NOVEMBER 2020 VOL. 16 ISSUE 2



CRUSADER CONNECTION

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Saluting the Season of Service & Gratitude

Throughout the month of November and into the holiday season, our hearts are full to bursting with gratitude for the support of our school, both monetarily and in many other ways --- from active parent volunteers, to a dedicated Board of Trustees, and to our own students and their families. We hope you enjoy this issue's theme of SERVICE & GRATITUDE.

Our students are finding ways to carry out service despite the challenges of social distancing. While we remain COVIDconscience, we are sharing of ourselves with active and thankful hearts.



MAKING MERCY REAL!

Students in Mrs. McCaig's Theology 8 class scoured their closets to help "clothe the naked" as they learned about the Corporal Works of Mercy.

Pictured here is Luke Richards with his donations.

Please read the whole story and see more photos on page 4.

THANKING GOD FOR OUR GIFTS!

BY SISTER MARY WALTER HICKEY, RSM PRESIDENT EMERITA



During the month of November when we celebrate Thanksgiving, we need to take time to thank God for our gifts and reflect on the one special gift or unique talent that God has blessed us with. Perhaps we still need to discover our talent and appreciate our special gifts. When we do, we need to develop and use these gifts in the service of others. We need to share them with a generous heart and remember that we too are a Masterpiece of God.

At Thanksgiving we need to give thanks for our God given gifts and praise Him for the gifts He has given us. In my Thanksgiving, I will include my family and friends, the gift of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy, the gift of Notre Dame High School and its students, faculty, staff, parents, friends, and graduates, as well as the gift of our school to the wider community. There is so much to appreciate and notice.

SPANISH CLASSES CELEBRATE EL DIA DE LOS MUERTES

Students from Senora Liriano's Spanish 3 and 4 classes created ofrendas to learn about the custom of Day of the Dead, en Espanol, El Dia De Los Muertos. An ofrenda is an altar that is set up in the home for El Dia De Los Muertos to celebrate ancestors. It is decorated with the ancestors' photos and things that they liked as well as favorite foods, candles, and flowers.

Ofrenda de la familia Schweizer



William Schweizer Grade 9

GRATITUDE AND SERVICE GO HAND IN HAND



BY KAREN JENNINGS, INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

This pandemic November can make feeling grateful a challenge. The current designation by New York State that puts NDHS in an Orange Zone just adds to the task. Every day, as I prepare for morning announcements, I confront that reality. Then, I was inspired to consider the situation in the light of hope. After all, our motto is Ego Sum Lux Mundi, "I am the Light of the World."

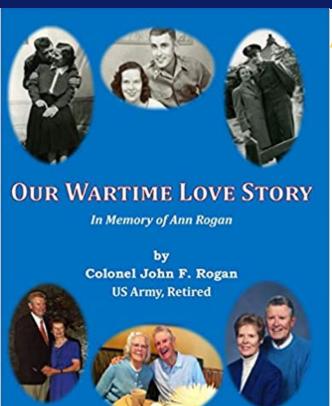
How are we letting Jesus's light shine through Notre Dame? We are still actively engaged in service to our community despite the restrictions of the pandemic. You'll read on page 4 how our 8th graders have found a way to bring the Corporal Works of Mercy to life while engaged in remote learning. Our high school students in Ms. Fredo's Service Learning class are tutoring young students from local elementary schools via Zoom. Even though we cannot participate in our ministry at the Elmira Community Kitchen, we donated funds raised by our Gently Used Uniform Sale to help with the bag lunches they are providing. Our Board of Trustees serves our school by providing leadership while attending many Zoom board and committee meetings.

We are looking forward to the 2020 Golden Mass and Christmas Basket Project, no matter what accommodations the pandemic requires us to make. We have found hope!

As we Americans prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, I challenge all Crusaders to set aside our pandemic woes and open our hearts to gratitude. I am thankful for all our students who have worn their masks, tried to maintain 6' of distance apart, and are hopefully washing their hands and staying home during 100% virtual learning. I am thankful for all of the Notre Dame families who support our students and teachers in a topsy-turvy time.

I am thankful for our faculty and staff who have risen to every challenge that has been thrown at them with grace, fortitude, patience, and excellence. I am thankful for all of our Crusader supporters for their generosity at events like the Virtual McAuley Awards and FLX Gives Day. I am thankful for my family, for the Sisters of Mercy, and for the opportunity to serve the Crusader family. *Deo gratias* and God bless!

