

Alumni News

Saint Philip Catholic Central High School

Spring 2008



2007 St. Philip State Championship Volleyball Team

Pictured are the following:

Back Row left to right

Coach Groat, Coach Williams, Caroline Morel, Megan Toth, Carly Dickerson, Liz Sherzer, Coach Schaub, Coach Oliver

Middle Row left to right

Becca Freybler, Ryan Hubbard, Hannah Winget, Lena Oliver, Riley Buschke

Seated left to right

Kristin Zull, Megan Riley

Indescribable

Wow! Back to back state championships is pretty exciting but to be back-to-back state champions in the same year is indescribable. What makes this even more amazing is how different both teams were. For the winter 2007 state championship, the team was expected to be holding the state championship trophy in our hand at the end of the season.

Coming into the winter season, our team was picked to win due to the returning talent that we had from our 2006 runner-up season, whereas our fall 2007 team was underestimated and under rated. We lost 6 seniors to graduation in 2007, which included 4 all state players. The expectations from the sports writers and other coaches for the fall 2007 team were that this would be more of a rebuilding year. We proved them all wrong.

At St. Philip, we have high expectations and one of these is to compete at the highest level. This year, many believed that, because the 2007 state championship team graduated

six seniors, the returning girls would not be enough to achieve this same goal. This presented a challenge to our team. We knew that it was going to take hard work and dedication by the players and the coaches in order to be playing on the last possible day of the volleyball season, but we were ready for this.

Just because talented players come and go, the expectations do not change.



Thanks to the St. Philip students, staff and alumni for their continuing support of St. Philip Athletics. Nothing is more comforting then to have the “Sea of Red” at our side.

*Kristin Zull
Class of 2008*

St. Philip Girls' Volleyball Team Receives Tribute from The State of Michigan

On December 3, 2007, the 94th Legislature from the State of Michigan made the following tribute:

“LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is a pleasure to join with their families, the entire school and all of Battle Creek in celebrating the achievements of the St. Philip High School Girls' Volleyball Team and congratulating them on their remarkable success in 2007. In compiling this 58-11-3 record this season, which culminated in an unprecedented second Class D state title within the same year, this group of disciplined student-athletes has generated pride throughout this part of our state...In the face of challenge and pressure, this is a group of young women who remained focused on making its dream come true and accepting nothing less than their best effort.”



“ . . . Knowing there were a lot of expectations, not just with volleyball but academics and realizing where I ended up was nowhere near what I thought was within my ability or power. Coming to St. Philip and winning a state championship (Winter, 2007) are accomplishments for which I am extremely proud!”

Ryian Hubbard, Class of 2011, Setter

My fondest memory of St. Philip is the years (and hours) I worked on the yearbook staff in Room 101 evenings and weekends with a great group of people! Now 27 years later, I am proud to be serving on the School Board of my alma mater and to see that they now have a yearbook class offered in the curriculum for students.

– Todd Greenman, Class of 1981

We Celebrate Our Students' Accomplishments . . .

The theme at our annual State of the Schools meeting held in March was “We Celebrate!” Father John Fleckenstein, Pastor Administrator and Kathy Grosso, High School Principal had this to share about the success of our high school students:

The **Academic All League Awards** for the **St. Joe Valley League** were recently presented. Congratulations to our students who were recognized as being in the top fifteen seniors: Cailee Gallagher placed 5th, Caroline Morel placed 2nd and Ben Niewenhuis took 1st Place!! Kyle Murphy was also selected as an honorable mention. Ben was named this year's captain meaning he has the best GPA/ACT combination of all 2600 seniors in this league!!!

The **St. Philip Quiz Bowl Team** earned 1st Place at the All City Meet in March and 2nd and 3rd place in the St. Joe Valley League Meet. The following students will represent St. Philip at the 21st Annual Michigan State championship High School Quiz Bowl Tournament at MSU later this month: Dave Curtis, Branden Harris, Libby Martin, Caroline Morel, Ben Niewenhuis and Ryan Thurmer.

BCACS earned the highest **MEAP scores** in Calhoun County, with at or near 100% of students meeting or exceeding state standards. These high scores exist in every subject, at every grade level, for every year tested.

Our Catholic schools' enrollment continues to grow – in 2007-2008 our middle school enrollment was the largest its been in five years.

