



The Blue Don Bulletin

MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL—REGINA COELI ORA PRO NOBIS

Spring 2022

Volume 8, Issue 1

Six Madonna Students Join the Catholic Church

On February 19, 2022, six students at Madonna High School were sacramentally welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church with their families and school community in attendance. Cory Gontas, Graham Molnar, Corey Molnar, Brayden Miller, Santo DoBraska, and Koleten Grishkevich all answered the call God made to their hearts.

Faith formation is at the forefront of everything that happens at Madonna High School. This is proven by the fact that Very Rev. Dennis R. Schuelkens, Jr., V.E. , administered the sacraments, ranging from Baptism to Confirmation. Mr. Jeff Takats, religion teacher, initiated the invitations to students who haven't received their sacraments. Mrs. Amy Granato, head of campus ministry, was the Molnar brothers' godmother and principal, Mr. Jamie Lesho, was Grishkevich's confirmation sponsor.

God bless these young men and their families!



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Catholic Schools Week



Catholic Schools Week included community service projects, fun dress down days, and activities that celebrate Catholic education.



Students closed out Catholic Schools Week by reading at masses at Sacred Heart of Mary, St. Joseph the Worker, and St. Paul Churches.

Dress Like a Teacher Day was a student and teacher favorite this year!





Madonna students once again participated in the Weirton Area Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership program. Pictured L-R: Alexia Hayden, Myah Ferguson, Gabriella Orecchio, Ella Wingett, Onna Welsh, Katie Costa, Mia Chiodo, Luke Sweat, and Mia Pietranton (not pictured)



Seniors visit St. Joseph the Worker and St. Paul Schools to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday for Read Across America Day.



The Madonna Boys' Basketball team made the trip to Morgantown to watch the WVU men's basketball team play Texas Tech.

The Monsignor Murphy Chapter of National Honor Society inducted new members: Vanessa Alatis, Luke Amaismeier, Anthony Arnold, Rylie Cottrill, Elizabeth Elias, Lilly Harbin, Benjamin Jasko, Theo Mihellis, Isabella Pulice, Mackenzie Sargent, Olivia Shafer, Luke Sweat, Juliana Velegol, and Julia Wingett. Seniors Vanessa Alatis, Matthew Amaismeier, Santino Arlia, Nina Daugherty, Sofia-Teresa DiBacco, Nathan Elias, Nicholas Elias, Eliza Greco, Kristina Lesho, Morgan Owens, Mark Pietranton, Isabella Pulice, Evan Quering, Thomas Ralston, Angelina Spickard, Olivia Tennant, received cords for graduation.



Junior Ring Ceremony



Fr. Brian Crenwelge, director of the DWC Office of Vocations and Sr. Peter Thomas, OP from the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist visited Madonna students to speak about vocations.

Madonna in the Community



Left: Students made sandwiches for the Friendship Room in Steubenville during Catholic Schools Week.

Right: Morgan Owens and Vanessa Alatis deliver the sandwiches.



Interact Club had a fundraiser to benefit the local Walk to End Alzheimer's. Students asked for pledges for each shot made in 60 seconds. \$950 was raised and presented to Tate Blanchard.



The boys basketball team delivered items collected during the Steubenville CCHS game to the Community Bread Basket.

Our Partner Schools



St. Joseph the Worker School



Students celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday.



Fr. Dennis and Mrs. Fuscardo treated altar servers a special Chick-fil-A luncheon.

St. Paul School



Students and staff prayed for peace in Ukraine.



St. Paul School recently started two programs to encourage physical movement. Students do yoga every Monday and participate in The Daily Mile three days a week.

Boys' Basketball



Top: 2021-22 Boys' Basketball Varsity Team

Right: Boys' Basketball JV Team



Left Seniors Mark Pietranton, Matt Amaismeier, Evan Bone, Lennon Dietrich, Santino Arlia



Girls' Basketball



Top: 2021-22 Girls' Basketball Team

Right: Seniors Vanessa Alatis and Anna Bachel



Wrestling



2021 Wrestling Team



2021 Seniors: Scott Brown and Korey Kakascik



Cheering



2021 Winter Competition Cheer Squad.



Basketball Cheer Seniors Nina Daugherty, Sofia-Teresa DiBacco, Brianna Glosser, Eliza Greco, Kristina Lesho, Angelina Spickard, Olivia Tennant





Madonna Cheerleaders won the OVAC 1A Championship!



Boys' Basketball beat Weir in OT to win the 2022 City Championship!



Boys' Basketball won Sectional and Regional Championships this year earning a trip to Charleston for the WV State Tournament!

The boys get a send off for their trip to States!



Individual Accolades



Vanessa Alatis
**WVSWA All-State
 Honorable
 Mention**
OVAC All-Star
**OVAC All-
 Conference 1st**

Matt Amaismeier
**WVSWA All-
 State 2nd Team**
OVAC All-Star
**OVAC All-
 Conference 1st
 Team**



Anna Backel
**OVAC All-
 Conference 2nd
 Team**



Santino Arlia
**OVAC All-
 Conference 2nd
 Team**



Evan Bone
**WVSWA All-State
 Honorable
 Mention**
OVAC All-Star
**OVAC All-
 Conference 1st
 Team**



Evan Bone and Kristina Lesho were both awarded the Eastern Gateway Community College High School Athlete of the Week by 106.3 The River. Evan scored 44 points and had 7 rebounds in the City Championship game. Kristina was the captain of the OVAC 1A Championship squad.

Rozanne Lanczak Williams '69 released a new 6 book series titled "Health & Safety for Kids." More information can be found on her website:

[Rozanne Lanzack Williams](http://RozanneLanzackWilliams.com)
(rozannewilliams.com)



During the fall of 2021, Madonna alumni Kelsey '20 and Sydney Crawford '21 grabbed pictures with fellow Blue Dons Thomas Sessi '87 and John Hudek '98 at the University of Notre Dame.

Max Nogay '10 has recently been named Environmental Justice Coordinator for the Northern District of West Virginia.

IN MEMORIAM

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

Joseph Buchmelter '67
Thomas Cooper '73
Bernadine Herron '59
Andrew Hirkala, Jr. '82
Amerigo Pate '73
Lawrence Zdinak '60

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 know of any deceased Madonna alumni or friends of the school, please contact Madonna at 304-723-0545

Madonna Alumni

Scan the QR code to update your contact information and to share news for the next Blue Don Bulletin.





Tuesday, May 3, 2022



Funds will go towards:

- ☒ Security Cameras
- ☒ Master Access Control System



www.onemissiononeday.org

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for the upcoming One Mission One Day to Make a Difference day of giving on May 3, 2022! In the past two years, Madonna has raised over \$38,000 for financial aid and an air purification system. This year, your generous gift will go towards purchasing new security cameras and master access control system. Visit www.onemissiononeday.org for more information.



*“Stir up one another to love and good works.”
Hebrews 10:24*

We are at 95% of our goal of \$105,000!

Help support the 2021-2022 Blue Don Fund today!

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 donations have been essential to keeping Madonna High School successful 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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Download the free Madonna High School App by scanning the QR
code or by searching Madonna High School in the app store.





Madonna High School
150 Michael Way
Weirton, WV 26062

Tel: 304-723-0545
Fax: 304-723-0564
E-mail: info@weirtonmadonna.org
<https://weirtonmadonna.org>

Do you know of alumni who 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*:

Mark your calendars to join us!

Graduation: May 28, 2022

Friends of Madonna Picnic: August 20, 2022

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

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