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ALUMNI IN ACTION!

Did you know alumnus **Col. John "Jack" Rogan, USA Retired, Class of 1944** wrote a book titled <u>Our Wartime Love Story</u> which follows the courtship of his beloved wife Ann in Japan, raising their family of nine children in different countries during his 25 years of active military duty, and sharing the happy and sad times all marriages encounter. Jack and Ann were married 64 years before she passed in 2015.

Alumni, please send us accounts of your lives so we can feature you in our ALUMNI IN ACTION column each month of the CRUSADER CONNECTION newsletter. Please send information to Katie Lilley'97, Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations at lilleyk@notredamehighschool.com.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

#MakeMercyReal

BY MARIE MCCAIG, CAMPUS MINISTER/THEOLOGY FACULTY



Students in
Theology 8
"clothed the
naked" in
conjunction with
studying the
Corporal Works of

Mercy. When challenged to deliver a combined 300 articles of clothing to the drop-off bin of their choice, our 8th graders scoured their closets to surpass their goal with an incredible 2,139 items! Well done Crusaders!

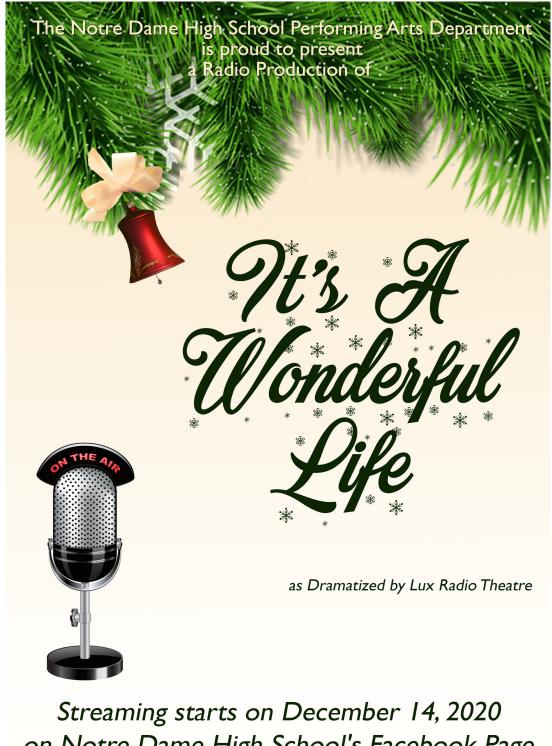






A Special 65th Anniversary Gift to the Community!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



on Notre Dame High School's Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/Notre-Dame-High-School-Elmira-NY-121008778058599/

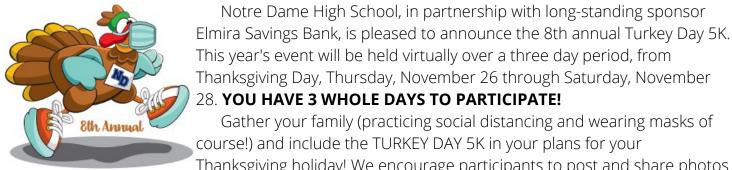
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MADALYNN DEMUTH & EMMA LOWMAN RECEIVE ROTARY AWARDS

Notre Dame is so proud of seniors Madalynn DeMuth and Emma Lowman, the first and second place winners of the annual Elmira Rotary Club Youth Salute awards. Maddy who has volunteered at the Elmira Community Kitchen and participated in a church program to support teen moms, now volunteers with an elderly woman in the community to help her continue to live at home. She hopes to pursue a career in pediatric nursing upon graduation. Emma, active in ND Student Government, Drama Club, and the tennis team, always has a can-do attitude. She is involved with the Elmira Youth Court and hopes to pursue a career as a human rights lawyer. Congratulations Maddie and Emma! #crusaderpride

Notre Dame High School, in partnership with long-standing sponsor



Virtual 5K 2020

Gather your family (practicing social distancing and wearing masks of course!) and include the TURKEY DAY 5K in your plans for your Thanksgiving holiday! We encourage participants to post and share photos and videos as you waddle, trot, run, or walk. For Notre Dame's 65th Anniversary we hope alumni, friends, students, and faculty will post Turkey Day "Happy Anniversary" tributes! The first 250 registrants will receive a complimentary TD5K gaiter! Register today on the ND website to showcase your Thanksgiving gratitude and spirit! PAGE |6

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