

THE AUGUSTINIAN

Issue 6

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“Tolle Lege”

St. Augustine High School



Saints Celebrates Commons Grand Opening



The St. Augustine Commons, now complete, has opened its doors to the public.

Andrew Tran ('19)



By Liam Brucker-Casey ('19)
EDITOR

On April 26, 2017 the Saint Augustine Commons was officially opened with a well attended, and well

enjoyed Mass celebrated by the very Rev. Kevin C. Mullins, O.S.A., who is the provincial of the Augustinians in the West. Before getting their first look inside the Commons, Saintsmen, parents,

and alumni alike anxiously waited for the blessing of the statue “Saint Augustine the Teacher.” On a day equally as warm as it was joyous, Saintsmen stood strong against the bright, hot sun. After

the statue’s unveiling, all in attendance were led into the new gym. The appearance of the gym was immaculate: not a smudge to be seen, no warp in the wood, and no malformed minuscule bit of metal could be mentioned.

Fr. Kevin Mullins gladly and dutifully did his part to ensure that the ceremony was as memorable as it deserved. Fr. Mullins celebrated Mass, and of this President Hearn said, “I thought Fr. Kevin was outstanding; his homily was great. I really think he added to the sacred nature of the space, and actually blessed the space. It was really very moving to me.” Hearn was quite moved indeed, evident in his tearful expression of gratitude which he delivered as a closing to the ceremony.

It is clear that the administration had high hopes for the ceremony, as they had postponed the officiation multiple times to ensure that it would be all that anyone could hope for. This concern for perfection paid off, as it would be hard to find a single soul dissatisfied with the commencement. This was not an easy event to plan, and it was harder still to manage.

“There are two things to keep in mind,” Mr. Hearn said, “One, it is really the first time we’ve done anything big like that in this new structure. Two, we just had to say theoretically, ‘This is how we are going to do this,’ and it definitely shifted quite a bit, the ground just kept shifting on us as the number of guests kept growing and growing.”

That aforementioned shifting neces-

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Deac Concludes Marvelous Teaching Career



By Carlos Lopez-Tenorio ('18)
STAFF WRITER

Deacon Richard Hardick, OSA will be retiring from his teaching duties at St. Augustine High School after nearly half a century of service.

One does not have to attend Saints for long before realizing who “Deac” is. He is known for his record-speed quick draw (too fast for the human eye), his secret handshake (which cannot be described here because it’s a secret), and for his stories about his 1936 Ford which he used to drive to school daily as a Saintsman.

When he arrived to Saints as a freshman in 1953, little did he know that he would forever be bound to that all-boys school on Nutmeg Street. It was during his senior year that Fr. Pat Keane asked him to consider joining the Augustinian Order, and after prayer and encouragement from teachers, he decided to take the plunge into his greatest adventure yet. After his graduation in 1957, he attended the Augustinian academy in Staten Island. The following year he travelled to the Augustinian Novitiate in New Hamburg, New York. After taking simple vows, he entered Villanova University in 1959 for four years to earn his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. In the following years, he studied for his Masters in Sacred Theology at the Augustinian College in Washington D.C.

After spending a year serving at Our



Deac presides over New Testament presentations.

Mother of Good Counsel in Los Angeles and the following eight months on an early sabbatical, he rejoined the Saints community in September 1968, only now as a teacher. He taught math for most of his years, but he transitioned to the Religion Department nearly a decade ago, teaching freshmen and sophomores. He was also the Intramural Director for 40 years, and is an Aquatic Sports instructor during Intersession.

“I am so very grateful for the opportunity to

do what I love,” Dn. Hardick said. “My years were very rich in blessings, especially with the privilege of guiding marvelous young boys in their search for God and manhood. Saints was where I wanted to be. It was my home. I loved every minute. Every day was a joy!”

Although he will be retiring from teaching in the classroom, he will still be a presence at the school. “Because of my own affection for the Saints community and at the request of our principal, Jim Home, my plans include con-

tinuing teaching the Aquatics Intersession class with Mr. Eric Dent, guiding the Saints Surf team with Coach Julia Mekrut and Jim Shaw, and as often as possible assisting Fr. Kirk at the liturgy,” Deac said.

He doesn’t care for the word retirement though.

“I have relished hard work all my life, so please let’s not use [that] word,” he said. “I prefer to think of future unscheduled days as opportunities and occasions to enjoy new and

Ian Haliburton ('18)

SEE Deac, pg. 6

Showcasing the Commons



By Matthew Anguiano ('19)
EDITOR

When beholding the newly constructed Saint Augustine Commons, it is hard to believe it is technically considered only one building. Consisting of three levels (court, plaza, and terrace) and a sky deck, it accommodates dozens of our school needs. What follows is a verbal tour through the new facilities.