In 2007, every graduating senior either attended the college or university of his/her choice or enlisted in the armed forces. Together, they earned **\$413,000.00 in college scholarships**.

Our **Campus Ministry Program** continues to grow and improve. This year, every student participated in their class retreats, LEAD Team members attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in Ohio and a group of students are planning their mission trip to Washington DC through Young Neighbors in Action.

Congratulations to the 2007 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

Reverend Charles Fischer, Pastor, St. Philip Parish
Reverend John Fleckenstein, Pastor, St. Joseph Parish
Beth (Bauman) Greenman, Class of 1979
Mary Chadwick, Class of 1997
Brooke (Formsma) Mueller, Class of 1997
Mike Lucas, Class of 1994
Jim Pessetti, 28 year history of
coaching "Big Red" basketball

This year's Hall of Fame inductees were honored on Friday, December 21, 2007. A reception in their honor was held at 5:30 pm at the St. Philip Cafeteria and they were recognized at a ceremony between the Junior Varsity and Varsity Basketball Games.



Pictured left to right are Father Chuck Fischer, Father John Fleckenstein, Mary Chadwick, Brooke (Formsma) Mueller, Beth (Bauman) Greenman, Jim Pessetti, and Mike Lucas.

One of my best memories of St. Philip is the camaraderie we shared as we worked on homecoming decorations and plans. The class came together without thought of popularity as we prepared to win the Spirit Cup (which we did all 4 years!).

– Elizabeth (Hannon) Casterline, Class of 1990

My fondest memory of St. Philip is watching Fr. O'Meara greet students at the end of school days. He often stood in the driveway of the rectory or at the Cherry Street entrance and chatted with us as we were leaving school. He always had his little Scottie dog at his side.

– Gloria (Scott) McNamara, Class of 1980

11th Annual Alumni Reunion

The eleventh all alumni reunion was held on October 12, 2007. Over 200 alumni gathered at the Holiday Inn for an evening of reminiscing and fun. Members of the Classes of 1947, 1952, 1962, 1967, 1977 and 1982 celebrated their milestone reunions. They were joined by alumni from the Classes of 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1953, 1964, 1970, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1981 and 1985. Father John Fleckenstein, Pastor Administrator, served as Master of Ceremonies. Father Chuck Fischer, Pastor of St. Philip Parish and Kathy Grosso, Principal of St. Philip Catholic Central High School joined Father John for the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Awards. Deacon Paul Fifer, led the prayer before dinner. Later in the evening, Deacon Fifer shared memories and remarks about St. Philip School.



“. . . I left Battle Creek soon after my high school graduation and have been back home infrequently since. Yet there has always been a special place in my heart for St. Philip. When I was invited to share a few words, memories of my school years at St. Joseph and St. Philip flooded my mind.

What I remembered most about that time were all the people that left lasting impressions on me. They are my heroes. Please allow me to name just a few of them. . . Believe me, I have many more heroes, as you all do too. I could go on to mention many more. Unfortunately, many of them have passed on. One of my biggest regrets is that I have never had a chance to personally say "Thank You" to each and every one of them.

I do pray for them all every single day. I have for years. I will never forget them. May God bless them all.

These people exemplify the Spirit of St. Philip. How can you put a price on it? Personally, I would not trade it for the world.

This Spirit has been with me when my life has taken me to College out in Minnesota, to the jungles of Guatemala, during my career to Hospital Intensive Care Units, Emergency Rooms, Oncology Units, to Corporate Board Rooms across the country, and lying prostrate before the altar of St. Mary's Cathedral in Gaylord, Michigan, for my ordination.

Remember the parable of the sower and the seed. Seeds were sown on the path, on rocky ground, and on fertile soil. The one constant in this parable are the seeds themselves.

That is what I believe St. Philip does. It sows the seeds of life's values. Time is not important. It could have been in the '40's, the '60's, the '80's, or even in this new millennium. The values of our Catholic Faith, Tradition, Honor, Loyalty, Education, Stewardship, Friendship, and many more, are timeless and priceless.

Yet, St. Philip also did much, much more. The St. Philip experience is unique in that the students are better prepared to receive, learn, and understand what these values are all about.

