

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

CATCHING UP WITH

Kristen Scholer

(X07)

Senior News Anchor at Cheddar offers a snapshot of media life in New York City

MAKING AN

IMPACT

Xavier Foundation re-energizes annual campaigns to benefit XHS families & teachers

"Beholding the New"

Xavier faculty, staff, students & families find a way forward in a school year impacted by COVID-19

Alumni News & More

Forward March...



In looking back on the past year, it was certainly filled with its share of obstacles and challenges but God also provided many blessings as well. The Xavier Foundation Board has been very active in doing a lot of "behind the scenes" work.

We spent much of last fall working and meeting to discuss the payoff and retirement of Xavier's mortgage

debt. Many of you may not have been aware there was still an outstanding mortgage due on the high school. Through the years and to the credit of those who have come before us, good stewardship has lead us to a point in which we could retire the debt earlier than planned. In November, 2019 we did just that. We're excited to get out from underneath the debt and operate from a positive position.

Due to the success of 2019's introduction of Forever Saints Day, a Xavier Foundation task force was formed in January 2020 to review and analyze our other appeals and recommend possible options for updating. As you have already witnessed, our appeals have taken on a new look and feel as we've decided to combine and reformat the business and parish appeal under "Xavier Impact Fund." This fund will provide the framework for continued tuition assistance, a new teacher endowment, and advance Catholic faith and academics in the Xavier community.

We've also spent time working with our supporting parishes and pastors to help figure out ways to lessen the financial strain brought on by COVID-19. We are committed to continuing this effort.

The Xavier Foundation board maintains its energy and forward momentum as we keep our eyes focused on today's challenges, while also looking ahead to what's on the horizon.

On behalf of the Xavier Foundation Board, thank you to all of you who have contributed to the Xavier Foundation as we aspire to make Xavier the best it can be. Xavier couldn't exist without the continued support from you, our wonderful donors. Thank you for being so generous.

David Schimberg (R91)

Chair, Xavier Foundation Board

The Mission Continues



Prior to Xavier High School opening its doors in the fall of 1998, quite a bit of time, effort and energy was dedicated toward developing our school's mission statement. For sure, the efforts of those who crafted this statement were not in vain. With this being our 23rd school year, Xavier's mission to "develop the total person in a Catholic environment" proudly remains.

As the events and complexities of 2020 have unfolded, I've reflected on our mission statement much more so than usual. With everything that has come our way, one thing of which I'm certain is this; "developing the total person in a Catholic environment" is needed in ways today those who formulated our mission statement likely did not imagine. Jesus and our Catholic-identity is where we proudly base all we do, no matter what might come our way.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in mid-March, our faculty and staff have gone above and beyond in so many ways. Countless times, it would have been easy for them to give up or simply say, "It's too hard." They haven't. Their dedication to our mission is absolutely incredible.

Our students are remarkably resilient. A lot has been thrown their way they didn't ask for. It has been so wonderful to hear their voices again in our hallways this fall. For sure they need each other, and the reality is we aren't Xavier without them! We are proud of who we are and the basis for which we exist. As 2020 comes to a close, we offer our sincere gratitude for the many ways you have supported Xavier's mission during a trying year.

What will Xavier look like in the next 23 years? I'm not entirely certain, but I do know one thing for sure. Jesus and our Catholic-identity, the centerpieces of Xavier's mission statement, will be our cornerstone. In a world of much uncertainty, isn't that a comforting thought?

Chris McCarville (R97) President, Xavier High School

@CRXPres | chris.mccarville@xaviersaints.org



Watch President McCarville's monthly "President's Corners" at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/PRESIDENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020 Giving

The Xavier Foundation is pleased to present the following information on gifts received July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, highlighted below. Every gift matters and makes the difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff. Thank you for your loyalty, even amidst challenging times. Financial support is garnered through a series of outreach efforts to partner parishes, businesses, alumni and friends of Xavier. Additional funds are made possible by bequests, scholarships, endowed funds and planned gifts.

We value each investment in our future and extend our sincere gratitude for entrusting us with your support. In the interest of serving as stewards of each and every dollar destined to make an impact on our families, teachers and the future viability of Xavier High School, we have reduced the number of printed pages for this publication. Donor-specific lists can now be found on our website at XavierSaints.org/Donor.

