

St. Bernard Happenings



St. Bernard Preparatory School

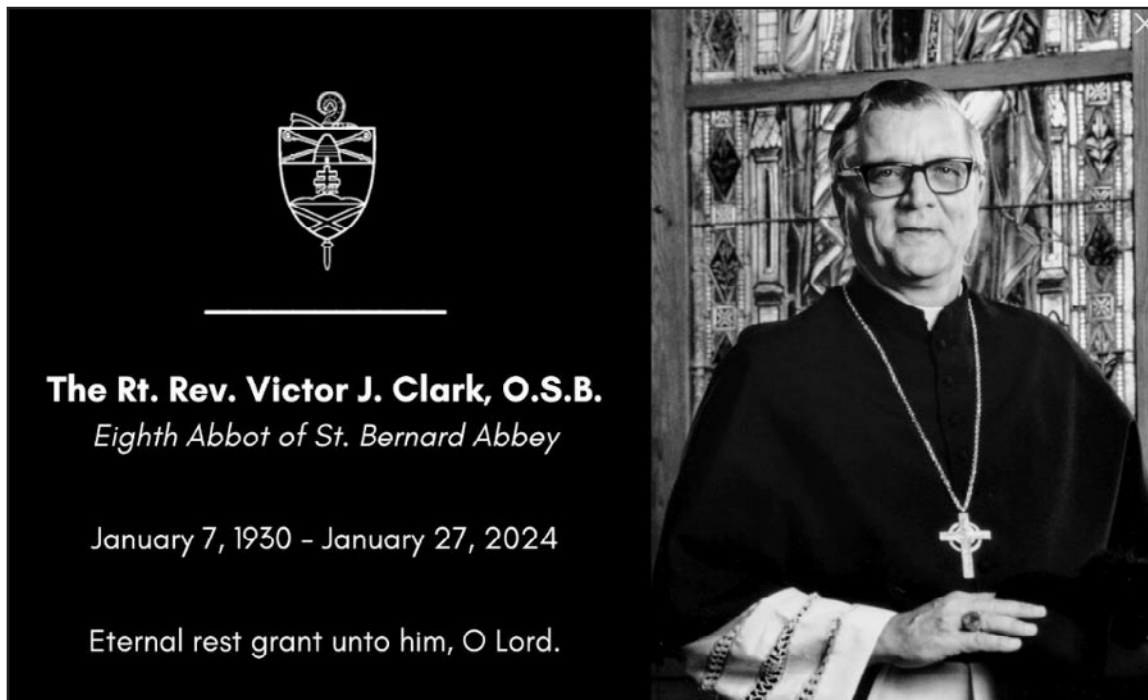
Winter 2024

Abbot Marcus, St. Bernard Abbey Monks Announce Death of Abbot Victor Joseph Clark, O.S.B.

The Right Reverend Victor Joseph Clark, O.S.B.
A.D. 1930 – 2024

It is with heavy hearts that Abbot Marcus Voss, O.S.B., and the Monks of St. Bernard Abbey announce the death of their confrere, The Right Reverend Victor Joseph Clark, O.S.B., Eighth Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey, who went to God on January 27, 2024.

Baptized Joseph Jude Clark, Abbot Victor was born in Cullman, Alabama on January 7, 1930, the eighth of nine children, to Rene Marcus Clark and Anna Marie Schwann. Raised in Cullman, Abbot Victor grew up in the “shadow of St. Bernard,” as he liked to say, attending Sacred Heart Elementary School. After graduating from grammar school in 1943, Abbot Victor took a summer job delivering groceries at White Star Market in Cullman. During that summer, our Fr. Philip Niedermeier called him into the rectory of Sacred Heart
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The Rt. Rev. Victor J. Clark, O.S.B.
Eighth Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey

January 7, 1930 – January 27, 2024

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.



January Snow at St. Bernard

St. Bernard Prep School Hosts 40th Annual Bloomin' Festival on April 20-21

St. Bernard Abbey and Prep School proudly announce the eagerly anticipated return of the Bloomin' Festival, marking its 40th annual celebration on Saturday and Sunday, April 20-21, 2024. This beloved two-day juried arts and crafts extravaganza draws artisans and craftspeople from across the nation to our vibrant campus.

Festival Director Joyce Nix expressed her excitement, labeling this event as the pinnacle of the school year. “The

Bloomin' Festival encapsulates the essence of community, offering a fantastic weekend brimming with shopping, camaraderie, and tasty culinary delights,” she said.

A landmark occasion, this year's festival presents an enticing partnership with Cullman Chrysler Dodge, culminating in the giveaway of a 2023 Jeep Compass and other valuable prizes on April 21 at 4 p.m. To participate,

(Continued on page 9)

SBP Students Brave Winter Storms for March for Life

When the winter storm unexpectedly hit Cullman, Alabama, St. Bernard Preparatory School faced challenges that would have halted most plans. However, the spirit and determination of the students at St. Bernard prevailed, turning an unforeseen weather event into a testament of resilience.

As freezing rain and icy road conditions enveloped the county, forcing a week-long closure of the school, St. Bernard students found themselves adapting to the situation. Taking advantage of the icy hills on the 800-acre campus, students engaged in winter activities, resulting in a few minor cuts and bruises but nothing requiring emergency treatment.

Amidst the uncertainty of impassable roads in Cullman County,

the scheduled March for Life trip to Washington, DC remained a beacon of hope for the students. Despite the challenges posed by winter storm Heather and facing winter storm Indigo upon arrival in the nation's capital, a tour bus loaded with students, parents, teachers, and staff made its way to Washington, DC to participate in the 2024 March for Life.

Fr. Joel, President of St. Bernard Prep, expressed his gratitude, stating, “I was glad our students were able to make their way to Washington, DC for the annual March for Life trip.” The St. Bernard contingent joined thousands in the nation's capital to march in support of women and babies, braving the heavy and steadily falling snow.

(Continued on page 5)



Braving the Winter Storm front and center are Ezra Penner, Luke Daly and Josh Marks

St. Bernard Happenings

SBP Celebrates Dedication of Senior Class Leaders

On Thursday, November 9, 2023 St. Bernard Preparatory School held the Senior Dedication Mass of 2023-24. Abbot Marcus Voss, of St. Bernard Abbey presided at the Mass and presented crosses to each of the eighteen seniors, symbolizing their commitment to uphold the principles of St. Bernard Preparatory School.

In his remarks, Abbot Marcus challenged the seniors to be leaders. "Seniors, we recognize your pivotal role as campus leaders, setting the tone and example for others to follow. You are called upon to lead lives of service, guiding your fellow students and contributing to the school's community. As you embark on this journey of leadership, we urge you to be the best of leaders. Cherish the memories of your years at St. Bernard Prep. Stay united with one another and with this cherished institution, carrying the values you have learned here into the future."