One of the first things one notices standing in front of Commons is the shiny new statue of St. Augustine the Teacher. Handcrafted in Italy, the statue features Augustine teaching a boy sitting next to a pile of books (one of which is a 2017 yearbook). The statue itself is made out of bronze, and is painted in Saints' signature gold.

Not too far away from the statue of St. Augustine is the Food Service building for the students called Marty's Kitchen. The kitchen sells breakfast and lunch during school hours, and one can readily taste and appreciate the great food.

The stairs from the statue of St. Augustine lead up to the main terrace. There, people may either go past the gym to the new grass field or head up to the roof where the three new basketball courts for intramurals are located, along with the elevator. Right before reaching the roof level, there is an entrance to the VIP Lounge, which will be used by very important persons at the many Saints events to come.

Down in the main lobby, there is a fully working fireplace along with plenty of seating to surround it. Another feature of the lobby is the capital cam-



Saint Augustine the Teacher reaches out to take you on a tour of the Commons.

Andrew Tran ('19)

paign wall which recognizes the individuals whose donations were essential to the completion of the gym by preserving their names in glass.

Just past the concessions booth in the lobby waits the John Sanders Gym. As spectators step into the gym, they find themselves directly behind and above The Pit with a full view of Court '64, which was named after the Saints class of 1964. From this vantage point the League banners stand out, proudly displayed on the opposite wall. To the left, a walkway passes by the glass trophy case. There are then

three sets of remotely controlled bleachers located to the left, right, and directly in front relative to the entrance.

Below the wall of banners is the entrance into the new wrestling room, which can also be accessed from staircases on either side. Across the other side of the court are the new offices and locker rooms. Fittingly, Coach Haupt's new office has a perfect view of the new court.

In the back hallway there is the training room. Just past the new training room are four new locker rooms. The first is Locker Room A, which is meant for future

P.E. classes. In an effort to make it easier to get to the fields, Locker Room A has an exit leading to the staircase up to the main patio. Locker Room B is the new football locker room. Locker Room C is designated for the basketball team. Locker Room D is the final locker room, and is intended to be for additional P.E. classes.

After nearly a year and a half of construction, the new Commons is here. Be sure to explore and make the most of this facility, a cornerstone for life at St. Augustine High School.

Future Functions of the Facilities



Saintsmen are already putting the rooftop basketball courts to good use.

Liam Brucker-Casey ('19)



By Alejandro Eros ('19)
EDITOR

St. Augustine High School is first and foremost an educational institution. Still, our community gathers together for other activities: weekly Mass, clubs, band, and other extracurricular groups. These Saints activities will be able to thrive in our new building, the Saint Augustine Commons (SAC).

The SAC will afford new opportunities to the clubs and other groups at Saints to host events, hold rallies, and serve the community. Among the most affected groups are the Saints Band, the ASB, Campus Ministry, and the basketball program.

The Saints Band, which includes symphonic band, jazz band, and jazz combo, will

be able to utilize the gym as a concert venue or a space to host festivals. Symphonic band participates annually in the Chula Vista High School Festival, which is the gathering of high school bands to play for professional musicians and conductors. The St. Augustine Commons will potentially enable the band to host several student bands from around San Diego County in a similar event. The gym also opens up the door to having an indoor drum line.

The ASB has big plans for utilizing the new facilities. Senior Prom will always be held off campus (and obviously the Junior Boat dance, too), but with the new space, other dances including Homecoming and Spring Formal will be on our own turf. This means that going to dances will be more affordable

than before, and just as exciting.

"For each dance, we want to transform the gym into a theme that will enhance the atmosphere the way an expensive hotel would. Saints students should expect the same glamour, pizzazz, and excitement that they have seen in past years," said Mr. Inzunza, the ASB moderator.

Dances will be enlivened with decorations, lights, and other modifications to the gymnasium. The Augustinian is not at liberty to reveal any secrets, but rest assured that the dances will shake the campus.

Rallies and assemblies will be wilder than before, if that is possible. There is a new retractable projector screen, which will make video presentations better experiences.

"The larger space is going to make rallies much more fun. Imagine glow in the dark dodgeball or Bubble Soccer in such a huge space compared to Dougherty gym," Mr. Inzunza said.

The basketball program is very excited about the new gym, and is optimistic about what will come from it. Saints basketball has the best fan base in the county. The new gym can host 1,500 of these fans, 800 more than the fire marshal allowed in Dougherty gym, which will electrify the atmosphere. Saints can now host major games such as playoff games or games against Cathedral, whereas Dougherty gym could not suffice. This will result in more ticket sales for the basketball program. The team will miss Dougherty Gym, but looks to continue their success.