Gifts By Source



Assets, Income & Expense

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCE	
ASSETS	
CASH	\$ 496,470
OTHER RECEIVABLE	-
INVESTMENTS	\$ 5,763,636
PLEDGE RECEIVABLE	\$ 28,420
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,288,526
LIA DII ITIEC	¢ 1 470 500
LIABILITIES	\$ 1,472,508
LIABILITIES EQUITY	\$ 1,472,508 \$ 4,816,018

STATEMENT OF INCOME A	ND EXPENSE
BEQUESTS	\$ 551,994
ANNUAL APPEALS	\$ 687,737
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS	\$ 163,231
MATCHING GIFTS	\$ 35,378
RESTRICTED INCOME	\$ 296,798
MEMORIALS/GIFTS IN-KIND/OTHER	\$ 38,097
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,773,235
DISTRIBUTION TO XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 5,050,924
FUNDRAISING AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 352,976
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 5,403,900
NET INCOME	(\$ 3,630,665)

Financials as of 10/1/20. Detailed Reviewed Financial Statements available upon request.

Pre Auditor Review Completion Numbers.

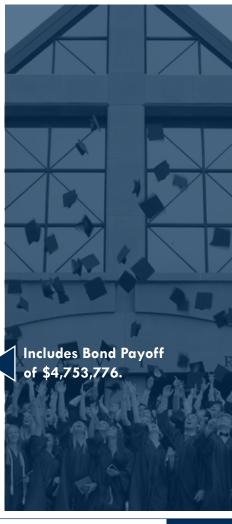


Donor-specific lists for the 2019-2020 fiscal year can now be found online at

XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/DONOR

The Xavier Foundation has taken great care to ensure the accuracy of these listings for gifts given between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

If your name was omitted or improperly noted, please accept our apologies. If you notice such an error, please notify us at development@xavierfoundation. org so our records can be corrected. Thank you!





In 2020, the Xavier Foundation is reenergizing and strategically updating annual appeals under one larger branded name, called Xavier Impact Fund. This campaign will reach out to distinct audiences of parishioners (Parish Appeal), businesses (Business Appeal), and alumni (Forever Saints Day), in different phases.

Parish and business outreach commenced last month and is continuing currently while Forever Saints Day will take place on January 28, 2021. Fundraising for Xavier Impact Fund will wrap up at the conclusion of the fiscal year on June 30, 2021. The goal of this effort is to raise \$725,000 for Xavier High School.

Xavier Impact Fund uses funds raised from outreach to parishioners, businesses, and alumni to specifically address the needs of Xavier High School in the following areas:

















Family Tuition Assistance

The need is real and we want Catholic education at Xavier to remain available and affordable for all families.



Teacher Endowment

Xavier teachers earn, on average, substantially less than their public school counterparts. This endowment, supported by Xavier Impact Fund, has been established to close that gap.



This is the core of Xavier, and we are growing our faith initiatives and academics like never before. The new XCEED Conference and Communities program are just two examples of why Xavier stands out as a light of Christ in this world.

XAVIER SAINTS. ORG/IMPACT

Partnering to Make an Impact...







Parish Outreach

Outreach to parishioners kicked off in October and is continuing. Our overall campaign chairs are Jeff and Kathleen Bean of Immaculate Conception Parish and co-chairs, Jamie and Tammy McAllister, of St. Joseph Parish. Our parish goal for this combined effort is \$500,000.

New in 2020-2021:

Every Dollar Raised Beyond a

Parish Goal Goes Back to the Parish

In addition to the three key areas XIF will support, we are excited to announce that, as a commitment to our partner parishes, once we meet each parish's individual goal, each dollar raised above that amount will go back to your parish to help with whatever the greatest need of the parish might be!