Headmaster Phuong Nguyen joined the ceremony, individually acknowledging each member of the Senior Class, alongside the faculty and staff. Addressing the assembled, Nguyen expressed the

school's collective hope for the seniors: "May God's blessings accompany you as you step into the role of leaders, upholding the rich tradition of St. Bernard. Let the legacy of our institution guide your path."

Fr. Joel, the faculty and staff, echoed this sentiment, affirming the school's confidence in the seniors' abilities to carry the St. Bernard tradition forward. Abbot Marcus Voss bestowed his blessings upon the seniors, underscoring the importance of cherishing their memories at St. Bernard.

Abbot Marcus concluded by saying, "We love you, and God loves you. May His abundant blessings accompany you, illuminating your future endeavors. May God bless you abundantly, so that in all your endeavors, His glory may shine through."

Class President Caroline Sidley responded to the blessing with thanks, and by pledging the seniors' commitment to the school and being leaders of the community.

Following the Mass a luncheon reception was held for the seniors and their family members.



Front row (l-r): Anahi Pantoja, Sydney Watwood, Emily Garcia-Cerna, Abbot Marcus Voss, Martha Jose, and Caroline Sidley. Middle Row (l-r): Walter Adams, Andrew Tombo, Cesar Hernandez, Audrey Gil, Amelia Tafazoli, Scarlette DeCicco, and Joy Wu. Back row (l-r): Ezra Penner, Ethan Wu, Charlie Deist, Emmanuel Santiago, Will Lyons, and Ashton Lindsey

Discover Life as A Saint During SBP Shadow Day!

St. Bernard is inviting interested students to experience a day in the life of a Saint through our Shadow Day program! Meg Glover,

Admissions Director at St. Bernard Prep encourages families to participate in shadow day to see if St. Bernard is for them.

"It's the perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in our welcoming community and gain firsthand insight into what makes St.

Bernard Prep exceptional," Glover said. "Many people are curious about the enriching academic and vibrant social life at St. Bernard Prep School. This is a great way to see the school in action."

What to Expect on Shadow Day

Interactive School Tour: Explore the picturesque 800-acre campus, and state-of-the-art facilities such as the Abbey Byre Theater, Heidrich Building Liberal Arts Library, and the Fazi-Richard Athletic Center.

Attend Classes: Spend the day attending classes alongside friendly students. Experience engaging teaching methods and witness the supportive learning environment.

Lunch with school: Enjoy a complimentary lunch

Shadow Day Logistics:

Date and Time: Arrive at 7:30 AM at the

Administration Building, where Admissions Director, Meg Glover will warmly welcome you. The school day begins promptly at 7:50 AM and concludes at 3:15 PM.

Dress Code: Dress casually and neatly. Feel free to showcase your school spirit by wearing St. Bernard apparel.

Registration Details: Pre-registration is required to ensure a personalized and comfortable experience for visiting students. Registration for Spring Shadow Days is currently open – secure your spot now and embark on this exciting journey by contacting Miss Meg Glover at 256 739-6682. Or email mglover@stbernardprep.com.

Discover the difference of a St. Bernard education. Come join us for Shadow Day and let the Saint's experience inspire your academic journey!



1600 ST. BERNARD DR. SE
CULLMAN, AL 35055

St. Bernard Prep
Cullman, AL

Open House

Friday, March 8th
10am-2pm

JOIN US AT
ST. BERNARD PREP!

- Campustour
- Meet faculty, students, and parents

To register, call or visit our website
256-255-5890
stbernardprep.com/open-house/

St. Bernard Happenings

St. Bernard Prep Students Unite in a Spiritual Display With Living Balloon Rosary

In a heartfelt demonstration of unity and faith, students at St. Bernard Preparatory School recently participated in a unique and inspiring event, the Living Balloon Rosary. Led by Sr. Therese Lopez, Director of Campus Ministry, the school

community gathered to form a giant rosary using vibrant, colorful balloons, symbolizing their shared devotion to prayer and reflection.

The Living Balloon Rosary, an initiative organized by the school's Campus Ministry, brought together students, teachers, and parents in a powerful display of communal spirituality. Sr. Therese, expressing her enthusiasm for the event, shared, "The Living Balloon Rosary is a distinctive and meaningful way for our school community to come together in prayer and reflection. It represents our shared faith and the bond that unites us as a community."

During the event, participants joined together to pray the rosary, enhancing the experience with the visual representation of the rosary beads created by the colorful balloons. The event served as a poignant reminder of the importance of faith, unity, and togetherness in the St. Bernard Prep community.

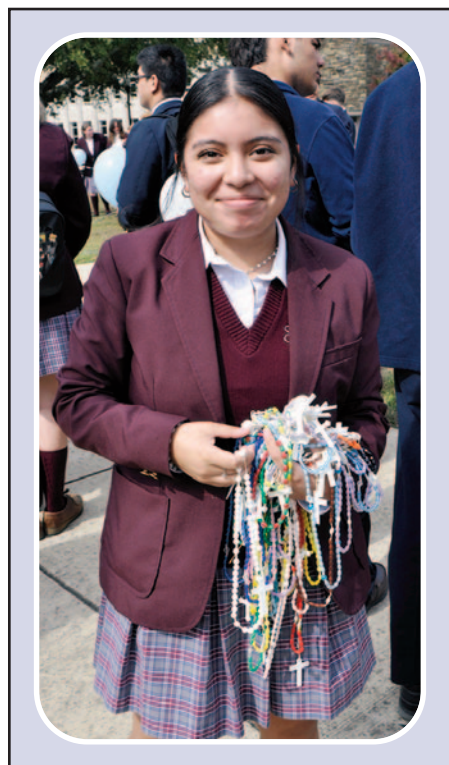
Sr. Therese encouraged the entire school community to actively participate, stating, "This event provides a beautiful opportunity for our

school and families to connect in a spiritual and communal way. I encourage you all to participate and share this experience with your children. It is a moment of reflection, devotion, and unity that strengthens our

bond as a school family."

The Living Balloon Rosary not only highlighted the school's commitment to spiritual growth but also showcased the creativity and enthusiasm of St. Bernard Prep students.

Through events like these, St. Bernard Prep continues to foster an environment of faith, learning, and community, enriching the educational experience for all its students.



Maria Franciso



Sr. Adriene, L.I.H.M. hands out rosaries to students

St. Bernard Happenings

St. Bernard Eighth Grade Students Explore Career Paths at “Tools of the Trade” Event at Wallace State

On November 8, 2023, St. Bernard Prep was among the 1,600 eighth-grade students from Cullman County along with teachers, school administrators, parents, industry leaders, and volunteers, who participated in the second annual “Tools of the Trade” event at the Hanceville Campus of Wallace State Community College. This event, aimed at creating awareness about various career opportunities, is a significant step towards helping students explore their potential career paths and gain valuable insights into the world of work.

