

CONNECTIONS

Pius XI Welcomes Faith Formation Director

Pius XI High School is blessed to welcome a new leader for our faith community – Mr. Michael Coffey. Mr. Coffey is not new to the Pius XI community, however; he is in his third year as a Theology teacher, helping students not only understand the history of religion but more importantly the value of faith in their own lives. In his new role as Faith Formation Director, Mr. Coffey will oversee and lead all adult and student programs related to prayer and worship, pastoral ministry and community service at Pius XI High School. He will ensure that all members of the school community have the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“Beyond helping students develop intellectual competence, it is my goal that we fashion a school culture that nurtures responsible, compassionate, spiritually aware and vibrant human beings,” Mr. Coffey said about his new role. “And just as Jesus acknowledged the presence of God in a wide variety of people, so students at Pius XI can discover their own unique callings.”

It is his goal to work diligently to make the question, *what is God calling me to do?*, an essential question throughout the Pius XI community. Additionally, he intends to broaden and deepen student participation in service to the community, increase prayer and

worship opportunities within the Pius XI community and nurture the faith formation of the staff so that the Pius XI faith mission extends more naturally beyond the Theology Department.

“I share with the entire community how so many students begin to discover their callings here at Pius XI,” Mr. Coffey said. “And how they go on to live lives that help make the world look more like the kingdom of God.”



Before coming to Pius XI, Mr. Coffey spent 18 years working in faith-based organizations and seven additional years teaching. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, a Master of Pastoral Studies from Loyola University Chicago and a Master of Arts in Teaching from National Louis University. He grew up in Wauwatosa and attended both a Catholic grade school and high school. He and his wife Maggie are proud parents of Maura, a Pius XI '08 graduate and Katie, Class of 20XI (2011). Mr. Coffey can be reached at 414-290-7000 or mcoffey@piusxi.org.

Annual Pius XI Auction to be Held March 13

Pius XI is gearing up for the 2010 Annual Auction -- *Shining Our Light for 80 Years* -- and this year's event is sure to be a hit. Featuring both a silent and live auction as well as dinner and live entertainment, this cocktail-attire event is popular, so be sure to secure your tickets early!

The Auction Committee needs your help! They are seeking live and silent auction donations, event sponsors and table captains as well as volunteers to help in preparation of the event and during the event itself. If you can contribute in any of the ways above, contact Cory Anshus at 414-290-8157 or canshus@piusxi.org.

Tickets are \$80 each. To purchase tickets contact the Institutional Advancement Office at 414-290-8130. Check out www.piusxi.org often for the most up-to-date list of auction items.

2010 Reunion Weekend SAVE THE DATE

Fri., Oct. 22 Class of '05
Sat., Oct. 23 Classes of '00, '95, '90, '85, '80, '75, '70, '65
Sun., Oct. 24 Class of 1959 and earlier

All these reunions will take place at Pius XI. Watch for your invitation in the mail next fall.

Interested in planning the October events? Our first reunion committee meeting will be held on Wed., Jan. 13 in the Pius XI Library at 6:30 p.m.

The Class of 1960 will be hosting their 50th reunion on Friday, Sept. 24 and Saturday, Sept. 25. The Saturday event will be a dinner held at Westmoor Country Club. For questions, contact Carlene (Breitbach) Heidemann at carlene@wi.rr.com.

For more information or questions, contact the Alumni Office at 414-290-8130 or e-mail alumni@piusxi.org.

2009 Reunion Weekend a Success!

In October, Pius XI welcomed back more than 500 alumni during Reunion Weekend. The Class of 2004 reconnected for their 5-year reunion in the Pius XI Lobby for a casual evening of catching-up. Eight more classes gathered on Saturday, Oct. 17 in the Pius XI Field House. They enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner, dancing and school tours. On Sunday, Oct. 18, senior alum gathered for the 50+ Reunion. They celebrated with Mass and brunch in the Pius XI Chapel and Lobby.

“It was so great to welcome our Pius XI alum back home,” Joel Claassen, Alumni Director, said. “Reconnecting with alum and sharing stories of the past is a great reminder of the wonderful people that have made Pius XI such a great school and community.”

New this year, the Alumni Office has established a Flickr page for photo sharing. To view additional reunion photos visit www.flickr.com/photos/piusxi or follow the link from the Pius XI web site under Alumni News. Alumni can share additional photos through the Pius XI Alumni Flickr group or by emailing alumni@piusxi.org.

Are you in the class of 1960 or earlier? How about '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, or '05? If you answered “yes,” then 2010 is your Pius XI Class Reunion year! We look forward to seeing you.



THANK YOU to all Pius XI Alum who helped make the 2009 Open House a success! From proudly displaying Pius XI yard signs to leading tours of the school during the event, Pius XI Alum showed their Pope Pride to prospective families, ensuring the Class of 2014 will carry on the long-time Pius XI traditions.