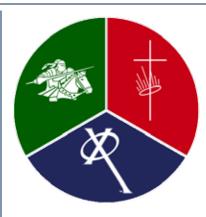
Business Outreach

Outreach to partnering businesses also kicked off in October and is ongoing. Beginning outreach in the fall gives businesses the option to leverage tax benefits of the Cares Act in 2020, or

choose to continue to give in Spring, 2021. Xavier Impact Fund business outreach is led by chair, Kirk Sadilek, and Co-Chair, Maria (Johnson) Drees (X00), who are working with more than 50 volunteers to raise \$155,000.

NEW: Sponsorship Opportunities

Xavier Impact Fund will offer businesses the opportunity to leverage sponsorship opportunities as a part of their marketing/business support. Business owners and marketers interested in these opportunities can reach out to the Foundation team at 319-378-4571 or development@xavierfoundation.org to learn more.



Alumni Outreach: Forever Saints Day Moving to January 28th Traditionally held in the spring,

Traditionally held in the spring, Forever Saints Day 2021 will be moving to January 28, 2021 to coincide with Catholic Schools Week. FSD 2021 will also feature the induction of our 2021

Alumni Hall of Fame class. Mark your calendars for this new date to celebrate our past, present and future of Catholic education! Learn more at **XavierSaints.org/FSD**.



Dancing with the Saints Moving to April 24th

While typically held in January, to ensure the health and safety

of all dancers and attendees, we've made the decision to move Dancing With the Saints: Season 6 to Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Cedar Rapids. Voting and ticketing information will be available in early 2021. More details at XavierSaints.org/DWTS.

Updates from Xavier High School



Students engaging in in-person learning distanced in a reduced-capacity class-room while students in the same class (in the opposite cohort) join virtually.





Homecoming King & Queen, Nick Lemke & Hope Schulte were crowned in front of a limited audience. The coronation was livestreamed.

BEHOLDING THE NEW

We are more than a quarter of the way through the 2020-2021 school year and while this year has been undoubtedly

different, Xavier teachers, staff, and students are remaining true to our school year's theme: "United with Christ, we behold the new." While some events may look different, we have found ways to celebrate Masses, conduct learning in the building, launch our new Community System, perform on the stage, compete at high levels on the fields and on the court all while doing our best to protect the health and safety of our school community.

As if COVID-19 did not present enough of a formidable challenge, a historically-destructive derecho storm devastated the Cedar Rapids area on August 10th packing winds as high as 140 MPH. True to form, Xavier families mobilized in a variety of ways to help our city begin to put the pieces back together. Thankfully, the majority of damage to the Xavier campus was confined to the baseball/softball complex along with numerous trees (repairs and rebuilding planning for the baseball and softball fields is underway). The school building itself was operational once power was restored and ready to welcome students back in the building for the first time in 167 days on August 31st after closing its doors to in-person learning last spring. We have counted ourselves blessed and thankful to be in our building learning every school day since.



The Hybrid Model

With distancing being one of many important health and safety measures against COVID-19 (in addition to a

mask requirement, routine sanitizing of areas and surfaces, and nightly deep cleaning of the building), Xavier students have been divided into two cohorts. One cohort would attend class in-person in the morning and then return home to engage in virtual learning in the afternoon, while the other cohort would learn online in the morning and come to school

in the afternoon. The cohorts would alternate their AM/ PM schedules every two days. This feature was important to students as they preferred to have the ability to see all their teachers in-person every week. This was also the most preferred model when considering the health and safety of everyone in our building. Each cohort then has the option to eat lunch (distanced from others) at school, take a to-go lunch, or eat at home before or after coming to school.



XHS Community System

After more than a year of prayer, research, and fact-finding, Xavier launched its new "Community System" this school year. This system, housed within Xavier's Campus Ministry Department, is designed to build relationships with God and with others in addition to enhancing a sense of belonging and connection for each and every Xavier Saint who walks through our doors.

The system is comprised of five separate "communities," each of which features a cross section of 9-12 Grade students, teachers and staff. The communities themselves are named after various saints: St. Catherine of Siena, St. Juan Diego, St. John Paul II, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio). Communities will participate in a va-









riety of activities together such as service projects, celebrating Masses and at pep rallies, and having time built in to the normal school day schedule to interact and learn about one another. We encourage you to learn more about this new initiative at XavierSaints.org/Community.



