



The Blue Don Bulletin

MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL—REGINA COELI ORA PRO NOBIS

Fall/Winter 2020

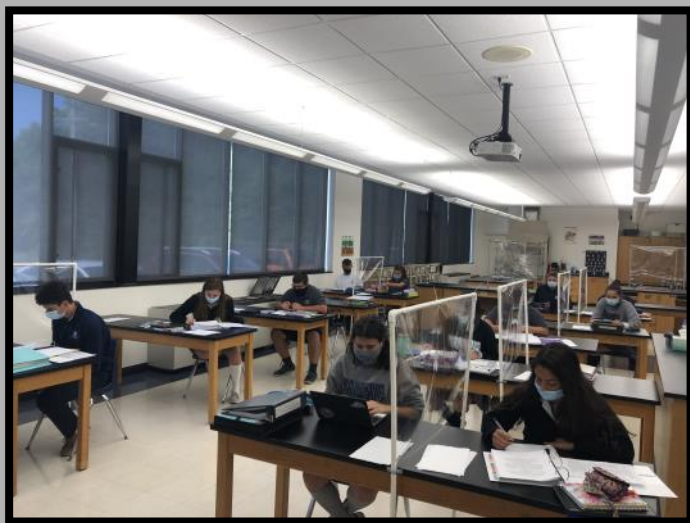
Volume 7, Issue 1

Madonna High School Begins 20-21 School Year

The 2020-2021 school year began and students, faculty, and staff did a great job of adhering to the necessary guidelines to keep us in school. It took some time getting used to seeing only eyes when walking down separate sides of the hallway and eating lunch with plastic barriers on the tables. All recorded their temperatures every morning. Desks were placed six feet apart or barriers were set up when social distancing could not occur. Our daily prayer is said over the loudspeaker instead of in the lobby with everyone gathered. The changes have not been easy, but everyone worked together to ensure everyone's safety.

The month of December has found our area with a record number of COVID cases and has required us to finish the year in remote learning. Our teachers have continued to maintain our high standards of education and the students are working hard day in and day out.

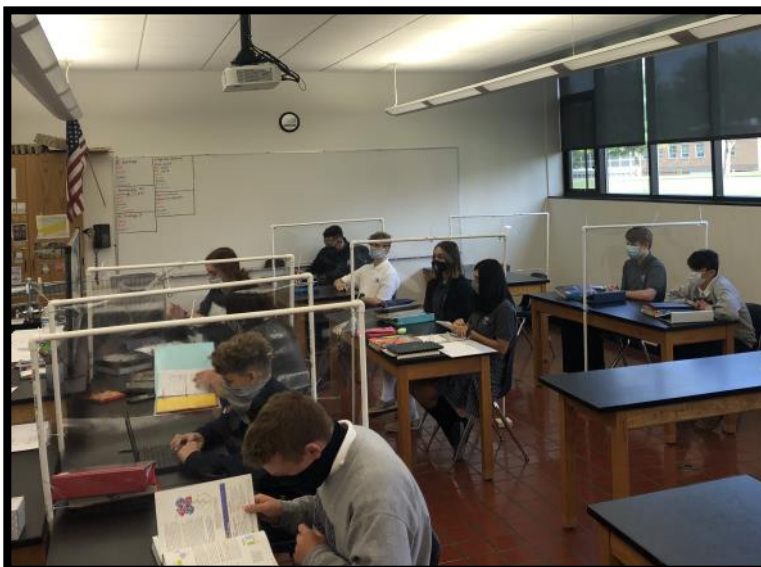
We pray that the new year will bring a better situation for all of us and allow us to return to school safely.