Hosted by Wallace State Community College in collaboration with the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Cullman Economic Development Agency, and Cullman County Economic Development Agency, the “Tools of the Trade” event is designed to provide students with a hands-on experience and exposure to

diverse career options. The event took place from 8:00 AM to 12:35 PM, offering a half-day of interactive activities and informative sessions.

Participants had the opportunity to explore five different 'zones' on the campus, each strategically curated to showcase exhibitors from various industries. These zones enabled students to engage with professionals, ask questions, and gain insights into potential career paths they may not have considered before. The event aimed to empower students with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions about their future careers.

“We appreciate the invitation and are delighted to have our eighth-grade students participate in the 'Tools of the Trade' event at Wallace State Community College,” said Middle School Headmaster, William Calvert.

“This unique opportunity aligns perfectly with our school's mission to provide comprehensive education and prepare our students for a successful future. Whether it be pharmacy, chain supply, medical, or accounting, or heavy equipment and robotic, it's a unique opportunity for our students to take an informed look into the workforce available in their community.”

Students were provided with bags, scavenger hunt and pens as well as a “Tools for the Trade” T-shirts in their school colors.

The event underscores the importance of collaboration between educational institutions, local businesses, and community organizations in nurturing the future workforce. By exposing students to a wide range of career options, the “Tools of the Trade” event aims to inspire and guide students towards meaningful career paths.

*Avery Hines,
Nora Bissot
and Ella Cron
discover
the world of
nursing.*



*Middle School students
try their hands at robotics*

Christmas Lights Return to Grotto

The 5th Annual Christmas at the Grotto began on November 24th and ran for 17 nights, ending on December 27st. Over 12,000 people from all over Alabama and the southeast attended this year's festivities and represented a significant increase over last year's attendance.

“We had roughly 12,000 people come though the Grotto this year and that was close to a 6,000 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 18 nights, lighting up the entire park and the quad, plus the addition of horse-drawn wagon rides on two nights. “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 and extended the lighting to the quad for our wagon rides – I think people really enjoyed it.”

The highlight of the event occurred on December 15 & 16, which featured wagon and train rides, local food trucks and Santa Claus “We were blessed to have good weather and the largest crowds to ever visit the Grotto, both on a single day and for the month” said Steele. “We were so happy to see tons of families and also people from out of town – many came up from all over the Southeast and even from Iowa and beyond.”

With the success of this year's event, plans are already being made to expand for next year. “We hope to add more wagon rides throughout campus,” 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.



*Middle School Spelling Bee
Anastasia Hazard- Runner up
Yaretzi Parra - Winner*

St. Bernard Happenings

Celebrating Life and Exploring History: A Journey with Purpose

By: Sr. Therese Lopez, L.I.H.M.

In January of this year, our school embarked on a powerful and purposeful journey to participate in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. The trip not only allowed us to stand in solidarity with the pro-life cause but also provided an opportunity for meaningful experiences and exploration.

The March for Life, held on the anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling, is a vibrant and joy-filled rally that attracts tens of thousands of pro-lifers from across the country. As we converged on the National Mall and marched towards Capitol Hill, the atmosphere was both inspiring and peaceful. It was more than a protest; it was a celebration of life itself. The vision we embraced was clear – a world where every life, from the moment of conception, is celebrated, valued, and protected. This event, touted as the largest annual human rights demonstration globally, left an indelible mark on our hearts and minds.

However, our journey went beyond the March for Life. We engaged in enriching sightseeing activities, delving into the rich history and culture of Washington, D.C. The night monument tour illuminated the city in a way that was both breathtaking and educational. Arlington Cemetery provided a solemn and reflective experience, honoring the sacrifices of those who served their country.

One particularly intriguing visit was to the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, where we explored the replicated Roman Catacombs. Among the stories of faith and martyrdom, we encountered the remains of St. Innocent, a 7-year-old martyr from the second century. The poignant discovery sparked reflections on the devotion and sacrifices made by individuals of all ages for their beliefs. St. Benignus, a Roman soldier beheaded for his faith, also found his resting place in this sacred space, connecting us to a profound history of religious conviction.

The journey reached its pinnacle at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, a testament to the grandeur of faith and devotion. As we marveled at the beauty and significance of this sacred site, we couldn't help but appreciate the diverse layers of history and spirituality embedded in the city.

Our school's trip for the March for Life was more than a physical journey; it was a voyage of purpose, reflection, and celebration. In the heart of the nation's capital, we stood united for a cause we believe in, explored the depths of history, and left with memories that will resonate for a lifetime.



Sr. Therese Lopez,
L.I.H.M.



*Amelia Tafazoli, Charlee Boykin, Katie Chamblee,
Ella Tombo, Sarah Woods, and Julia Yohe*

St. Bernard Preparatory Students Brave Winter Storms for March for Life

(Continued from page 1)

The weekend's agenda included poignant visits to Arlington National Cemetery, the National Holocaust Museum, a vigil Mass, and an evening monument tour. Despite the weather challenges, the St. Bernard community's commitment to the March for

Life remained unwavering, turning a winter storm into a backdrop for a meaningful and powerful event.

St. Bernard Preparatory School continues to exemplify resilience, commitment, and a sense of purpose, even in the face of unexpected challenges.

Happenings



Cheerleaders

*Maria Francisco, Kayleigh Bryan-Marty,
Kelly Gallegos, Ella Tombo, Karly Arndt,
Charlee Tudisco, Marlee Harshaw, Yaretzi Parra,
Kimberly McCormick*



Varsity Girls Basketball

*Amelia Tafazoli, Avery Hines,
Katie Chamblee, Rowan Hines,
Lily Tillitski, Caroline McBride,
Sarah Woods, Ella Davis,
Tessa Sanders, Alexis Cron*



JV Girls Basketball

*Norah Bissot, Ruth Adams, Avery Hines,
Lily Tillitski, Caroline McBride, Ella Davis,
Tessa Sanders, Alexis Cron*

St. Bernard Happenings

Varsity Boys Basketball

Gavitt Lewis, Alejandro Magana, Will Lyons, Charlie Deist, Cameron Smiley, Aiden Hays, Joel Rose, not pictured Emmanuel Santiago



JV Boys Basketball

Aaron Cortes, Silas Krische, James Grey, Cameron Smiley, Aiden Hays, Johnathan McBride, Andrew Nguyen, Sawyer Watwood



Emergency Give Blood

St. Bernard Preparatory School

****Blood Drive****

Friday, February 9 | 11a – 5p

Emergency Urgent need for ALL blood types "Please give."

Donors receive a \$25 eGift card from LifeSouth, and a free Lawlers barbecue sandwich coupon courtesy of Lawlers Barbecue.

*Platelet and ALYX donors receive a \$40 eGift card. Some restrictions apply.