Fall Activities Success

Despite the odds, the high-achieving Xavier activities programs had an outstanding fall season once again, which saw the football team again make a deep run in the playoffs, volleyball qualify for state, boys golf finish in the Top 10 in Class 4A, (at the time of printing, volleyball is advancing to the

state semifinals and football is preparing for state quarterfinals). While the competition portion of the marching band season was cancelled due to COVID-19, the Marching Saints were still able to perform at home football games and even offered a special livestreamed performance for family and friends to watch. The national award-winning Xavier Dance Team found a way to once again achieve a high bar in their halftime performances and the Xavier Cheer team inspired spirit despite the restricted attendance at games. The Xavier choirs moved their fall vocal preview concert from the theatre to the Ron Thillen Gymnasium, where they performed while masked in front of distanced



66 We must overcome all forms of racism, of intolerance and of the instrumentalization of the human person."

~ Pope Francis

WE ARE LISTENING

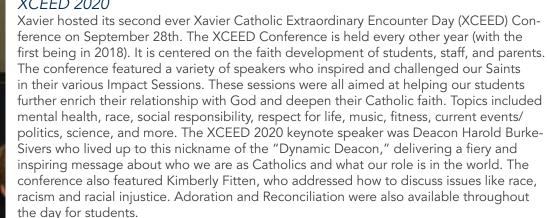
Champions for Solidarity Council is Born

Rooted in the United States **Conference of Catholic Bishops** (USCCB) teaching on social justice, Xavier High School is committed to increasing its efforts toward working to promote peace, and justice, and equality, not only within our school building, but also the world around us. With this in mind, Xavier has established the Champions for Solidarity Council. The Council will be comprised of administrators, faculty, current Xavier students, Xavier alumni, and community members, will focus on the Catholic Social Teaching of "Solidarity." From these conversations, our goal is to produce action that will make Xavier a better instrument to effectively combat the sin of racism and advance the common good.



Learn more at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/SOLIDARITY











What inspired you to pursue a career in journalism?

Since growing up in Iowa, I had an appetite for the news: breaking stories, international news and domestic affairs. When I would finish my homework in my parents' home, I would turn on the news and watch it before bed, captivated by the window to the world it provided. Traveling, hearing people's stories, being with them and telling their journey via journalism is what led me to the field.

Walk us through your professional journey to Cheddar. Fortunately I landed a job at CNBC midway through my senior year at Northwestern University. The position was for immediate fill, so I quickly needed to graduate early and start a dream job in New York City! At CNBC I began as a producer on its news desk, working with anchors and reporters on their assignments and assisting during breaking news events. About nine months in, I was promoted to markets producer, working from the New York Stock Exchange. It was utterly exciting to be at the NYSE each day, covering the stock market and the sudden moves it can bring.

The Wall Street Journal hired me from CNBC, and while I was there I wrote a daily stock market column with wide distribution. I also anchored and reported on its streaming video network; and I wrote multiple stories each day for publication.

Then Cheddar, a news network, approached me before it officially launched, and I joined as its first news anchor in April 2016. Overnight I went from covering big bank earnings reports at WSJ to anchoring from the floor of the NYSE for a brand new network. Building Cheddar from the start, anchoring with the CEO Jon Steinberg, and expanding my own daily coverage to include politics, international and domestic news, in addition to business news, has brought many enriching experiences.

What does a typical day at Cheddar look like?

My day starts early! At 4:40 a.m. my alarm is buzzing. I'm up and at 'em, consuming the news and preparing for my show. Between 7 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. I'm anchoring from the New York Stock Exchange, conducting topical interviews, and providing real-time coverage of the stock market with the trading floor as my backdrop.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



The Presidential election this year also means I'm anchoring in primetime for election night, the debates, the Democratic National Convention, and the Republican National Convention.

Obviously life in New York is different than life in lowa (especially in media). Can you tell us about the difference that may have surprised you the most?

In NYC I have more than eight million neighbors! That's the population of the city. You get to meet new people everyday; but I still miss my family and friends back home too!

In an era of 24/7 news (which includes a wide variety of media), life in media can be demanding. How do you manage this? Creating a schedule has really helped me maximize my time and stay consistent in my on-air performance each day. During the week, I wake up at the same time, and I try to go to bed at the same time. On top of that, eating healthy keeps my energy up and I work to make it a priority everyday.