First Semester Highlights and Recognition

- » The Pius XI Girls Golf Team made their first appearance in the WIAA State Tournament. **Amanda Braun** was named Honorable Mention in the coaches All State poll and named to Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's Second Team. She has signed a letter of intent to play scholarship golf for Northern Iowa University. Coach **Peter Reeves** was named Coach of the Year by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.
- » Girls Volleyball Coach **Dave Scher** celebrated his 800th match win, making him the winningest Girls Volleyball Coach in Wisconsin.
- » **Kate Trotter** was named the first place winner and top classical female singer in Wisconsin during the 2009 National Association of Teachers of Singing Competition.
- » **Jayne Joyce**, was selected as one of the top five jazz vocalists at the Lawrence University Jazz Festival.
- » **Joram Zbichorski, Ryan Castelaz** and **James Lieven** have been selected by the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association to represent Pius XI High School in the State Honors Men's Ensemble.
- » The following students represented our school at the Wisconsin School Music Association's State Honors Concert - State Honors Mixed Choir Members: **Ryan Castelaz, Sam Mullooley, Georgie Nink, Sarah Stuczynski** and **Samantha Zager**; State Honors Women's Choir Members **Gretchen Mahkorn** and **Eva Stokes**; and State Honors Orchestra Principal Flute Player, **Rachel Bubik**.
- » **Arielle Yanasak** and **Aimee Balistreri** wrote, presented, and received a “Youth in Service Grant” from the Greater

Milwaukee Foundation to create a traveling dance studio.

- » **Alexander Hazen** and **Josh Castelli** received the highest rank in Boy Scouts - Eagle Scout.
- » The following students were recognized as winners in the Art Fundamentals Portrait Competition: First Place, **Alyson Matkovich** (see image at right); Second Place, **Joe Fellows**; Third Place (tie), **Danny Drzewiecki** and **Mark Curda**; Honorable Mentions, **Allix Baxter, Amanda Wood, Katie Leonardelli,** and **Sarah Nasgowitz**.
- » The following Girls Volleyball players were recognized for their effort this season: **Jordyn Bratel**, Honorable Mention All-State and 1st Team All-Conference; **Sabrina Marunowski**, Honorable Mention All-State and 2nd Team All-Conference; **Maria Linn** and **Molly Sydnor**, 2nd Team All-Conference; **Shannon McKeon** and **Korina Yee**, Honorable Mention All-Conference.
- » **Kelly Frings** was selected to *Sporting News Magazine's* Girls High School Midwest Honorable Mention Basketball Team.
- » **Brittany Givens** and **Rashad Harris** were named 2010 National Achievement Program Outstanding Participants.
- » The Boys Soccer team and Girls Swim team were named Fall Sportsmanship winners for Classic Eight conference.



S. Anne Marie Honored for 50 Years of Service

On Dec. 8 during the all-school Immaculate Conception Mass, S. Ann Marie Trimberger SSSF was honored by the Pius XI community, Bishop Callahan and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett for her 50 years of service to Pius XI High School. You may know her better as "Sister 401," as she was in charge of that resource room for more than 20 years.

S. Ann Marie came to Pius XI in 1960. The growth and solid foundation of Catholic Schools is largely dependent on having strong and capable teachers, such as S. Ann Marie that not only teach Catholic values, but have committed their lives to Catholic service. She held many roles at Pius XI through the years teaching a variety of Social Science classes from World History to Geography and providing students with strong spiritual and academic foundations and preparing them for more than just tests in the classroom, but for tests in life.

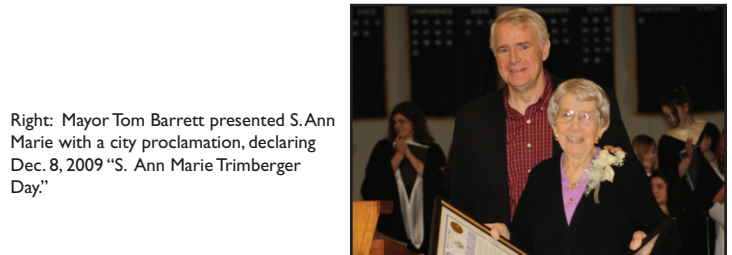
She chaired the Social Science department for 12 years and was responsible for hiring Joel Claassen, Roger Radke, Pete Yaeger, Mary Talsky, Rick Carpenter and Melinda Skrade, Ph.D. In addition to teaching students, S. Ann Marie was committed to the education of her peers and student teachers. Her mentorship to young teachers has been invaluable and given Catholic schools in this area a solid foundation.

As a tribute to her enormous contribution to the growth and success of Pius XI High School, Room 401 will be dedicated and forever known as the S.A.M. (S. Ann Marie) Resource Room. The Pius XI High School community, past, present and future will reap the benefits of S. Ann Marie's talents and dedication for years to come.

Right: After receiving a standing ovation from students, S. Ann Marie addresses the Pius XI High School student body.



Left: Joel Claassen, a teacher S. Ann Marie hired, reads a poem he wrote as a tribute to her service at Pius XI.



Right: Mayor Tom Barrett presented S. Ann Marie with a city proclamation, declaring Dec. 8, 2009 "S. Ann Marie Trimberger Day."