"I am hoping to host an annual varsity tournament as well as invite a few high profile teams to play individual friendlies on a yearly basis," Coach Haupt said.

The gym will also hopefully have a positive effect on the performance of the players. "The varsity guys already look like a better team. There are no more dead spots on the court," Haupt said.

Perhaps most significant is the fact that for the first time in over half a century, Saints will hold graduation on their own campus. The ceremony will not differ much from previous ones at Golden Hall, but the Baccalaureate Mass will be at a closer time to graduation.

Weekly Masses have been changing slightly each week, and will continue to change as we grow more accustomed to the arrangement. Some changes have already been seen, or will be seen in the weeks to come.

In this way, use of the Commons is still being pioneered. The construction of the Commons constitutes a monumental change to life at Saints for the majority of the groups and organizations that thrive here. They will now have the chance to thrive even more with a top notch facility at their disposal.

Chaplain's Corner



By Fr. Kirk Davis, O.S.A.
COLUMNIST

We've come to the end of yet another academic year. Seniors will take final exams and then graduate next week. Underclassmen will take their exams the following week. Faculty are preparing for much deserved time off, or perhaps diving into summer work or study. Deacon Hardick, Father Mark, Brother Barney and Brother Max will be moving on to other ministries.

Being faced with change and transition is part of the normal course of things in life, but it can often create stress and anxiety. It can also provide a unique setting for spiritual growth. The term 'liminality' refers (according to Wikipedia!) to the quality of ambiguity or disorientation that occurs in the middle stage of rituals, when participants no longer hold their pre-ritual status but have not yet begun the transition to the status they will hold when the ritual is complete. The term derives from Latin, and literally refers to a threshold, a space in-between. In this liminal space, we are not where we used to be, and have not yet arrived where we are going. It can be a time of great uncertainty. It can also give us a unique space for prayerful reflection on our journey where we can, with some distance, take stock of what has taken place in the recent past. It can also be a neutral space from which we can reflect on the opportunity to make yet another fresh start as we look ahead.

In its best sense, this liminal space we are all entering over the course of the next few weeks offers us the chance to open ourselves in a unique way to the promptings of the Spirit as we look to the imminent arrival of Pentecost. Transition can be a time of great anxiety...I invite you all in this time of change to consider the liminal space you find yourselves in as a gift, an opportunity for prayerful reflection. You may be surprised by what you encounter in this spiritual space 'in-between'. Have a blessed summer!

► Ceremony

Continued from Page 1

sitated an urgent flexibility. A need for flexibility was showcased in the use of the student led tours. As Mr. Hearn explained, "We were absolutely going to have tours, there was going to be a tour guide (a Loyal Son), and about twenty people. We had even practiced the routes that they would take so that no one would bunch up, but there were so many people that were coming at the last minute that we decided not to have organized tours, but to instead have Loyal Sons in different prearranged spots to talk about their area, and just let people wander around, and kind of discover the place."

Considering that an estimated 1,900 people attended the ceremony, it is quite indicative of the dedication of all those involved, including students, that the event went so well. All the efforts to put together the special ceremony equalled the level of structural quality of the St. Augustine Commons. Many more than 1,900 will be able to fully experience the gym. The facility is built to last, and last it shall, so that past and future Saints men will be able to share, utilize, and appreciate it.



THE AUGUSTINIAN

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BECOME A PART OF THE AUGUSTINIAN

Whether you are a talented writer, photographer, or comic book artist, we are always looking for new members (especially freshmen).

Meetings are every Tuesday at lunch in room 318 and our e-mail is saintsnewspaper@gmail.com.

Saints men Feel Philly's Brotherly Love



The group worked to clean up the poorer neighborhoods of Philadelphia.



By John Dye ('19)
STAFF WRITER

This spring break, a group of twenty-two Saints men accompanied by Augustinian volunteer John Heisler, Mr. Osberg, Brother Max, and Ms. Quirk traveled for a tour of Philadelphia with the goal of experiencing the city through service and sight-seeing as well as with the proactive goal of exposing Saints men to the fine universities in the area. The trip included three college visits as well as a visit to a fellow Augustinian high school Malvern Prep. The experience took place over six days.

The trip started when the group departed

San Diego early in the morning of April 17th, the day after Easter. Having arrived in Philadelphia, they made it their top priority to have a genuine Philly cheesesteak. The group was given free time to walk around the area near the hostel they were staying at, which several students took advantage of and walked to the Liberty Bell. A ghost tour of historical locations around the city followed later that night.