Athletic Booster Club DRAWDOWN

FEBRUARY 10, 2024

TICKETS AVAILABLE

LMESSICK@STBERNARDPREP.COM

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

Donors must be 17 or older (16 with written parental consent), weigh 110 pounds or more and show photo I.D. For more information, call toll-free 888-795-2707 or visit www.lifesouth.org. All donors receive a recognition item and cholesterol screening.

Abbey news

Abbot Marcus, St. Bernard Abbey Monks

Announce Death of Abbot Victor Joseph Clark, O.S.B.

(Continued from page 1)

Parish Church and advised Abbot Victor to enter the seminary at St. Bernard. That he did, beginning his studies in our high-school seminary the following September at the age of 13. In 1948 he entered the novitiate at St. Bernard Abbey, receiving the religious name "Victor." He professed Simple Vows on June 18, 1949 and Solemn Vows in 1952. Meanwhile his older sister, Frances, entered Sacred Heart Convent in Cullman, receiving the name Sr. Mary Jude, after the middle name of her Benedictine brother.

During his early years in vows, Abbot Victor studied at our college and at St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He then studied Theology at St. Bernard, after which he was ordained to the Priesthood on June 5, 1954 by the Bishop of Mobile, Bishop T. J. Toolen, at Sacred Heart Church in Cullman. Abbot Victor celebrated his Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving the next day, the Solemnity of Pentecost, with his nephew of ten years, Marcus Voss, serving at his First Mass. Little did those present know that his nephew would one day follow him as monk, priest, and Abbot of St. Bernard!

Completing his Master of Science degree in Botany in 1956 from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University), Abbot Victor took on increasing responsibility in our abbey and schools. Through the years, he served as Prefect in the High School Seminary, the

Major Seminary, as well as in many dormitories on the campus. He was appointed Dean of Students in 1965, all the while teaching Biology in our high school and college from 1952 to 1979. In the summer he supplied pastoral service to many parishes in the South. In 1976 Abbot Victor was appointed Procurator of the Abbey, a position which he held until his appointment as Pastor of St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, Elberta, Alabama, in 1982. He was recalled to St. Bernard to serve as Prior of the monastery in 1986. He held this position for only a year, after which time he was elected the Eighth Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey.

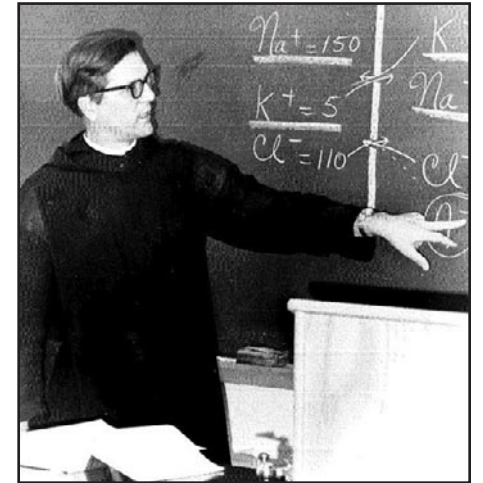
Holding the Office of Abbot for eight years, Abbot Victor's abbacy was defined by his quiet strength. After the 1988 tornadoes which devastated Cullman and did significant damage to our campus, Abbot Victor oversaw the restoration of the Administration Building to its historic appearance, an outward expression of his deep appreciation for St. Bernard's history and its patrimony. He was thus well suited to preside over the Centennial Jubilee of the Abbey in 1991. It was for this occasion that he researched, prepared, and published a large format booklet of the hundred-year history of St. Bernard Abbey.

A fine athlete and excellent baseball player, Abbot Victor had a lifelong appreciation for sports. Thus, during his abbacy, he made preparations for our new gymnasium to be built, the Fasi-Richard

Athletic Center. Though this project was finished after his reign, he laid the groundwork for the future project.

After resigning from the Office of Abbot at the age of 65, he assumed responsibility as *pastor animarum* at St. Michael Catholic Church, St. Florian, Alabama, for the next thirteen years. Returning home to the Abbey at the age of 78, Abbot Victor often could be found in the Abbey Church. A man of deep prayer and profound quiet, he was a sought after confessor by many of the brethren and guests alike. Always a man of physical activity, Abbot Victor continued his monastic labora even as he aged. In the afternoons, he could be seen mowing grass and working on other outdoor projects.

Suffering from dementia for many years, Abbot Victor's mind and body increasingly declined. In 2020, at the age of 90, he entered the monastic infirmary where he could receive more personalized care. Cared for by monks and coworkers alike, his strong and independent spirit remained with him even as his body and mind failed. As he gradually lost his faculties, one thing remained: his deep and abiding faith in God. In times of distress, he would often call upon the name of Jesus. And in his dying days, when he was beyond the point of conversation, he was heard repeating, "Hear my voice. Hear my prayer. Save my soul." On the early morning hours of Saturday, January 27, Abbot Marcus and the monks kept vigil at Abbot Victor's bedside. Having



Abbot Victor Joseph Clark, O.S.B

received the Anointing of the Sick and the Apostolic Pardon, Abbot Victor died peacefully at 7:30 that morning. At the time of his death, he was the senior monk and priest of our house, celebrating his seventy-fifth jubilee of monastic profession and seventieth jubilee of priestly ordination.

Abbot Victor's life was one marked by dedication to God and faithful service to St. Bernard. From the time he was a young monk, he shouldered significant responsibility for the community. Firm but kind, Abbot Victor was a humble man who did not readily complain or shirk responsibility. Instead, he gave himself to God and to this place of St. Bernard which he loved so much.

*Rt. Rev. Marcus J. Voss, O.S.B.
and Community
St. Bernard Abbey
Cullman, Alabama*

St. Bernard Abbey Monks Delight in Annual Holiday Gathering at Historic Borkenau With Local Patriarch, Roy H. Drinkard



Breakfast With Roy Drinkard

Front and center – Mr. Roy Drinkard and Br. Thomas Jones, OSB. Standing (l-r) Br. Michael Gregerson, Br. Benedict Dyar, Fr. Domonic Lee, Fr. Bede Marcy, Br. Joseph Goode, Fr. John O'Donnell, Br. Augustine Munchaky, Devin Ray, Abbot Marcus Voss, Fr. Paschal Pautler, Fr. Linus Kluscarits, Br. Christopher McBride, Br. Brendan Sepal, Br. Charles Manning and Fr. Joel Martin.

The Benedictine Monks of St. Bernard Abbey celebrated the joyous holiday season with their annual breakfast at the venerable Borkenau, graciously hosted by esteemed businessman and local icon, Mr. Roy H. Drinkard.

Nestled in the heart of Cullman, the Borkenau stands as a testament to the city's rich history, with its construction dating back to 1909 by the skilled hands of Austrian-born resident Ignatius Pollak. The property, now owned by Mr. Drinkard since 1949, serves as a symbol of timeless elegance and community heritage.