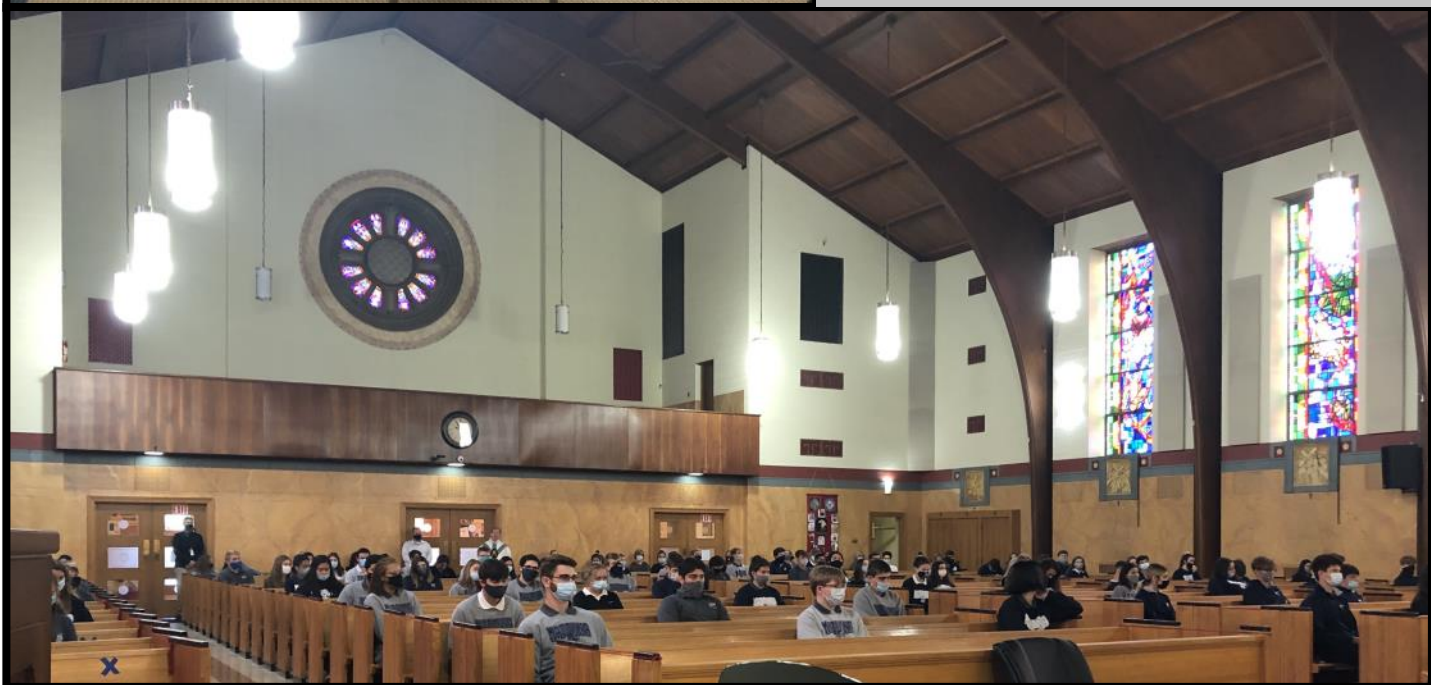
Ms. Bilal's Organic Chemistry class adjusts to the new classroom setup to allow for social distancing.

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- Clockwise from top left:
- Mr. Colabrese's classroom.
 - Mrs. Granato has her masks on to safely teach her students.
 - Students social distance for school mass.
 - Mr. Hicks' health class works at their desks.



Madonna Sets Up For Success

The summer leading up to a new school year is always filled with countless hours of cleaning, rearranging, and planning. The summer of 2020 was no exception and because of COVID-19, required even more work than usual in preparation for in-school learning. Our administration made a plan for what needed to be completed in order to have staff and students return safely to school. Jerry Woodland, our custodian, along with Giovanni Lenhart, '18 and Nick '16 and Andrew '14 Higgins, deep-cleaned the school. They also constructed barriers for classrooms, the main office, the cafeteria, and hallways. The work everyone put in to ensure the safety of our students and staff is not unnoticed and is greatly appreciated.