In other words, those seeds stood a much better chance to be sown in the fertile ground of our hearts and minds. The result will touch many, many lives.

Those seeds may take root immediately, or they may lay dormant for decades. I believe they will all be fruitful in God's own time and in God's own way.

You see, this Distinguished Alumni award really isn't about the honorees. It truly is a celebration of the countless fruits of the ministry of St. Philip High School over the last century."

– Deacon Paul Fifer, Class of 1975

2007 Distinguished Alumni Honored



Pictured left to right are Joan (McIntyre) Lawrence, Margaret, "Peggy" (Skaggs) Hogan, Paul Fifer, Helen (Bauman) Schoder and Sallee Boone

Margaret, "Peggy" (Skaggs) Hogan is from the Class of 1942 where she was member of the church choir. Peggy has fond memories and cherishes friendships made through the St. Philip community. She attended Michigan State College and graduated from the Henry Ford Hospital School of Nursing in 1947, as a Registered Nurse. Peggy married John B. Hogan in 1948. They celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary October 16. She enjoyed her career as a full time home maker and mother of 5 daughters, who all graduated from STP, continuing a close relationship with St. Philip school and parish. She has 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Peggy participated in the Leila Hospital Auxiliary and the St. Philip Women's Guild. Her hobbies over the years include golf, flower gardening and reading. She is a fan of PGA golf. Peg also has enjoyed traveling both abroad and in the USA. The Hogans have retired to Gull Lake and are active members of St. Ann Parish in Augusta, including participation in weekly Adoration.

Peggy Hogan is nominated by her daughters for her continued interest and devotion to St. Philip Catholic School and to Catholic education through support for the BCACS Foundation. Mr. and Mrs. Hogan's history of support began with being instrumental in the development of Walsh Field as the athletic facility for St. Philip School. The "Statue of St. Philip" which stands at the entrance of St. Philip High School was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Hogan to honor James and Patricia Mae Skaggs. Most recently, Mr. and Mrs. Hogan established a scholarship fund within the BCACS Foundation for students pursuing health related studies in college.

Helen (Bauman) Schoder graduated in the Class of 1946. Helen was nominated by Lena (Maddalena) Wood '44, due to "her years of service and dedication to the people of Battle Creek and the Catholic community throughout Michigan."

Helen attended St. Philip School for twelve years. Following graduation she was employed in the Accounting Department at Consumers Power Company.

Helen married Wendell Schoder, Class of 1944, at St. Philip Church in 1951. They had seven children who attended Catholic schools and have thirteen grandchildren. Helen has been a champion of Catholic education throughout her life. She was a board member and volunteered as librarian at St. Joseph School and served as treasurer and president for

the St. Philip Catholic Central High School Board. Helen continues to be a strong supporter for Catholic education in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor/St. Joseph and the Grand Rapids area. To ensure that students had an opportunity for a Catholic high school education, Helen and Judge Schoder established the St. Philip High School Fund at the Battle Creek Community Foundation.

Helen also served on the Kalamazoo Diocese Christian Education Committee, and as a member for the Catholic Council of Women at St. Joseph Parish, where she also served as treasurer and president. She is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Joseph Church. Her involvement extends to the community through her work on the Lawyer's Wives of Calhoun County and Michigan. She was a longtime auxiliary volunteer at Leila Hospital and Battle Creek Health System, serving over 8000 hours. She also volunteered with the Girl Scouts and at the Soup Kitchen and The Food Pantry.

Sallee Boone was a member of the Class of 1952. Fellow classmate, June (Klimmer) Crocker, who nominated Sallee shared, "Sallee's spirituality and faith are a true model for each one of us. She always looks to God for His support and guidance."

Sallee worked at the Air National Guard before retiring to care for her mother. At that time, she returned to their family home which they lived in since 1938. Recently, Sallee relocated to allow St. Philip Parish and School to move forward with the planning for renovation and construction on Division Street.

Sallee's commitment to St. Philip Parish spans decades, working on Bingo, Entertainment, Sunday Suppers, Catholic Council of Women, as a Special Minister and Lector and RCIA and through weekly Adoration since its beginning at St. Philip Church.

Her dedication to our community parallels her parish work and included: Hospice volunteer for eleven years, Battle Creek Health System volunteer for eight years, Road to Recovery for thirteen years, The Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, ACCORD, Festival of Lights and the Balloon Championship.