Roy H. Drinkard, born on July 12, 1920, in Falkville, Alabama, has left an indelible mark on the Southeastern United States through his extensive real estate holdings and shopping centers. As the President and CEO of Drinkard Development, Inc., he continues to lead with distinction, providing management, leasing, and maintenance services for commercial properties.

A World War II veteran who served honorably as a Private First Class in the

US Marine Corps, Drinkard's remarkable journey includes running a funeral home in Guntersville and later becoming an influential auto trader in Cullman. His dedication to enhancing the local economy earned him a place in the "Flying 50," a group of leaders recruiting businesses nationwide. His efforts were recognized by The Cullman Times, naming him the Distinguished Citizen of the Century.

In a heartwarming exchange during the holiday gathering, the monks of St. Bernard Abbey had the privilege of sharing moments with Mr. Drinkard, reveling in the rich tapestry of his 103 years of life. The event echoed with gratitude for the patriarch's stories and his enduring contributions to the community.

As St. Bernard Abbey continues to foster connections and celebrate the spirit of the season, the monks extend their heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Roy H. Drinkard for his hospitality and for being an invaluable part of the Cullman community.

St. Bernard Happenings



Nicolas "Andrew"
Tombo

St. Bernard Senior Awarded Prestigious Full-ride Scholarship to College of the Holy Cross

St. Bernard Preparatory School proudly announces the remarkable achievement of one of its exceptional seniors, Nicolas "Andrew" Tombo, who has been accepted to the esteemed College of the Holy Cross in Massachusetts with a full-ride scholarship through the prestigious QuestBridge program.

QuestBridge, a national nonprofit organization dedicated

to linking high-achieving students from low-income backgrounds and first-generation students with leading institutions of higher education, recently selected Andrew Tombo out of a competitive pool of over 20,800 applicants. Among the 6,683 finalists vying for the QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship, Andrew stands among the 2,242 distinguished students recognized

as Match Scholarship Recipients.

Andrew's unparalleled accomplishment is underscored by the substantial financial aid package offered by the College of the Holy Cross, encompassing the entire cost of attendance, including tuition, housing, meals, books, supplies, and travel expenses. This generous scholarship, estimated at over \$80,000 per year, signifies not only recognition of Andrew's

academic prowess but also his exceptional promise as a future leader.

The son of Andrew and Mariella Tombo of Birmingham, AL, Andrew Tombo epitomizes the values of St. Bernard Preparatory School, showcasing academic excellence, commitment, and the pursuit of knowledge.

HONOR, MERIT ROLL

Honor Roll 2023-24 Semester I

Grade 7

Aaron Cortes-Villegas
Sipsey Drake
Silas Krische
Reise Rigsby
Caroline Sanders

Grade 8

Norah Bissot
Ella Cron
Ella Davis
Anastasia Hazard
Avery Hines
Merry-Carmen Pichardo
Tony Ranelli

Grade 9

Joseph-Benedict Anders
Karly Arndt
Alexis Cron
Sarah Cumbie
Sean Daly
Rafi Guevara
Sage McDowell
Sam Meyers
Tessa Sanders

Grade 10

Katie Chamblee
Parker Guthery
Gavitt Lewis
Josh Marks
Kimberly McCormick
Sarah Woods

Grade 11

Roselyn Chavez
Saray Cortes-Villegas
Cash Daly
Nathan Gaspar
Marissa Hazard
Jade Nguyen
Joey Sadowens
Rowan Hines
Madi Kerber
Abby McBride
Joel Rose
Willa Smith

Grade 12

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

Merit Roll 2023-24 Semester I

Grade 7

James Grey
Josie Lamote
Andrew Nguyen
Yaretzi Parra
Sawyer Watwood

Grade 8

Cesar Blancas
Kayleigh Bryan-Marty
Eugene Byrd
Gabriel Kibler
Analia Lajara
Johnathan McBride
Matthew Sauers

Grade 9

Ruth Adams
Charlee Boykin
Emilie Gutowski
Aiden Hays
Logan Kretschmar
Joy Lamote
Lily Tillitski
Kaelyn Wrisley

Grade 10

Tanya Jimenez Jose
Eduardo Martinez Perez

Grade 11

Logan Bello
Anna Rogalski
Presley Shealy

Grade 12

Charlie Deist
Cesar Hernandez
Martha Jimenez Jose
Ashton Lindsey
Anahi Pantoja
Caroline Sidley

SBP Celebrates Success of "30 Days of Gratitude" Campaign

Saint Bernard Preparatory School proudly announces the triumphant conclusion of its '30 Days of Gratitude' campaign. Having met the goal of \$30,000, this achievement stands as a remarkable testament to the collective generosity and commitment of Saint Bernard supporters.

Kyle Dujakovich, Director of Alumni Relations, spearheaded this impactful campaign by engaging alumni to share their inspiring testimonials about their experiences

at St. Bernard. One resounding sentiment echoed through these conversations: "St. Bernard is not just an institution of learning; it's a place of belonging. The lifelong friendships forged here are unparalleled. The contributions generously offered by our alumni and friends play a pivotal role in sustaining the school's operations, supporting vital functions that drive our community initiatives forward."

Reflecting on the campaign's success, Dujakovich expressed, "St.

Bernard holds a unique place in the hearts of many. "I've personally witnessed the heartfelt and inspiring stories shared by alumni, emphasizing the impact of their formative years here. Their unwavering support strengthens our school's mission, fostering enduring connections across generations.

Gratitude resonates deeply within the St. Bernard community, underscoring the cherished bonds and values upheld by St. Bernard Preparatory School."

40th Annual Bloomin' Festival Set for April 20-21

(Continued from page 1)
visitors may donate \$5 for a single entry or opt for six entries by contributing \$25.

Art enthusiasts are in for a treat with a diverse selections of offerings ranging from metal art, stained glass, pottery, and handcrafted furniture to clothing, jewelry, quilts, and an assortment of artisanal items. "The quality and variety of artwork available are bound to captivate attendees," remarked Nix.

The culinary offerings promise to tantalize taste buds, featuring a wonderful assortment such as strawberry waffles, funnel cakes, monk's bread, pies, kettle corn, and more. For heartier fare, the school will serve up a selection of concessions including hamburgers, hotdogs, Polish sausages, and BBQ smoked chicken plates accompanied by refreshing Pepsi products or Nanny's fresh squeezed lemonade.

Throughout the festival, Ave Maria Grotto will be open at a reduced admission price of \$5 per person. This serene four

acre garden park affectionately known as "Little Jerusalem" is the lifework of the late Br. Joseph Zoetl, and features from than 100 miniatures from around the world.