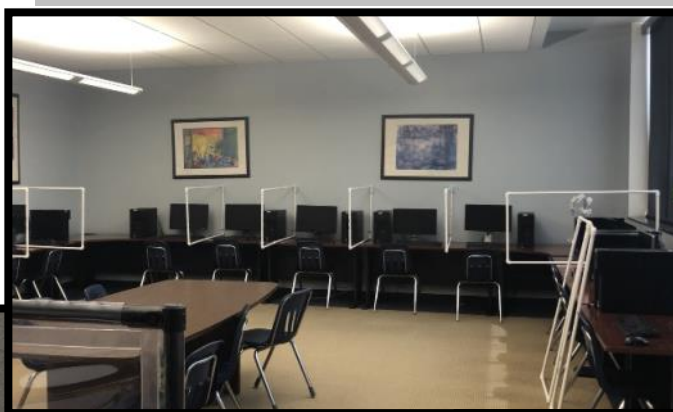
Clockwise from right:

- Barriers and directional stickers near the stairwell.

- Mrs. Smith's classroom

- The cafeteria

- Mrs. Lafferty's computer lab





Once again, Madonna High School students joined students from St. Joseph the Worker School and St. Paul School to celebrate a Blue Mass at St. Joseph the Worker Church. This mass recognizes the efforts of the police, fire fighters, EMS, and members of the military.



Madonna's Homecoming 2020 King and Queen are Evan Daniels and Marianna Martinez. They are pictured with the other court members: Tyler Starvaggi, Thomas Sessi, Lucky Pulice, Jacob Bonner, Madalena Daugherty, Jazzy Melnyk, Michaela Battista, and Gabriella Green.

Madonna in the Community

Mr. Takats and Mrs. Granato joined a group of students who participated in Life Chain. Life Chain is held the first Sunday in October and is a nationwide movement of Pro-Life advocates who stand in silent witness for the unborn.



Student Council presented Mr. Jim Pauchnik '64 with a \$260 check for the Community Bread Basket. Students and staff donated money to help the Community Bread Basket continue to provide turkeys to those in need in our community.



Campus Update Complete

The Madonna High School and St. Joseph the Worker School/Parish campus received an update this summer with new sidewalks and pavement work. Thank you to Starvaggi Industries, James White Construction, Fuscardo Concrete, Kelly Paving, St. Joseph the Worker Church and Luke Myers '03, who all had a hand in finishing this project in time for the 2020-2021 school year!



Our Partner Schools



St. Joseph the Worker School and St. Paul School students began the year learning 5 days a week in person. Both schools set up for social distancing and took the necessary precautions each day to keep students, faculty, and staff safe! Here are some pictures from their first few weeks of school.



Students at St. Joseph the Worker School.



Jr. Don Volleyball 8th Grade Recognition



St. Paul Students in the first weeks of school.



Tyler Wright '17, was recently elected as Treasurer of Waynesburg University's Student Senate. Tyler was a member of the Student Senate last year as well. He is also on the Dean's List and a member of the Stover Program which gives students an outstanding chance to understand the U.S. Constitution, to witness the workings of government, to prepare for the responsibilities of leadership, and to benefit from a generous scholarship.



Max Nogay '10, was recently hired as one of four Assistant U.S. Attorneys in the Northern District of West Virginia by U.S. Attorney Bill Powell.



James Carnes '15, (on left) was recently named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 list in the Energy category! James is the co-founder of Iconic Air, a software startup focused on emissions monitoring and data reporting for the oil and gas industry. You can see the full profile here: [Iconic Air Profile](#)

Photo from Forbes.com



Drazen Frankovitch '12, recently started a business in Weirton called Fresh Nutrition by Drazen which offers health-conscious premade meals. The meals are packaged and portioned out to meet each person's dietary needs. You can check out his website here: <https://myfreshnutrition.com/>

Madonna Alumni

Have reunion pictures to share? Have a new job? Did you get married or have a baby? Share your news with your fellow alumni! Send any information and pictures you would like to share to cholmes@weirtonmadonna.org.

IN MEMORIAM

We ask that you please pray for the repose of the souls of our dearly beloved Madonna family members who have passed away in the last few months, including

Richard Goysovich '71
Eugene Guglielmo '59
Rose Kay Price Harrison '64
Stephen Kraina '95
Kathy Kucan McCaskey '68
Dennis Rock '71
Thomas Rodgers '68
David Smith '65

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

If you have names of deceased Madonna alumni or friends of the school, please contact the school.