Our sincere condolences to family and friends of Sallee, who passed away on March 31, 2008.

Emily Joan (McIntyre) Lawrence graduated from St. Philip High School in 1952. She was nominated by her daughter, Teri (Lawrence) Barker, Class of 1976, for her "tireless dedication to her family, volunteerism at St. Philip Parish and her long-term community involvement."

Joan retired from the Federal Government in 1995, where she worked at the Veteran's Medical Center and the Department of Defense. Prior to that time, she was employed at Federal Home Life/HBJ Insurance.

Joan and her husband of 51 years, Ed Lawrence, '52, have always been supportive of all the activities surrounding the lives of their five children, their eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild. Her Christian example extends well beyond family and includes anyone in need. Her definition of family is "anyone who needs one." She is a living example of Christianity, whether she was volunteering with scouting, helping a neighbor over a cup of coffee or sharing her love and support with one of the five unwed mothers who Joan invited to live in their home. These extended "family members" would fill her home at holiday time. There was always enough love and food for everyone and more!

Joan is an active St. Philip Parish volunteer, devoting years of service and support to the Boy Scouts, Teens Encounter Christ – TEC, Cursilo Group Leader, Jonah Listening Campaign, Birth Rite Crisis Line, Thrift Shop, Special Minister of the Eucharist and Catholic Family and Children Services of Lansing. She remains involved in her community through her seventeen year history with the March of Dimes and twenty-nine years as a member of the Battle Creek Chapter of the Sweet Adelines. She serves as a reading and math tutor at Wilson Elementary School and is a neighborhood activist.

Paul Fifer, Class of 1975, was nominated by members of the Class of 1975 to honor his ordination to the permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Gaylord and his lifelong commitment to his faith and his classmates. His classmates shared, "Paul's true genius is computers but that is overshadowed by his care of community, church and people."

Following graduation, Paul earned his Bachelor in Economics and Philosophy from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. He also earned an Associates Degree in

Nursing from Rochester Community College in Minnesota. Paul served as an Intensive Care Nurse at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey while advancing his training in the field of computer programming and software. He currently is responsible for hospital programming and software at Northern Michigan Hospital. Paul remains committed to his nursing career, maintaining an active certification and license to practice. He developed a computerized diabetes management program which is utilized in over 300 hospitals in United States and Canada.

Paul is a Deacon at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Petoskey, Michigan. There he has served on the Pastoral Council, Chair of the Parish Renovation Committee, the finance council, as Head Usher, RCIA Member and received the Volunteer Service Award for the Vicariate of Petoskey in 2006.

Paul and his wife, Susan, have been married 26 years. They have three sons - Joe, Ben and John. Paul's hobbies include photography, reading, stamp collecting and golf.

St. Philip Catholic Central High School Distinguished Alumni

The St. Philip Catholic Central High School Alumni Association will honor our distinguished alumni at their Homecoming Reunion on October 10, 2008. This award recognizes continued excellence in the arts, athletics, academics, or service for their community and school. We welcome your nomination!

Nominee's Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Activities related to this nomination (Church/school involvement, community involvement, accomplishments, awards, etc.): _____

Other supporting reasons to honor this nominee: _____

(Please use additional paper if needed to complete your nomination).

Nominator's Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Nominations must be received by June 1, 2008

**Please mail to St. Philip Catholic Central High School Alumni Association
at 20 Cherry Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017 or e-mail mrabbitt@bcacs.org.**

Alumni News . . . Keeping in Touch!

– Congratulations to Tom McVeigh, Class of 1967, who was recently appointed Director of Field Service for the Catalina Council, Boy Scouts of America. Tom is the Chief Operating Officer and staff leader for the council field staff. Tom has been in the profession for over 25 years and has served as district executive, senior district executive district and field director.

– Join fellow alumni, Anthony Moreno and Brett Miller, Class of 2002, for lunch at their newly established delicatessen, Trio's Deli in Sturgis, Michigan. Anthony and Brett can be reached at 269.651.7051.

– Our gratitude to Greg Goudeseune, Class of 2004, for serving as an intern at the BCACS Administrative Offices. Greg's work ethic, talent and commitment serves as a tribute to his education at STP. You were a tremendous asset! It was great to have Greg working with his Alma mater.