What has been the most significant story or topic you've covered during your career?

The year 2020. Between a presidential election, a pandemic and the economic fallout, this year has been the biggest news story of my career.

How often are you able to make it back home?

I try to come home a few times a year. Honestly I would come home more often if there was a direct flight from NYC that could make a weekend trip possible! To stay close, I'm in daily contact with my family via phone calls and text. During non-Covid times, we meet up somewhere around Thanksgiving or Christmas. And my mom will visit me in the big city several times a year, which I'm grateful for!

Can you tell us about how Xavier had a positive impact on your life in a professional and personal way?

Xavier fostered core principles in me: that community work and optimism can take you and others far, personally and professionally.

What is your favorite memory from high school?

The best memories are when everyone came together, no matter what club, sport or extracurricular interest anyone had. It was simply fun to be with everyone in a communal setting!

What about your work brings you the most joy?

Talking to a diverse group of voices each day about current events brings me joy!

Do you have any advice or words of wisdom for students who may be considering a career in journalism?

For many jobs in journalism, you'll need to show work samples to get hired. Try to utilize resources - cameras, microphones, and lighting if you can get it - to regularly build out your work. Schools may be able to provide this equipment. Or, if nothing else, you can film on a phone with a steady shot. No matter what stage of your career, your potential employer will want to see fresh material!





Cheddar broadcasts live on SlingTV, Hulu Live, Optimum, YouTube TV, Suddenlink, Twitter, Facebook Watch, Pluto, Xumo, and more.

Watched live by more than 4 million people each month, Cheddar also garners hundreds organic video views monthly across Facebook

of millions of organic video views monthly across Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, and other social and distributed video platforms.

LEARN MORE AT CHEDDAR.COM

Alumni News & Notes

Zach Johnson

(R94)

Named Payne Stewart Award Recipient

In acknowledgement of his character, sportsmanship and dedication to charitable giving, Zach Johnson (R94) was named the recipient of the PGA TOUR's Payne Stewart Award presented by Southern Company. Zach was honored on September 2nd at the Payne Stewart Award Ceremony. The ceremony was televised on Golf Channel.

The Payne Stewart Award is presented annually by the PGA TOUR to a professional golfer who best exemplifies Stewart's steadfast values of character, charity and sportsmanship.





<<< Game #250 for Xavier Football's No. 1 Fan, Dan Sullivan (L67)

Xavier's October 30th football game vs. Wahlert Catholic marked the 250th game in program history. LaSalle alumnus, Dan Sullivan (L67) has attended all 250 games (home and away). At halftime of the October 30th game, XHS Activities Director, Adam McDonnell, presented Dan with a commemorative plaque, personalized Xavier stadium chair, and a metal print featuring Saints Field.

AAA Zach learned he would be the recipient of the 2020 Payne Stewart Award presented by Southern Company on a Zoom call in August with the late Stewart's children, Chelsea and Aaron, along with PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan.

Keeping the Community Service Day Tradition Alive!

Thank you to all our alumni who helped with Community Service Day on November 7th! Your help enabled us to keep this great tradition alive during this atypical year and make an impact on those in need in our community!

2021 ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Congratulations to these three outstanding individuals who will be inducted into our Alumni Hall of Fame during our Forever Saints Day livestream event on January 28, 2021.



STEVE LARSON (X99)
Athlete



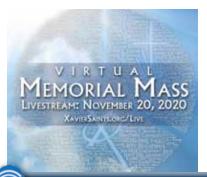
MORGAN (SHOWALTER)
REDLINGER (XO8)
Athlete



TOM KEATING
Outstanding Supporter &
Former XHS Principal/President



Watch the Forever Saints Day livestream on 1/28/21 at XavierSaints.org/FSD



Memorial Mass 2020

For the health and safety of all, this will not be an in-person event this year. All are invited to join us online as we livestream Mass in honor of our dearly departed LaSalle, Regis and Xavier alumni and those who were remembered with memorial gifts throughout the past year.