The Fall sports season had a different look to it this year. Practices and games started later, attendance was limited, and seasons were cut short. Our student athletes adapted and made the most of it. The football team and soccer team both won OVAC A titles, the volleyball team won Sectionals, and the cheerleaders placed 2nd at Regionals qualifying for States! We are proud of the resilience shown this year and congratulate them all on great seasons!

Individual Awards



ABBY MACEK, SR.
OVAC All-Star
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
2ND TEAM ALL-REGION
2ND TEAM ALL-VALLEY



KRISTA VELEGOL, SR.
HONORABLE MENTION
ALL-OVAC



SOFIA-TERESA DIBACCO, JR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
1ST TEAM ALL-REGION
ALL-STATE HONORABLE MENTION



KRISTINA LESHQ, JR.
2ND TEAM ALL-REGION



ISABELLA PULICE, JR.
2ND TEAM ALL-REGION
ALL-STATE HONORABLE MENTION



ANGELINA SPICKARD, JR.
1ST TEAM ALL-VALLEY
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
1ST TEAM ALL-REGION
2ND TEAM ALL-STATE



JULIA WINGETT, SO.
ALL-OVAC HONORABLE MENTION



OLIVIA BINE, FR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC



MADALENA DAUGHERTY, SR.
CLASS A ALL-OVAC



JACOB BONNER, SR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
2ND TEAM ALL-AREA



LUCKY PULICE, SR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
1ST TEAM ALL-AREA
HONORABLE MENTION
ALL-STATE



THOMAS SESSI, SR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
1ST TEAM ALL-AREA
2ND TEAM ALL-STATE



JOE SOOS, SR.
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
2ND TEAM ALL-AREA



SANTINO ARLIA, JR.
1ST TEAM ALL-AREA
1ST TEAM ALL-OVAC
HONORABLE MENTION
ALL-STATE



LANDRY BONE, SO.
CLASS A ALL-OVAC



MICHAEL BURDINE, JR.
ALL-OVAC HONORABLE MENTION



SETH HUMBERSON, JR.
2ND TEAM ALL-AREA
ALL-OVAC HONORABLE MENTION



COLTON LITTLETON, JR.
ALL-AREA HONORABLE MENTION
ALL-OVAC HONORABLE MENTION



ANTHONY GROSS, SO.
ALL-AREA HONORABLE MENTION



COACH DAN ROVIRA
ALL-AREA COACH OF THE YEAR

2019-2020 Blue Don Fund

Every student who attends Madonna High School receives the benefit of a tuition grant. Since the actual cost to educate a student is \$9,153 and the Catholic tuition rate is \$6,000, Madonna is always looking for ways to fill the gap between the two. On average, each student is receiving assistance of at least \$3,200. That is why grants, tuition assistance packages, and your donations are crucial to keeping Catholic education affordable for our families.

You may not have realized it while walking the halls of Madonna High School, but there were many helping make the cost of your education less expensive for your family. There is a long history of working closely with families, community organizations, partner parishes, and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to establish funds designed to ease the burdens of Madonna families.

Think about your experience here at Madonna and consider ways that you can help to make that same experience a reality for current students and those yet to come.

Here are some things you can do:

- Get together with a group of classmates or friends to establish a “Class of” Fund or some type of fundraiser dedicated to tuition assistance.
- Take an active role in school fundraisers and events. The money that is raised is vitally important to so many of our programs.
- Consider Madonna in your estate planning. What better legacy to leave than that of knowing you are helping to secure Catholic education in our community for years and years to come?
- Continue to support the Blue Don Fund through your annual giving. Prayerfully consider increasing your contribution. Donations to the Blue Don Fund go directly to enhancing the learning experience for our students.

Remember, there is no greater investment you can make than that of our children. By supporting Madonna, you are providing the same benefits you enjoyed to current and future generations.

Thank you to those who donated last year when \$104,000 was raised for the Blue Don Fund!