Your Dollars Make a Difference!

Dyslexia makes learning a real challenge. Anna Rose Fritz knows, because even though she is bright and an eager learner, her dyslexia means she needs extra support to succeed at school. Anna Rose is currently a senior at Pius XI High School. Her story illustrates the transformative power of a Pius XI education!

Anna Rose struggled throughout elementary and middle school but she worked hard and found ways to compensate for her dyslexia. She was finally reading at grade level by the end of 8th grade.

Her parents, Carol and Gary, had heard about Pius XI High School from friends. Anna Rose was excited by the possibilities that the school offered. From the first time she stepped into Pius XI at an Open House, she was impressed with the faculty. The teachers at Pius XI genuinely care about their students and are truly passionate about the subjects they teach. Pius XI's Special Studies program ensured that she would get the support she needed.

Two weeks after becoming a Pius XI student, Anna Rose felt like she had found her niche. The enthusiasm of teachers like Ms. Ryan-Lofy, Mr. Giombi and Mr. Martin for their content areas made learning fun. The support of Ms. Nicholson, one of Pius XI's learning disability specialists, was invaluable. And Ms. Purves, her Algebra and Trigonometry teacher, spent countless hours helping her outside of class. Anna Rose was determined and worked

really hard. Every step of the way she felt cared for and supported by every one of her teachers.

Last summer, Anna Rose took the ACT, a standardized test used by many colleges in making admissions decisions. Students with dyslexia get extra time to take the test, but it is the same test as that taken by students without learning challenges.

Her composite score was a 32, which is the 99th percentile nationally. Her reading subscore was a perfect 36! She is now weighing her options for college. Anna Rose is so grateful for the great education she is receiving at Pius XI.

Pius XI continues to prepare students for college, and for life, in an atmosphere of academic rigor, critical reflection and spiritual care. **Your support makes that possible for students like Anna Rose! Please consider making a year-end gift to our Annual Fund. A gift of any size will make a significant difference!** Remember to check and see if your company matches your gift because then, your donation will have twice the impact. For questions on donating to Pius XI, please contact Cory Anshus at 414-290-8157 or canshus@piusxi.org.





Go Green! E-mail us at alumni@piusxi.org and receive future issues of this newsletter in your e-mailbox!

Upcoming Events

- Battle of the Bands - *Jan. 23*
- “Waiting for Godot” Winter Play - *Feb. 11 - 14*
- Ash Wednesday Mass celebrated
 by Archbishop Listecki - *Feb. 17*
- Pius XI Annual Auction - *March 13*
- Mother-Daughter Luncheon & Fashion Show -
March 21
- “Titanic” Spring Musical at the Pabst - *March 25 - 27*
- Fine Arts Showcase - *April 20 - 21*
- Spring Dance Showcase - *April 22 - 24*
- Spring Pops Concert - *May 6*
- Jazz Cafe Night - *May 13*
- Spring Choral Concert - *May 18*
- Graduation - *May 29*
- Fr. Carney Memorial Golf Outing - *June 9*

Please check out the web site for more information on these events as well as schedules for and information for all athletics, performing arts and visual arts events.

www.piusxi.org

Alumni News

Tom Tourillot '86 was named Football Coach of the Year in Wisconsin's Great Northern Conference. Tourillot is a teacher and coaches football at Merrill High School in Merrill, WI.

Sarah Hoyer '97 produced a special project on race relations while a Knight Fellow in the Kiplinger Program. She followed six Tampa high school students from the election through the end of the 2009 school year.

Megan Baxter '06 was one of 10 artists featured in the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and BI@ Gallery presents: 2009 Merit Scholarship Awards Exhibition.

Grace Weber '06 made her debut on the Oprah Winfrey Show after she was one of ten finalists nationally in a Karaoke competition.

Amanda Bliske '08, was named to the Northern Athletics Conference (NAC) 2009 Women's Golf All-NAC Conference Team and was named the 2009 All-Sportsmanship Team. She was also awarded with the Lou Warobick Sportsmanship Scholarship, an award given to golfers who exhibit the highest level of good sportsmanship.

If you'd like to submit your news send an e-mail to: alumni@piusxi.org.

Most sincere apologies to the Class of '08 students who celebrated achievements and were inadvertently left out of the Annual Report - Melissa McHugh, Jenna Motz, Bernie Mulvey, Laura Neilson, Sam Patrick, Israel Pechstein, Kelsey Rademacher, Brigid Rau, Andrew Regent-Smith, Leo Rosario, Erin Skupien, Justin Smith, Kristin Stawicki, Austin Toth and Alexandre Yahnke.

Vote for Pius XI to Win \$100,000

U.S. Cellular is giving away \$100,000 each to ten schools across the country with the most votes from now until January 15. Voting is easy! As you are out and about getting ready for the holidays, just stop into a U.S. Cellular store and pick up your voting code. Then log onto uscellular.com, enter your code and cast your vote for Pius XI! There is no purchase necessary to vote and only one vote per person, so pass this to your family and friends and help us make the top ten.