and enjoy a good take-out meal," Calvert said. "Sports programs all over the State have taken a hit

as limited spectators can attend events. This domino effect leads to a decline in admissions, even though sporting officials still have to be paid."

For Swamp John tickets contact the school at (256)739-6682. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. Anyone wishing for more information on supporting Saint Bernard Saints should contact Athletic Director, William Calvert by calling (256)739-6682.

In Memoriam

as a student and was a proud alumnus of Saint Bernard Preparatory School. While earning his B.S. in Business from the University of Alabama, Richard helped lead recycling drives and litter clean ups. His proudest moments were introducing his daughters to a shared love of cooking, music, and nature with his wife. Richard is survived by his loving wife, Angela Harber McCollum, and his daughters, Miriam Pearl and Ruby Louise; and his parents, Barbara and Frank McCollum Jr.

Lorraine C. Messick, age 90 of Birmingham, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 21, 2020. Lorraine retired from Avis after 25 years of service and was a longtime member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. She is survived by her children, Kathy Finch (Leonard), Christine Phillips (Larry), Wayne Messick (Barbara), Karen Watts (Greg), Lynne Gilmore (Michael) and Keith Messick (Leah); special nephew, Chuck Thibault (Kate); grandchildren, Brian Harris, Shannon Parker, Valerie Crosby (T.J.), Brittany Kasprak (Aaron), Stephen Watts (Leah), Benjamin Watts (Kate), Daniel Watts (Chelsea), Anthony Gilmore (Ashley), Nick Gilmore (Lorraine), and Alli Messick; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Margaret Millican, wife of Howard Millican (C '66) of Hayden Alabama passed away November 7, 2020 at the age of 80. Mrs. Millican taught school at Garden City Elementary for 35 years. Margaret is survived by her husband and daughters: Joyce (Michael) Miller, Kayla (Bobby) Palmer; Son: Jeff (Diana) Millican, grandchildren: Wesley Ivey, Karessa (Jeff) Welch, Nathan Whisenhunt, Kasey (J.J.) Minor, Emily Millican; Sisters: Elouise Campbell, Peggy Tucker and Betty Wallace.

Dr. Augustine Uzo Mokwunye, PhD, passed away on Friday, December 11, 2020, at the age of 78. Born in Onicha-Ugbo, he received a USAID full scholarship to Ohio State University where he earned his Bachelor's Degree. He completed his PhD at the University of Illinois. After serving as the Head of the Soil Science Department at the Institute of Agriculture at Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria, he moved to Florence, AL, in 1979 and became the Director of the International Fertilizer Development Center. After several other appointments he became the Executive Director of the United Nations University Institute of Natural Resources

(New York/Ghana/Tokyo) from which he retired in 2005. Uzo is survived by his wife, Elaine Mokwunye; children, **Nnamudi (Nam) Mokwunye** (PS'88), **Uzonwadinachi (Ifeanyi) Mokwunye** (PS'88), Chukwuemeka (Emeka) Mokwunye and Nneka Sederstrom; and six grandchildren.

Michael Richardson (HS'61, C'65) passed away on Monday, November 2, 2020 at St. Joseph's Candler Hospital in Savannah. He was 77 years old. Following college at St. Bernard, Mike proudly joined the United States Air Force where he served for five years navigating B-52's in Vietnam. He transitioned into a 20-year career in the Air National Guard after his time in active duty. He had a career designing and building railroad cars. Those left to cherish his memory are his loving wife, Heide Hamp Richardson; children, Angela Barroso (Andres) and Martin Richardson (Crystal); six grandchildren and three stepchildren.

John "Jack" B. Ryan, Jr. (C'76) passed away on Saturday, November 28, 2020, because of complications of the COVID-19 virus. After graduating from Monsignor Bonner High School in 1972, he earned his bachelor's degree from Saint Bernard College in 1976. He became a commissioner in Darby Township and in 1988, he was appointed as the manager of Darby Township and served for thirty years. He then served as the manager of the Borough of Norwood. For twenty-four years he served on the Delaware County Board of Assessment. He loved his wife and family and took great pride in his grandchildren. Jack is survived by his wife, Carolanne Ryan (nee Burns), his children Colleen Becker (Todd), Shawn Ryan (Ashley), and Timothy Ryan (Sonya), and his four grandchildren.

Robert (Bob) Shannon (C '77), 70, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2020 at St. Vincent's Hospital. Bob retired from Morgan County School System where he taught Electricity at Brewer High School and later was Director of Maintenance for the school system. After retirement from the school system, he continued to work with the architectural firms of McCauley and Associates and Davis Architects. Bob also retired from the Alabama Army National as a Lieutenant Colonel with 28 years of service. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Judy Speegle Shannon; son, Chad (Misty) Shannon; granddaughter, Haley Shannon; grandson, Wynn

Shannon; sister, Teresa Murphy (Florence, Ala.), and brother Joe (Joyce) Shannon.