2019-2020 Blue Don Fund**Regina Coeli Club—\$10,000+**

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Rogowski
Weirton Medical Center

Bishop's Club - \$5,000-9,999

Mrs. Donna Rodney
Mr. Ronald Tisch

Blue and Silver Club - \$1,000-4,999

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Castelli
Equitrans Midstream Foundation
Mr. Robert Jones (In memory of Diane Bobula Jones)
Knights of Columbus #3734
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kreyenbuhl
David and Carol Lammers
Mr. Frank Arthur Porco
Ms. Rose Marie Porco
Serra Foundation Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Trella

Monsignor Murphy Club \$750-999

Mr. and Mrs. David Duerr, Sr.
Mr. Patrick Flatley
Mr. Matthew Provenzano

Father Dube Club \$500-749

Anonymous
Mr. Frank Chiodi
Mr. Steve and Dr. Kelli Fournier
Mr. Peter Horoszeko
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kakascik
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Manack
Ms. Carol Standardi

Silver Club - \$250-499

Anonymous
Mr. Michael Adams
Mr. James Benedetto
Mr. Richard Evans
Mr. and Mrs. George Kosut
Mr. and Mrs. John Lesho

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Mazur
Mr. and Mrs. Luke Myers
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Owens
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pellegrino
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sharpe
Ms. Jean Shottling (In memory of Walter Wieloh)
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Spickard
Dr. and Mrs. Vincent Stonebraker
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Williams

Blue Club - \$100-249

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Antinone
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Arlia
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Backel
Mr. John and Mrs. Janet Backel
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Baire
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ballato
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Blair
Mr. Matt Blair
Mr. and Mrs. Sarvey Canella
Mr. Matt Ceran
Ms. Lisa Chiodo
Mr. and Mrs. Cris Conti
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Crawford
Mr. Ronald Dellaria
Dr. Mark and Mrs. Mary Ann Deschaine
Mr. August DiGirolamo
Mr. Richard DiPasquale
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Ferguson
Mr. Christopher Gianni
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Granato
Mr. John Harcharic
Mrs. Bernadine Herron
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Higgins
Ms. Glenna Hindman
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hosler
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Hughes
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kolanko
Mrs. Constance Lafferty
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lesho (In memory of Allesandra Lesho)
Mr. and Mrs. Jamie Lesho
Mrs. JoAnn Low

2019-2020 Blue Don Fund

Ms. Kacy Magnone
 Dr. and Mrs. George Mascio
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis McDaniel
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom McDonald
 Mrs. Judith Michael
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Orlando
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Paolisso
 Mr. Frank Pietranton
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Pietranton
 Mr. and Mrs. John Pirraglia
 Mr. John Porco
 Mr. Leonard Poszywak
 Mr. Richard Pykosz
 Mrs. JoEllen Rappold
 Mr. Richard Runkel
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shoup
 Mrs. Anna Marie Smucker
 Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Starvaggi
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sweat
 Mrs. Donna Thomas
 Ms. Jamie Tridico
 Mr. Daniel Troia
 Mr. William White
 Mrs. Robyn Williams
 Mr. and Mrs. Chad Wingett
 Mr. and Mrs. Cory Wingett
 Mr. Ron Wypasek
 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Young
 Ms. JoAnn Znoy

Friends of Madonna \$99-1

Anonymous
 Mr. Lawrence Bandi
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Battista
 Mrs. Rebecca Gianni Biacco
 Ms. Kay Bilal
 Mr. and Mrs. Lew Bonner
 Mrs. Kimberly Brown
 Mrs. Michelle Buterbaugh
 Mrs. Cathie Caranda
 Mrs. Sheila Cavalet
 Mrs. Josephine Cekinovich
 Mr. and Mrs. James Chartier
 Mr. and Mrs. John Cottrill