A nominal admission donation of \$10 per person is requested at the gate, with children aged 5 and under granted complimentary entry. All proceeds from Bloomin' Festival directly benefits St. Bernard Preparatory School, furthering its commitment to education and

community development.

Plan an outing with your friends, church groups, or clubs, and join us at the 40th Annual Bloomin' Festival for an unforgettable weekend of artistic splendor, culinary delights, and community camaraderie.

For more information visit our website www.bloominfestival.com or follow us on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bloominfestival>.

ALUMNI REUNION DATE SET: JUNE 27TH – 30TH

CALLING ALL ALUMNI!

Get ready for a spectacular weekend of reminiscing and reconnecting at our Alumni Reunion! Join us for a weekend full of exciting events, from a welcome mixer to golf tournament and a grand reunion dinner on Saturday, there is something for everybody. Share stories, laughter, and create new memories with old friends. It's the perfect time to relive the good times and celebrate our wonderful community. Save the dates, stay tuned for more updates, and let's make this reunion weekend unforgettable!

St. Bernard Alumni news

CONGRATULATIONS



Abigail Curtis

Abigail Curtis (PS '19) graduated from Jacksonville State University on December 15, 2023 with a degree in Early Childhood/Elementary Education. Abigail is pursuing a Masters of Science in Elementary Education.

Lauren (Hodskins) Smith (PS '07) on the opening of her private law practice at 80 N. Village Drive, Gardendale, Alabama. www.laurenlaw.com



Lauren Smith

Ryan Deci (PS '10) and wife Maureen on the birth of their son, Hudson Thomas Deci who was born December 27, 2023 in Dayton, OH. Hudson weighed 5 lbs 10 oz and measured 20" long. The Deci family will be moving to Mobile, AL this year where Ryan will be completing a surgical critical care fellowship at University Hospital.



Hudson Thomas Deci

Lauren (Perilloux) Gibson (PS '02) graduated with her Doctorate of Social Work (DSW) from Tulane University on December 19, 2023. Prior to returning to school, she served 5 years as an active-duty social worker with the Navy, resigning her commission in 2014. Lauren has continued to provide mental health care for service members, veterans, and their families, currently working as a clinical social worker at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, TX. She resides with her spouse, John Gibson, an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Texas at El Paso, and their 9-year-old daughter, Parker Gibson.



Lauren Perilloux Gibson

Amanda Daniel Pendergrass (PS '99) was promoted to Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning in the College of Education at the University of West Alabama.

Caitlyn Norman (PS '17) married **James Petrimoulx** on October 21, 2023. Caitlyn currently works at Premier Bank of the South in Cullman, and James is a welder for Addison Fabricators. They make their home on Smith Lake in Cullman.



Mr. & Mrs. James Petrimoulx

Sam (PS '15) and Zana Wilson Michelfelder (PS



Lexi Rae Michelfelder

'16) are the proud new parents of Lexi Rae Michelfelder, who was born on October 31, 2023 weighing 7 lbs 9 oz and measured 19.25" long. The Michelfelders make their home in Moulton, AL.

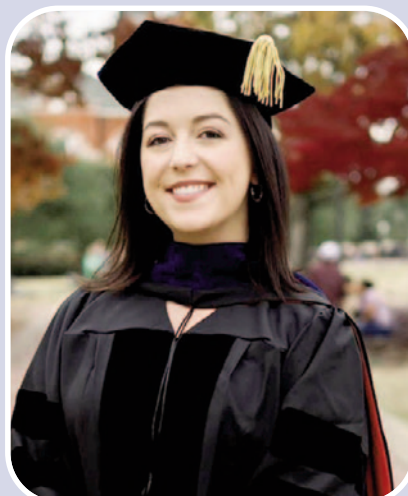
Christopher (SBP '10) and Cynthia Presto, along with big brother Maverick, welcomed their second son on May 15, 2023. Banks Gary Presto weighed 6 lb 12 oz and was 19 1/2" long. The Prestos live in Cullman.



Banks Gary Presto

Dr. Mackenzie Bockhold Woods (PS '14) was recently conferred with her Doctorate degree in

Chemical Engineering from Auburn University's School of Engineering. She and her husband, **Andy (PS '13)**, currently make their home in Huntsville, AL.



Dr. Mackenzie Bockhold Woods



Pensacola Alumni Celebrate Christmas

Here's the folks who attended our December 9, 2023 St. Bernard-Sacred Heart Alumni Association of Pensacola Christmas Party: (L-R) Jacque LeBeau (SB '70), Margaret LeBeau (SH '68), Lynn Soderlind, Woody Soderlind (SB '66), Michael Engel (SB '72), Lisa Engel, Abbot Marcus, OSB (SB '66), Pat Broadus (SB '70), Ray Engel (SB '65), Larry O'Donnell (SB '71), Mike Mronney (SB '70), Clancy O'Donnell (SH '69).

St. Bernard Alumni news

In Memory

Cheri Lynn Apel, age 75, passed away peacefully Wednesday, October 25, 2023. Cheri was born in Troy on May 16, 1948 to the late Laura Evelyn and Dan Hataway. She attended Auburn University before marrying Ronny Apel in 1968 and moving to Cullman. Cheri was preceded in death by her parents, as well as Ronny's parents; Arthur and Maebell Apel. She is survived by her husband Ronny Apel; sons Hank (Julie) Apel and Kurt (Megan) Apel of Cullman, AL; grandchildren Gracie, Tucker, John Henry, Brant, Macey, and William Apel of Cullman, AL; sister Carole (Rex) McDaniel of Ozark; brother-in-law John (Marie) Apel; sister-in-law Cheri Dalgleish; and many nieces and nephews.

Jimmie Lee Boyd, age 85, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Friday, October 27, 2023. Jim Boyd served as Cullman County Schools Superintendent for 20 years and devoted his life to education and the children of Cullman County. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Willodean Campbell Boyd, daughter, Susan (Tim) Sellers and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Jimmie Lee Boyd

Cheryl Bankowitz, beloved wife of Frank Bankowitz (C '70), passed peacefully on January 29, 2024, in the comfort of her home. Cheryl and Frank's love story began at St. Bernard, where Frank was a college student, and Cheryl attended Sacred Heart Junior College. Their connection blossomed into a beautiful journey, marking 55 years of a joyous and loving marriage. Cheryl and Frank were blessed with two devoted sons, Jeff and Jason.



Richard F. Carle

Richard F. Carle (C '66) passed away on May 3, 2023, in Martinsville, Va. Prior to his retirement, he was a lifelong resident of Richmond, Va. He owned and operated Carle's Amoco, then Carle's Texaco in Richmond until he retired in 2010. He attended St. Bridget Catholic Church and was a Knight of Columbus in Council 395. In Martinsville, he was a St. Joseph Catholic Church parishioner and an officer in K of C Council 6538. He is survived by his brother, Robert Carle (Melva); twin sister, Margaret Robins; his wife, Susanna Schutrumpf Carle; children, John Schutrumpf (Cheryl) and Theresa Schutrumpf Winter; grandchildren, Rebecca Lea Otto and Lindsey Nicole Winter; multiple great-grandchildren, a great-great-grandson and many nieces and nephews.