Congratulations to Greg who graduated, Magna Cum Laude and a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society at Tri-State University. Greg was also honored as the Ketner School of Business Outstanding Senior for 2008!!!

– Thank you David Maison, Class of 2007 for sharing this expression of appreciation: “. . . *I want to share with you my appreciation to the teachers for the phenomenal education I received at St. Philip. Now that I am off to college I realize all of my teachers at BCACS prepared me so well for the next step in my life. I would just like to point out what a great education the Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools provide their students and to say thank you.*”

BCACS Foundation– Supporting Catholic Education . . . Now and Forever

Since its establishment in 1983, the BCACS Foundation remains firmly committed to its mission of providing financial support for Catholic education. The Foundation accomplishes this goal through:

- **Annual Fund Drive**
- **Memorial and Honor Gifts**
- **Bequests and Estate Planning**
- **Charitable Gift Annuity Program**

Each year, over 400 individuals support the BCACS Foundation. We are deeply grateful for gifts from alumni, parents of alumni, staff, school parents, parishioners, and friends.

The goal of the **2008 Annual Fund Drive** is to increase participation and raise \$325,000. The great news is that we already increased the number of donors by 4% and are at 67% of our goal. Your support of the 2008 Annual Fund Drive will help us reach our goal! Alumni contributions provide:

- **Scholarships for families of limited means to attend St. Philip**
- **Technology and Equipment to enhance programming**
- **Professional Development opportunities for teachers**
- **Support for alumni communications – like this newsletter**

“If each alumni and alumnae considered the following annual commitment to their alma mater . . . we could provide much needed financial support for St. Philip, allowing their continued growth and excellence.”

– Tim Hutson, Class of 1984
Trustee, BCACS Foundation

“Annual giving = number of years since graduation x \$5 per year.”

You may be asking yourself . . . “**What's the difference between the BCACS Foundation's Annual Fund Drive and the Capital Campaign?**” The Capital Campaign represents a historical and monumental turning point in the improvement of our schools and the future of Catholic Education. The changes taking place are remarkable! While celebrating this exciting progress, however, we must also ensure that the core values and activities at St. Philip are upheld. The **Annual Fund Drive** ensures that scholarships, equipment upgrades, staff development, and enhancements of academic, spiritual, social, and athletic programs continue to be supported.

Please consider a tax deductible charitable gift today, or pledge your support, payable throughout 2008. A pledge envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Your prompt reply helps us to save on increasing cost of postage, too! Call Kathy Gallagher at 269.963.4771 for information on ways you can support your alma mater.

BCACS Foundation Receives Alumni Bequests

The Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools Foundation is pleased to announce recent bequests totaling \$250,000 from siblings and graduates of St. Philip Catholic Central High School.

Howard Lehmoine, St. Philip Catholic Central High School, **Class of 1938**, passed away August 13, 2006. His gift provides tuition assistance for students at his alma mater through immediate scholarships. In addition, the trustees of the BCACS Foundation designated a partial investment in the Reverend William Fitzgerald Endowment for Tuition Assistance held at the BCACS Foundation.

Margaret May (Lehmoine) Spencer, Class of 1941, passed away on January 6, 2007. Throughout her life, Mrs. Spencer supported the BCACS Foundation through gifts to its annual fund drive. Mrs. Spencer was honored as a member of the Guardian Angel Guild for establishing an estate plan which included the BCACS Foundation.

Kathy Gallagher, Development Director shared that ‘we very much appreciate the loyal generosity of our alumni who ensure our future through their estate plans. Families are paramount in our schools. Receiving bequests from siblings reaffirms that value.’

For information about planned giving programs and endowment funds at the BCACS Foundation, contact Kathy Gallagher, Development Director at 269.963.4771.



*We are very thankful for our students who sponsored a Penny Drive and raised \$698.44 for the **In the Spirit of Community Campaign**. Thank you for your leadership and generosity!!! Their gift will be matched through the \$500,000 challenge match too!!*



*During our Community Wide Mass celebrating the **In the Spirit of Community Campaign**, middle school students present classroom crucifixes to be blessed by the Most Reverend James A. Murray, Bishop, Diocese of Kalamazoo.*

In the Spirit of Community . . .