Ms. Julie DeLuca-Daugherty
 Mr. and Mrs. William Deter
 Mr. Clyde DiAngelo
 Mr. and Mrs. Carlo DiBartolomeo
 Mrs. Janet DiLorenzo
 Ms. Anne DiMaggio (In honor of Mr. "B" an
 exemplary teacher, coach, and friend)
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Dillon
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dowiak
 Mr. Paul Duffy
 Mrs. Lynette Ekey
 Mr. Jeremy Eloi
 Mr. Frank Ferrelli
 Mr. Daniel Frankovitch
 Mr. Gregg Gialluco
 Mr. Michael Gianni
 Mr. and Mrs. Glosser
 Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Good
 Mr. and Mrs. Hayden M. Greenlief
 Ms. Mary Hadobas
 Mr. and Mrs. Jason Heckathorn
 Mr. Darrin Hicks
 Mr. Andrew Higgins
 Mr. Nicholas Higgins
 Mr. and Mrs. Guy Holmes
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Jasko
 JJ Guida Airport Realty
 Mrs. Nancy Karavolos
 Mrs. Mary Kohelis
 Ms. Katherine Lecker
 Mr. and Mrs. John and Tina Lesho
 Mrs. Mary Longhi
 Mrs. Patricia Louder
 Mr. Brandon Macaluso
 Mr. Joseph Magnone
 Ms. Midge Maroni
 Mr. and Mrs. Todd Martin
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Noga
 Mrs. Margaret Norbutt
 Mr. John Orecchio
 Mr. Tim Pappas
 Sister Josephine Pate
 Mr. Gregory Plesich
 Mrs. Jennie Ralston

Mrs. Margaret Rash
 Mrs. Angela Reinard
 Mr. and Mrs. Lonny Riggs
 Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rovira
 Mr. Thomas Runkel (In memory of
 Walter Wieloh)
 Mr. Joseph Rzepka
 Mr. Anthony Sessi
 Mrs. Melissa Katsaris-Smith
 Mrs. Kristen Finley Sobota
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stetar
 Ms. Maria Sticco (In memory of Lou
 Sticco)
 Mrs. Cynthia Sullivan
 Mrs. Gloria Walulik
 Mr. and Mrs. John J. York Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Chris Zanieski

Madonna has made every attempt to publish a comprehensive and accurate list of donors documenting gifts between July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020.

We sincerely apologize if your name was inadvertently omitted or printed incorrectly. If a correction needs to be made, please contact Christine at cholmes@weirtonmadonna.org

Please find information below on the CARES Act and how it may help you maximize charitable gifts made before December 31, 2020.

How the **CARES Act** Impacts Your Charitable Giving This Year

Earlier this year, the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Securities Act (CARES) in response to COVID-19 and the subsequent economic downturn. By expanding charitable giving tax incentives, Congress acknowledged and endorsed the critical work of non-profits. The CARES Act includes significant tax relief and charitable giving benefits for the 2020 tax year.

Raising the Charitable Giving Deduction Cap



If you itemize charitable deductions, the CARES Act allows you to deduct much greater amounts of your cash contributions. The adjusted gross income (AGI) limit for cash contributions was increased for individual donors. You can now elect to deduct up to 100% of your AGI (increased from 60%).



Universal Deduction for Donations Up to \$300

For those who do not itemize their charitable giving, the CARES Act will allow these individual taxpayers to deduct cash donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction. Married-filing-jointly taxpayers will get an "above-the-line" deduction of up to \$600. This new deduction will reduce your adjusted gross income (AGI) and reduce your taxable income.