Richard Walter Collier Sr. (C '79) passed away January 12, 2024. After graduating from St. Bernard College, Richard worked for a number of years with his father, Lonnie Collier Sr. Owner of the Dixie Tractor Company. His love for agriculture and tractors led him to start and manage Hartselle Seed and Feed where he sold farming equipment and supplies. Later in life, he would work from his home after developing complications with diabetes. He is survived by his son, **Richard Walter Collier Jr. (PS '09)**; whom he shared with Judy Hood Collier; one grandson, Wiley Collier; his sisters, Leona "Babe" Wall (Bill), Margaret "Peggy" McDowell, Frances Styles, Ibbie Young (John), MaryAnn Whaley (Keith), Sharon Collier, and Joan Florence (Mark); his brothers, Lonnie Collier Jr. (Carol) and **Leonard Collier (C '70)**.



Richard Collier

Imelda C. Fisher (C '76) of Hartselle, Alabama passed away at Summerford Nursing Health and Rehab early Monday morning December 11, 2023 at the age of 68. Imelda earned her Masters Degree in Education and retired from Hartselle City School. She loved to write poetry, write

children's books and kept a captive audience with her students. She is survived by her son, Josh Fisher and sister, Angela Norris.

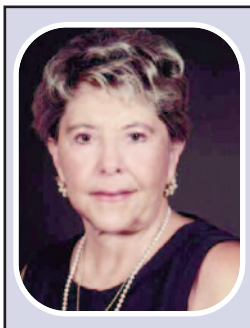
Edwin W. Guthrie (C '72) passed away on Friday, December 22, 2023, at his residence. Edwin was the long-time math team coach at West Point High School and retired after 34 years of teaching. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ruth Guthrie; sons, Eddie (Tracy) Guthrie and Kevin (Amanda) Guthrie; grandchildren, Addy, Jacy, Zady, Reese, and John Luke; brother, Dennis (Barbara) Guthrie; sister, Esther (Neil) Hayes, and a host of nieces and nephews.



Vic Hagman

Harold Victor "Vic" Hagman, (HS '51) of Hawesville, KY passed away on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at his home at the age of 91. He was born in Skillman on January 3, 1932 to the late Harold V. and Dorothy Johnson Hagman. Vic was a 3rd generation farmer in Skillman Bottoms and a member at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and VFW Post 5186. Vic was a veteran of the United States Navy, serving his country during the Korean War. Vic is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara Frey Hagman; sons, Joseph Hagman and wife, Donna, Matthew Hagman and wife Pam, James Hagman and Paul Hagman; along with grandchildren and extended family.

Faith Moody Hammock of Hanceville, AL passed away on December 18, 2023 at the age of 81. Survivors include her long time companion, George Dodd; children, Jeff "Bart" Hammock (Vicki), Nancy Hammock-Keith (Jason) and Jamie (Jenny) Hammock (PS '89); grandchildren, Justin Hammock (Erin), Jamie Hammock (Jessica), Morgan Hammock, Mallory Hammock, Joseph Keith (PS 2022), Jacob Keith, Mattie Claire Keith; sisters, Brenda Holloway (Tommy), Cheri Ainsworth (Mike), and Donna Guthrie (John); and a host of many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



Faith Moody-Hammock



Jessica Hart

Sr. Eleanor Harrison OSB, passed away peacefully on January 21, 2024, in the monastery infirmary at Sacred Heart at the age of 97. In 1987 Sister Eleanor joined the faculty of St. Bernard Preparatory School until she was asked to serve as Director of the Benedictine Spirituality and Conference Center in 1992.



Sr. Eleanor Harrison, O.S.B.



Imelda Fisher

Gordon Albion Hudson (C '68) passed away Friday, October 13th, 2023 at CRMC. He owned and operated Hudson Roofing Company for 30 plus years. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Rhea Hudson; daughters, Charese (Mitch) Morris, Channon (Brad) Wilhelm; brother, Donald Hudson; grandchildren, Cydney (Blake) Rowell, Gunter (Leah Marie) Morris, Hudson (Lindsey) Wilhelm, Griffin (Tess) Morris and Jason Wilhelm; great-grandchildren, Noah Rowell, Brinley Rowell, Graham Morris, Landyn Morris; family and friends.



Gordon Hudson

Richard Jabaley (HS '54; Jr. College '56), age 87, of Epworth, GA, passed away on Monday, December 11, 2023. A member of St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church in Copperhill, TN, Richard was a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, and inductee of the Fannin County Sports Hall of Fame, and belonged to the Young Farmers of Fannin County, the Epworth Community Club, and the Copperhill Steppers Line Dance Group. He is survived by his wife, Mary "Kathy" Jabaley; daughters, Cynthia J. (Gary) Caddell; Patricia J. (Jeff) Partin and Suzanne Jabaley; son, Richard G. Jabaley; brothers, Anthony (Diane) Jabaley; and Joseph Jabaley; sisters, Judy (Bud) Ward, Lynnda Jabaley; and sister-in-law, Kay Jabaley and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren.



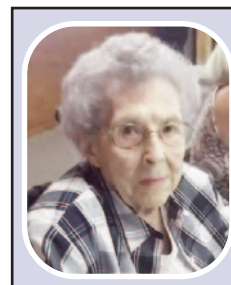
Richard Jabaley

Joseph "Joe" Ernest Kingston, Sr. (C '64), 82, of Decatur, GA, passed away on October 17, 2023. Joe earned a Bachelor of Science from St. Bernard College in Cullman, Alabama, where he met his future wife, Melanie. Joe served in the United States Marine Corps before embarking on a lifetime career in information technology. His survived by his wife, Melanie Hamby Kingston, his children Joe Kingston, Jr. (Pam), Amy Walborn (George), Colleen Kingston, his grandchildren Reese Kingston, Avery Kingston, Melanie Walborn, and Amelia Walborn.



Joseph Kingston

John R. Murphy (C '50) of Cincinnati, OH passed away on Friday, November 3, 2023 at the age of 96. He is survived by his daughters Monica Vanskee, and Mary Gleis and sons, Matthew (Kelly) Murphy, and Michael (Joanne) Murphy as well as a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Ollie Oden

Ollie Carden Oden (C '72) of Vinemont, Alabama passed away November 9, 2023 at 90 years of age. Ollie devoted much of her life to nurturing not only her own children but to all children. She started Romper Room Kindergarten and Day Care Center in 1963 and eventually turned over the operation of it to her youngest daughter, Carmen Oden Underberg, when she began her career as a first-grade teacher at Welti Elementary. She is survived by her daughter, Sabrina (Jeff) Buettner; her son, William "Bill" Harold Oden, II; and Carmen's husband, Jeff Underberg.