In previous issues of the STP Alumni News, we have proudly shared the progress of our **In the Spirit of Community Capital Campaign**.

To ensure that Catholic education continues to play its leadership role in shaping our community's future, school and church leaders developed a bold and comprehensive plan that addresses the needs of our schools, our parishes and our community. Four “pillars” guided our planning for our school's future: Spiritual Formation and Identity, Academic Rigor and Challenge, Relevant Learning for all Students, Community Integration and Learning.

Although plans include extensive facility renovation and new construction, central to our campaign are the high school programming improvements: One on One Laptop Initiative, Campus Ministry Program, College Experience and On-Line Curriculum, Personal Learning Plan Program, Project Based Learning, and Senior Internships and Community Connections. We are pleased to share that each initiative is successfully underway! The following is a recap of “Year One” of our Capital Campaign. This past year, we have witnessed an incredible start to our project and much more progress is planned for our future! *It's a great time to be a Tiger!!!!*

Looking Back . . .

2006-2007 Campaign Income

Total pledges promised to Capital Campaign..... **\$8,700,000**

Pledges toward the
“\$500,000 Challenge Pledge” **\$250,000**

Contributions received toward pledges..... **\$4,452,000**

Pledges needed toward Facilities’ Goal..... **\$1,050,000**

Pledges needed toward
Programming/Endowment..... **\$5,000,000**

2006-2007 Capital and Program Expense

St. Philip Parish and School..... **\$1,156,000**

- Property Acquisition
- Asbestos Abatement and Demolition
- Design and Planning
- Seton Center Renovation
- Rectory Construction
- Site Work
- Walsh Field Construction

St. Philip High School Programming
Improvements **\$260,000**

- One on One Laptop Initiative
- Campus Ministry Program
- College Experience and On-Line Curriculum
- Personal Learning Plan Program
- Project Based Learning
- Senior Internships and Community Connections

St. Joseph Parish and School..... **\$2,455,000**

- Design and Planning
- Middle School Construction
- Cafeteria Expansion
- Kitchen Renovation
- Site Work



Joe Newman, Class of 1971, Newman Construction, pictured with Father Chuck Fischer and Patty (Straub) Newman, Class of 1978. Joe and Patty shared, “Thank you for giving us the opportunity to give back to a Catholic community that has provided so much for so many generations of our family.”

Moving Forward . . .

On March 13, Bishop Murray gave us permission to move forward with the key next steps of our capital project at the Saint Philip Church and Saint Philip Catholic Central site. He approved the expenditure of over \$3 million raised through our “In the Spirit of Community” campaign. This will allow the following projects:

- Improvements in the parish and school boiler system
- Construction of a Parish Center including a new cafeteria, restrooms, and lobby space
- New school administrative offices and new bleachers and lighting for the Tiger Den
- Demolition of the current Saint Philip cafeteria and social hall
- New parking lot and landscaping

On the Horizon . . .

As we move forward with the capital campaign, our sights will be set on the complete renovation of the current high school building, the relocation of the Grotto, the closing of Cherry Street to provide a well designed and coordinated campus for St. Philip. In the next issue of the STP Alumni News, we will provide detailed information and conceptual drawings of the renovations planned for St. Philip School.

We welcome your questions and input – call Kathy Grosso, Principal at 269.963.4503. We ask that you prayerfully consider your personal resources and to reflect upon the sacrifices of those who first established St. Philip. In that Spirit of that grateful reflection, we ask each alumni to commit their support through a multi-year pledge.



Father Chuck Fischer is presented with a City Proclamation celebrating the construction of the new rectory from Mark Behnke, Class of 1976, Mayor - City of Battle Creek.

Dear Fellow Alumni,

When I was asked to write a letter of support for the **In the Spirit of Community Capital Campaign**, I was honored. I am happy to report that St. Philip School is alive and well! This campaign is about ensuring that St. Philip continues its time honored tradition of excellence and guaranteeing its sustainability well into the future.

As former students of St. Jerome, St. Joseph, or St. Philip Schools we have many memories. . . unique perspectives and appreciation for our education. The St. Philip Catholic School system was set up to help Catholic families, especially immigrant Catholic families to receive a sound education with Catholic teachings and values. For most of us, our parents sacrificed to provide a Catholic education. Hopefully, the life we now lead and the kind of person we are is a good dividend on our parents' investment.