Join us for our Memorial Mass livestream on Friday, Nov. 20 at 10 a.m. at X = SAINTSORG/LIVE

Miss the livestream? A recorded version will be available (along with a listing of deceased alumni, special friends, faculty & staff at XAVIERSAINTS.ORG/MEMORIAL-MASS







Honoring Our Veterans

Thank you to US Air Force veteran, Jason Miller (R98); US Marine Corps veteran, Melissa (Rieff) Guerpo (X99); and US Navy veteran, Fr. Mark Murphy (R98), for helping us honor veterans

on Veterans Day. Jason Miller led morning prayer while Fr. Murphy celebrated Mass. Mrs. Guerpo, who serves as the band director at Regis Middle School, shared her gifts by providing music for a flag-raising ceremony. Find videos from these on Xavier's Facebook page at **Facebook.com/XavierSaints.**

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES:



Matt Nelson (X14), right tackle for the Detroit Lions, saw significant playing time in the Lions' 34-16 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars in October.



Aurora Mitchell (X15)
was recently promoted
to Treasury Management
Representative with
Hills Bank.



Grant Gibney (X16) recently accepted the position of Portfolio Administration Coordinator at Cushman & Wakefield and will be relocating to St. Louis.

MILESTONES:



Duane Schulte (L80), head coach for Xavier Football, notched his 200th career win (175 at Xavier and 25 at LaSalle) earlier this season with the Saints' win over Western Dubuque.

ALUMNI NEW ARRIVAL:

Jason Rupp (X01), and his wife, Jenny, welcomed their son, Theodore James, into the world on August 14 2020. Theodore joins his 3-year-old sister, Rosalie.

WE REMEMBER...

IN MEMORY OF ALUMNI & FRIENDS

We continue to pray for the departed as well as their loved ones.

ALUMNI

James Krauel (R60) May 30, 1942 - October 22, 2020

Dale 'Mike' Monnahan (L64) November 22, 1946 - June 3, 2020

Michael Abel (R66) July 24, 1948 - August 6, 2020

Gregg Jones (L66)
December 6, 1948 - October 18, 2020

Thomas Zobl (R69) April 5, 1951 - July 7, 2020

Dr. Bruce Cross (R72)
February 4, 1954 - October 11, 2020

Thomas Shea (R74) June 25, 1956 - June 25, 2020

Walter VanDevender (X05) June 14, 1987 - October 10, 2020

SPECIAL FRIENDS

Lloyd Bean January 26, 1935 - October 3, 2020

LaVerne Flagel Entered Eternal Rest August 9, 2020

Peggy Meek March 16, 1929 - October 5, 2020

Frances Whitters
Entered Eternal Rest July 14, 2020

FACULTY & STAFF

Ann Bartosh
July 27, 1946 - October 10, 2020

The names of our deceased alumni, special friends and faculty/staff are entered into our Memorial Book in the Xavier High School Chapel. Additionally, these names are featured as part of the Xavier's annual

Memorial Mass where students, teachers, staff and guests remember those who have gone to their eternal rest and lift their loved ones in prayer.



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Parents: If this issue of the Common Thread is addressed to your son or daughter who has established a permanent residence, please notify us of that new address.

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Director of Communications

Shari O'Rourke

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Cynthia Sueppel

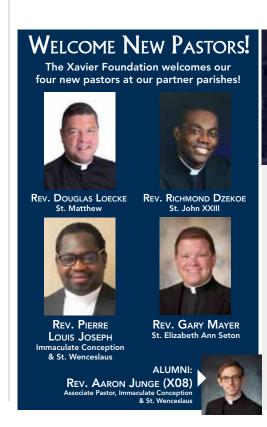
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Xavier High School Administration

Angela Olson Principal Adam McDonnell
Activities Director

Matt Svare Associate Principal Fr. Richmond Dzekoe
Campus Minister





DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly a quarter of the 2020-2021 Archdiocesan seminarians are Xavier graduates:

- KYLE TIETZ (XII)
- BEN VALENTINE (X14)
- JEFF FRIEDEN (X15)
- Peter Binder (X18)
- JACKSON MILLER (X19)

We continue to lift these seminarians and all men & women discerning or living a religious vocation up in prayer!