Geraldine Sharpton (C '73) passed away on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at Cullman Regional. She was born May 9, 1936, to John M. Crider and Sophie Irene Crider-Hancock. Mrs. Sharpton was a lifelong teacher, and she

taught at Dowling and Addison Elementary until her retirement. She loved Sacred Harp music and she traveled all over to attend the singings. Survivors include her husband, Dalton Sharpton; sons, Wade (Kim) Sharpton and Gene (Lisa) Sharpton; grandchildren, Valerie, Jared, Jessica, Christy, and Luke; nine great-grandchildren; and sister, Essie Mae Hollingsworth.



Robert Sullivan

Robert H. Sullivan, Jr. (C '60) of Lakeland, FL died unexpectedly on October 26, 2023. He was born June 14, 1938, in Nashville, TN but relocated to Florida in pursuit of his passions, eventually settling in Lakeland in 1967. Bob worked in the citrus industry for many years, delighting his family with crates of Florida's finest at every opportunity. His background in agriculture came second to his storied career as a coach. Bob was the first collegiate baseball coach at Saint Leo University, "the man who started it all," an achievement he was most proud of, and was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in 2017. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marlyn, daughter Shannon (Gary), sons Keith (Mary Helen) and Larry, as well as siblings Nell, Linda, Mimi, and Patrick, and a host grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

James Leon Tucker (HS '48), age 93, of Oneonta, AL, formerly of Cullman, AL passed away on August 15, 2023 in his home. Leon grew up in Cullman, AL and attended St. Bernard prep school and college, then transferred to Howard Collage (Samford) in Birmingham, AL where he received his BS degree in Business and Marketing. Leon served in the US Army during the Korean War as Private 1st Class Quartermaster C. After his service he worked for State Farm in the claims department, Cullman City Hall as the City Clerk, and retired in 1994 from Trussville Utilities as a draftsman. Leon is survived by his wife Helen Gilliland Tucker, son James Michael Tucker (Renee), grandchildren Amber Timmons (Lorenzo), Stephanie Stapp (Thomas), Kyle Tucker, and great grandchildren Alexia and Aliya Timmons, Tenley and Tucker Stapp, and Gavin and Hudson Tucker; niece Heather Keener (Brandon).



Leon Tucker

Luther "Perry" Tucker (JC '61) passed away peacefully on Sunday morning, December 24, 2023. Perry was a 1957 graduate of Cullman High school and studied business and finance at St. Bernard. While in college, he worked with his grandfather, J.R. Tucker at Parker Bank, prior to working at the Cullman Co-Op. His banking career began with Birmingham Trust National Bank in the early 1970's and continued to People's Bank of Tupelo Mississippi, Southtrust and 1st Commercial Bank (Synovus) in Birmingham, from where he returned to Cullman in 1999. He retired from banking with Merchants Bank in Cullman and then began poultry and cattle farming which he did throughout his retirement. Perry is survived by his high school sweetheart, and wife of 63 years, Alpharetta "Ralph" (Nix) Tucker; two sons, Dr. Perron Lee Tucker (Cortney) and Joseph Luther Tucker (Lee Anne), as well as two grandsons Henry Ransom Tucker and Charles Perron Tucker.



Luther "Perry" Tucker

St. Bernard Happenings

St. Bernard Prep School Pays Tribute to Veterans

Saint Bernard Preparatory School, held a heartfelt Veterans Day ceremony on Friday, November 10, 2023. Students from grades 7-12 gathered around the school's new flag to celebrate some veterans able to be present – men and women from students families and/or connected to the school

Under the leadership of the St. Bernard Student Council, the campus was decorated with festive décor. On the hillside at the entrance road and facing Hwy 278 a sign stood before a cross that was formed by hundreds of small American flags. The sign read "God Bless our Veterans." Another cross of flags adorned the quad in front of the Abbey Church. The inclusion of these crosses served as a visual reminder of the sacrifices made by veterans. The patriotic decoration demonstrated St. Bernard Preparatory School's dedication to honoring the service and commitment of those who have defended the nation.

Headmaster Phuong Nguyen welcomed honored guests, by thanking them for taking time to spend with the students at St. Bernard and for their service to our country.

The event began with a collective moment of prayer and reflection, emphasizing gratitude for the brave men and women who have selflessly served in the armed forces. Father Joel, President of St. Bernard Prep,

recited the poem "It is the Soldier," underscoring the importance of acknowledging and honoring the sacrifices made by veterans who make possible our freedom and way of life.

The occasion featured a moving musical tribute, with SBP Junior, Joey Shadowens, playing taps on the trombone, which added a somber and reflective tone to the ceremony. Senior Caroline Sidley then led the assembly in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, fostering a sense of unity and pride among the students. 7th grader Andrew Nguyen led the student body and all those assembled in singing the national anthem.

Following the event, veterans lined the sidewalk so students could personally thank each one of them for their service.

Pictured (l-r): Jay Land, Barbara Ragsdale, Nancy Spurgeon, Theresa Griffin, Laura Bell, Jane Young, Meg Glover, Regina Gongre, Kyle Dujakovich, and Karen Roberts. Not pictured: Mary Lou Gamble, Helen Calinao, and Joyce Nix.



*Fr. Joel Martin thanks Veterans for attending Veterans Day at St. Bernard
L-r: Fr. Joel Martin, Clifford Gissell, Tom Kalen, George Welch, Patrick Gargan, Jennifer Gargan, Kieran Gargan and Bill Ellis*



St. Bernard Prep Gears Up for 40th Festival

The Benedictine Monks of St. Bernard Abbey, in collaboration with St. Bernard Preparatory School,

are delighted to announce the upcoming 40th Annual Bloomin' Festival, a much-anticipated community event.

After an entire week of meticulous preparations, festival tickets are now en route and will soon grace the mailboxes of eager recipients. This marks the beginning of a thrilling opportunity for festival-goers to not only partake in the festivities but also to vie for incredible prizes, including the chance to drive home in a brand-new 2024 Jeep Compass.

Fr. Joel Martin, President of St. Bernard Prep, extends his heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated volunteers who devoted their time and energy to ensure the

seamless execution of the mailout. Their unwavering commitment reflects the spirit of community that defines St. Bernard Prep.

In a statement, Fr. Joel Martin expressed, "We are immensely grateful for the support of our volunteers who play a pivotal role in making the Bloomin' Festival a success. Their dedication is truly commendable, and we extend an open invitation to anyone interested in joining our volunteer efforts."

For those inspired to contribute their time and skills to this thriving community, please reach out to Regina Gongre at (256) 739-6682 to be added to the volunteer list.

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