The last building program at STP was in the mid-50's under Father Owens. I was in 1st and 2nd grade. That was over 50 years ago. People made many sacrifices and a true commitment so we could learn, worship, and grow in a suitable school facility. Learning is changing, times are changing and our "once new" school is in much need of renovation. Now is the time, as alumni, to sacrifice and make our commitment so the next 1-2-3-4-5 generations benefit from a Catholic education at St. Philip.

From my perspective, it has been 40 years since my graduation, two of my children are STP graduates, and I have 2 still in the high school. My children will not benefit from the facility improvements. They will not feel the heat of new steam lines, or look out new--not 50 year old glass. But my children will have instilled in them the values of a Catholic education to rely upon in their adult lives. Individuals are the ones who support everything in a Catholic Church and school. As alumni, it is time for us to share generously as generations before made our education at St. Philip possible. Join me. Support the **In the Spirit of Community Capital Campaign** in honor of those who made our Catholic education possible and as a commitment to future generations of St. Philip students.

– Joe Brutsche, Class of 1967

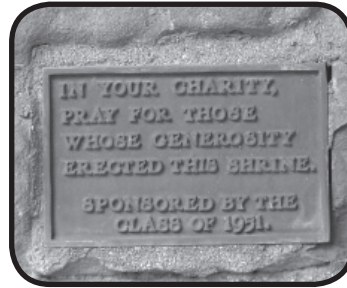
We are very excited about the planning and eventual relocation of the Grotto to the southwest corner of St. Philip Church. We apologize in advance for the inconvenience as we carefully disassemble, preserve, store and re-build for future generations.

– Father Chuck Fischer



Pictured left to right are Amber Brutsche - Class of 2004, Cassandra Brutsche - Class of 2008, James Brutsche - Class of 2009 and Joe Brutsche - Class of 2006.

St. Philip Class of 1951 to Dedicate New Grotto to Classmates and Sr. Thaddea Littlejohn



Original Plaque Installed in the Grotto Recognizing the Class of 1951



Sister Thaddea Littlejohn

During their high school days, the Class of 1951, under the guidance of Sr. Thaddea Littlejohn, raised the money necessary to build the original grotto. In thanksgiving for their Catholic education and as a tribute to Sr. Thaddea, members of the Class of 1951 have undertaken the goal to raise the necessary funding to rebuild the Grotto as a part of the **In the Spirit of Community Capital Campaign**. To date, 38% of the classmates or their spouses have pledged their support for the Grotto. Together, they have raised 80% of the funds necessary and are committed to reaching their goal of \$50,000. Heartfelt appreciation to the Class of 1951 for ensuring that future generations of students, athletes, families, staff and parishioners will always have the Grotto as a place to pray and reflect under the vigilant protection of Our Lady of Lourdes.

We congratulate the following alumni whose friends and family honored them through a contribution to the BCACS Foundation.

- ★ Alvin R. Schmitzer, Class of 1934, honoring his 92nd Birthday!
- ★ J.P. Bauman, Class of 1999, for Christmas



We thank the **Class of 1957** for their class contribution to the **In the Spirit of Community Capital Campaign** in honor of their 50th Year Reunion.



Pictured left to right are Kathy Gallagher, Norma (Cull) Landstra, Anne (Smith) Greenman and Kathy Grosso.

Upcoming Events:

Big Red Open Golf Outing

Saturday, June 14th at Riverside Country Club – 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The cost is \$100 per player. Call Mary Rabbitt at 269.963.4503 for more information or to sign up a foursome.

Alumni Family Day on June 28th, 2008

STP Varsity Baseball/Softball vs. STP Alumni Baseball Softball Game at C.O. Brown Stadium.
Call Coach Bess to sign up 269.317.4958.
Team, Alumni and Family picnic following the game. Later that evening, join us for St. Philip Night at Battle Creek Bombers Game – Tickets are \$4 per person. More information will be provided at www.bcacs.org or by calling Mary Rabbitt at 269.963.4503.

Class of 1958 on Friday, August 8th, 2008

The reunion will be held at Brook Lodge Hotel and Conference Resort in Augusta, Michigan.