David Slovensky, age 71, of Gardendale passed away on December 20, 2020. David was a founding member of the St. Bernard Clairvaux Society. He is survived by his brother, Joe Slovensky; sisters, Alice (Bill) Frieze, Pauline (Dee) Brasfield, Mary Thompson; longtime friend, Jean Rogers; and a host of nieces and nephews. He was a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

David John Seeley (C'68), passed away Sunday, December 15, 2019 peacefully at home after a thirteen year battle with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. David was born March 20th, 1950 in Talladega, Alabama where he spent his childhood years. David was a graduate of the American Community High School in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Saint Bernard College and UAB. He was the co-owner of ABC Child Development Center and retired after 20 years of service from Alabama Power. He was an active member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church. David truly never met a stranger. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Beverly Eley Seeley, his daughters Mimi Seeley and Maggie Trott, and son in law, Will Trott.

John Thomas (Jack) Tracy, (C'76), passed away peacefully with his family by his side on October 10, 2020. Coming from East Islip, NY, Jack enrolled at St. Bernard College having earned a scholarship playing soccer. He received a BA in Health and PE. He was a teacher, coach and vice principal at Prattville High School in Prattville, AL. It was during those years that he earned a Masters in Education in English and later received an Administrative degree. He helped create the adult soccer league in Montgomery and he helped to start the girls' soccer team for Prattville High School. Jack is survived by Carol, his wife of 40 years, his two children, John Tracy and Erin Pearson and two grandchildren.

Ervin Dillon Webb, (HS'52), age 86, of Vinemont passed away on November 24, 2020 at his residence. A graveside service was held on December 12th, 2020 at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery in Cullman Alabama with Deacon Pete Nassetta officiating.

St. Bernard Happenings



Cullman City Police Color Guard presents flags.

Veterans Day Celebration Held at Saint Bernard

Students at Saint Bernard Preparatory School were honored to be joined by community veterans and a US Army Brigadier General to celebrate the annual Veterans Day Holiday.

The Cullman City Police Department Color Guard presented the flags, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and the National Anthem lead by the Saint Bernard Preparatory School Choir.

Kenny Culpepper, Chief of Police of the City of Cullman and Matt Gentry, Sheriff of Cullman County joined with veterans from the school family to hear a wonderful address given by U.S. Army, (Ret). Brigadier General Leslie L. Fuller, who is a native of Covington, Georgia. Following graduation from Middle Tennessee State University in May 1973, he was commissioned a U.S. Army Second Lieutenant. Serving his country for 32 years, the general served as a platoon leader and company commander in conventional infantry units. However, most of his service was with the Army Special Forces, more commonly known as the Green Berets. He commanded both a Battalion and Group in Special Forces. As Brigadier General, he was the commander of Special Operations Command Europe and later served as the Commanding General of Fort Jackson, SC prior to going to Afghanistan with NATO.

He served in Panama, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, Afghanistan, Europe, Africa, Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, The Balkans, and Baltic countries before his retirement in February 2005.

General Fuller complimented students on their vocal and musical performances and shared with the community the true definition of a veteran. He quoted Isaiah 6:8, recounting the prophet's call from God, who said, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us." Immediately Isaiah responded, "Here am I, send me."

The General gave a broad sweep of U.S. history lesson on the timelines of each war and how soldiers bravely stood guard and fought to protect their country. Asking the audience to stand and raise their right hand to recite the oath of an American soldier, he reminded everyone to be their best, and to always have a soldier's heart.

Fr. Joel Martin, SBP Headmaster, read a poem entitled "It is the Soldier," authored by World War II Army veteran Charles M. Province.

Then a prayer was offered by Fr. Joel

Following a solo performance of "Taps" played by St. Bernard Senior student David De Jesus, the assembly was dismissed.



Veterans celebrated at St. Bernard

Kenny Culpepper, Chief of Police of the City of Cullman; Bill Ellis, SRO Don Slocumb, George Welch, Matt Gentry, Sheriff of Cullman County, John Gissell, Brigadier General Less Fuller, US Army, Ret.; and Fr. Joel Martin, OSB, St. Bernard Prep Headmaster.

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Alumni Reunion June 24-27, 2021 Tentative

A decision will be made in Spring 2021 if St. Bernard can safely host the Alumni Reunion in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note: the Alumni Reunion has not been officially scheduled. Venues are not reserved.

We recommend avoiding making final travel arrangements that cannot be refunded as these dates are tentative and could change with short notice.

Updates will be shared with you as they are received.

Please contact the school if you would like to receive the e-newsletter visit: <https://stbernardprep.com/alumni/> and update your address and email address.