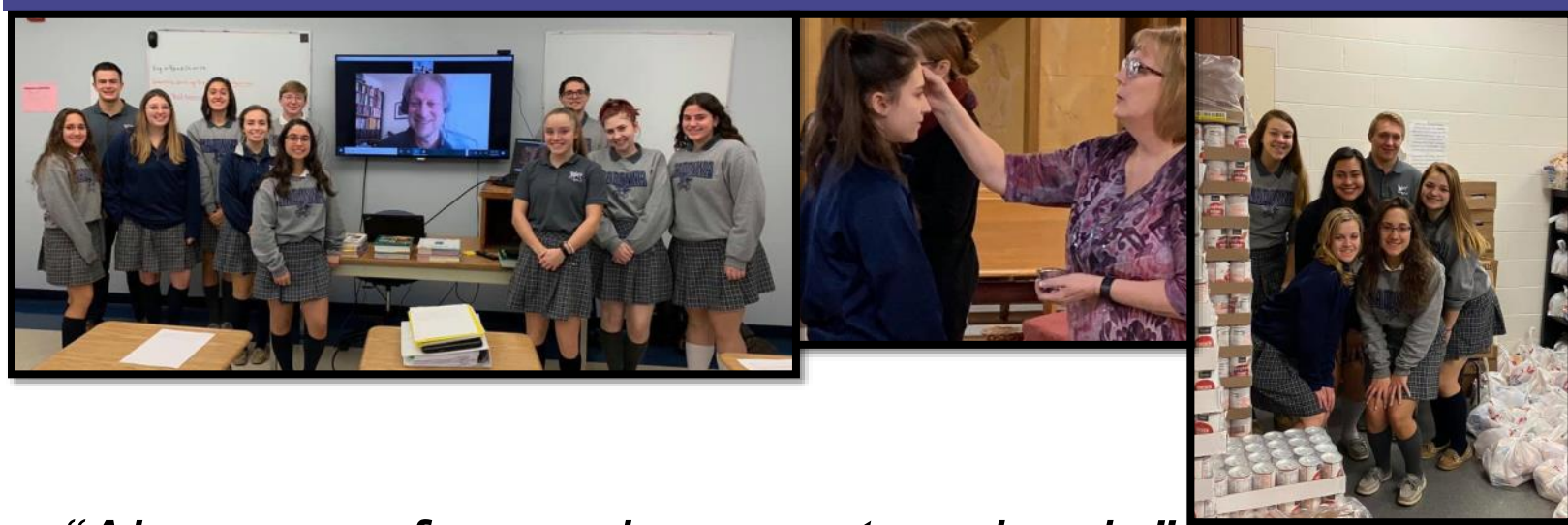


What about IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)?

Individuals over 70 ½ years old can donate up to \$100,000 from an IRA directly to a qualified charity through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). In doing this you can avoid taxable income.



**The tax information provided is general and educational in nature and should not be considered as legal or tax advice. The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, including our schools and parishes, do not provide legal or tax advice. Always consult an attorney or tax professional regarding your specific legal or tax situation.*



“Always go forward, never turn back.”

St. Junipero Serra.

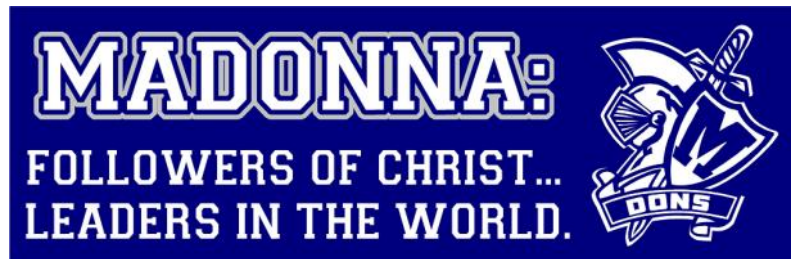
*Those who hope in the Lord will
renew their strength. Isaiah 40:31*

Help support the 2020-2021 Blue Don Fund and reach our goal of \$105,000.

The Blue Don Fund supplements funds needed to educate our students that tuition alone does not cover. The funds collected go to purchasing text books, classroom supplies, professional development for staff, and upkeep of the physical plant. Your generous funds have been essential to keeping Madonna High School running for over 65 years. To make your impact today, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Madonna High School
Attn: Advancement Office
150 Michael Way
Weirton, WV 26062

or go to weirtonmadonna.org/giving/



Your donation could be matched by your employer! Check with your HR Department to see if your employer has a matching gift program.

Are you following us on social media?
Keep up to date on all the latest news
and events at Madonna High School.



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Weirton, WV 26062

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Fax: 304-723-0564
E-mail: info@weirtonmadonna.org
<https://weirtonmadonna.org>

Do you know of alumni that would like to receive information from Madonna? Please let us know!

FAITH, FAMILY, SERVICE...THROUGH MARY

***INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING
MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL?***

***THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS
YOU
CAN HELP.***

Volunteer
Serve on a committee
Donate to the Blue Don Fund
Include us in your will

For more information please
contact Christine Holmes at
304-723-0545 or
cholmes@weirtonmadonna.org

Upcoming Events*:

Christmas Break—December 23-January 3rd
Catholic Schools Week—January 31-February 6th

***These dates are subject to change.**

Visit our website www.weirtonmadonna.org for the
most up to date information.