Class of 1968 on Saturday, September 27th, 2008

Information about the reunion will be mailed to members of the Class of '68.

Sheila Guerra Memorial Golf Outing

Plan to join alumni and friends on Sunday, September 28th, 2008 at the Alwyn Downs Golf Club in Marshall, MI. There is a 1:00 shotgun start with lunch at 12:30 pm. The cost is \$60 per player. Call Mary Rabbitt at 269.963.4503 for more information.

All-Alumni Reunion on Friday, October 10th, 2008

The Classes of 1933, 1938, 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2003 are celebrating milestone years!!!! The all-alumni reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn on Beckley Road in Battle Creek. More information will be forthcoming. Invitations and response cards will be mailed the beginning of August.

Homecoming Football Game on Saturday, October 11th, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

Come cheer on the BIG RED Tigers at our Homecoming Game vs. Camden Frontier at CW Post Field.

Alumni School Tour and Mass on Saturday, October 11th, 2008 beginning at 3:00 p.m.

How long has it been since you visited your alma mater??? Or, celebrated Mass with your fellow classmates? Join Us!

In Memorium

The following members of the St. Philip School family have passed from this life to the next. Please remember them in your thoughts and prayers. Our sincere condolences are extended to their loved ones.

- † Mildred (Shanahan) Robbins, Class of 1931
- † Roseanne (Westrick) Davis, Class of 1940
- † Jeanne (Gaffney) Tooze, Class of 1940
- † David Sheehan, Class of 1941
- † Mary Anne (Boone) Brewer, Class of 1945
- † Glenn Henry, Class of 1946
- † Marian (Murray) Emmerson, Class 1948
- † Margaret (Sweet) Gaskell, Class of 1948
- † Catherine (Barry) Muma, Class of 1949
- † Greta (McIntyre) Wilcox, Class of 1949
- † Frank Kovacic, Class of 1951
- † Sallee Boone, Class of 1952
- † Rita (Currier) Kovacic, Class of 1952
- † Joann (Anderson) Throckmorton, Class of 1954
- † David Hutchinson, Class of 1956
- † Lillian Britvec, Class of 1957
- † Margaret (DiMaria) Gapske, Class of 1957
- † Alan Gardner, Class of 1971
- † Jacquelyn Cenacveira, Class of 1977

In Thanksgiving

St. Philip Catholic Central High School and the BCACS Foundation deeply appreciate gifts in memory of:

- † Marion Ed Baum, Class of 1925
- † Madeline Heffron, Class of 1927
- † Marion Heffron, Class of 1927
- † Thomas Heffron, Class of 1932
- † Marion (Reed) Hickman, Class of 1935
- † Frances (Jarmul) Schroth, Class 1937
- † Roseanne (Westrick) Davis, Class of 1940
- † Jeanne (Gaffney) Tooze, Class of 1940
- † William Heine, Class of 1941
- † David Sheehan, Class of 1941
- † James O'Brien, Class of 1943
- † W. Fred Mangan, Class of 1944
- † Norman W. Schmitzer, Class of 1944
- † Marian (Murray) Emmerson, Class 1948
- † Margaret (Sweet) Gaskell, Class of 1948
- † Greta (McIntyre) Wilcox, Class of 1949
- † Jim Keagle, Class of 1951
- † Norman "Bud" Lawrence, Class of 1951
- † Ed "Bracy" Vaughan, Class of 1951
- † Carrie Adams, Class of 1991

Alumni News . . . Keeping In Touch!

Your fellow alums want to hear what you are up to!!!

New degree? New job? New city? Recently married? Started a Family? Welcomed your first grandchild? We want to hear your news and share it with fellow alums across the country. Please complete this form and return it to the Development Office at 63 North 24th Street, Battle Creek, MI 49015; or e-mail kgallagher@bcacs.org. **Thanks! We look forward to hearing from you!**

Name: (include maiden name if applicable) _____ **Class:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Spouse: _____ **Children:** _____

Post High School Education/Activities: _____

Employment: _____

News about you: _____

- Please print my update, but do not print my mailing address or phone.
- Please print my update, but do not print my e-mail address.
- Please print any/all information in my update.

St. Philip Alumni Association
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Battle Creek, MI 49017

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