On day two, the boys started their college visits on the historic Philadelphia Main Line, visiting St. Joseph's University, Ms. Quirk's alma mater. They met up with Saints alumnus Paul Ammons, a student at St. Joseph's, and toured around the campus. Next, the group

started the service aspect of the trip at Inglis House, a nursing home for people with physical disabilities, specifically pertaining to those bound to a wheelchair. They worked booths in a carnival at the home and were able to interact with many of the patients. That night, local Augustinians hosted the group at their novitiate house for dinner where the students were able to experience life as an Augustinian.

On the third day, they were able to visit another Augustinian high school, Malvern Preparatory School, where our Augustinian volunteer John Heisler attended. Then they were off to Villanova University where they

met another Saints alum, Rex Hammock. The group took a tour of the school, after which they watched Saints alum Luis Miranda play a tennis match for Villanova against St. Joseph's.

The students got another opportunity to serve the community by cleaning up the streets of Northern Philly on the morning of the fourth day. That afternoon, the group visited Drexel University and had a guided tour of the campus there. The next stop on the trip was St. Augustine Church, a historical edifice constructed in the 19th century in honor of Augustine. The group was able to meet a group of girls from St. Augustine's Church in Massachusetts to tour the church and were fed by the Augustinian volunteers from both schools as well as the director of the Augustinian volunteer program.

On the day following, everyone on the trip served at Mercy Day Care and volunteered to spend time with the children there. This facility is combined with a center for elderly people suffering with dementia and other disabilities. The Saints men served lunch and played board games with the elderly. That night, the group experienced more local culture through a Phillies game against the Braves which Philadelphia won, four to three.

The Saints men spent the final day celebrating Mass at the National Shrine of St. Rita of Cascia and taking a tour of the shrine. St. Rita possessed a profound devotion to the Rule of St. Augustine, which should be a model for all of us who look to him.

"I think the variety of the trip was what made it so great," said Junior AJ Gilcrest. "We could assist different communities, visit colleges, and have lots of fun along the way. I would definitely recommend it for any Saints men considering it for next year."

The trip was an opportunity for the Saints men who attended to bond, learn, and be immersed in an unknown atmosphere. No doubt, spring break was well spent in Philadelphia.

Photo courtesy of Campus Ministry

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ton University in St. Louis

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All college information is not necessarily definitive. Students were given the option not to participate. Any information given was given voluntarily.

Special thanks to Diego Eros for his efforts in collecting college information.

May the Fourth Be with You



The Star Wars Orchestra takes in the applause after a big finale.



By Charles Smyth ('18)
STAFF WRITER

Musical students recently displayed their talents of galactic proportions at the OLP and Saints Star Wars themed concert. Our band director, Ms. Au, and OLP's choral and instrumental director, Miss Paige, prepared their respective music groups to perform on Thursday, May 4th, the perfect date for the appropriately titled concert, "May the Fourth Be with You."

Students involved in the full orchestra were exposed to a high level of professionalism as they collaborated with some very talented musicians from San Diego, includ-

ing students from Francis Parker and San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts as well as professional musicians who were invited by Miss Paige. Other groups featured in the concert included Saints Band, Saints Jazz Band, OLP String Ensemble, OLP Liturgy Choir, and other choral and instrumental ensembles. This allowed for a diverse repertoire of musical styles and genres. Strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion, and vocals filled OLP's Event Center with the thundering, sweet sound of music from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

The OLP-Saints Symphony paid tribute to John Williams, who composed the Star

Wars sound track. They performed several of his numbers, including "Princess Leia's Theme," "Imperial March," "Forest Battle," "Duel of the Fates," and The Star Wars Theme as the finale. This concert was momentous for OLP's VAPA department as it was the first of such a scale that OLP facilitated itself. The joint symphonic performance, the finale, was the culminating event of the night. It featured each participating act in a grand, chorus and all, in a grand, cohesive piece.

The other numbers included "Capriccio Espagnol" and "Viva La Vida" by the OLP string ensemble, "Lineage" and "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" by OLP's Concert Choir,

Photo courtesy of Bernadette Nguyen

"Royals" and "Sweet Dreams" by OLP Honors Choir, "Wade in the Water" by a combination of the choirs, "Chicago" and "Pirates of the Caribbean" by Saints Symphonic Band, "The Flik Machine" and "Ballistic Brass" by Saints Jazz Band.

It is Ms. Paige's first year working in the music department as the choral and instrumental director at Our Lady of Peace, and it is Ms. Au's first year teaching as the director of instrumental music here at Saints. Both of these astounding mentors have already made a lasting impression on their school communities. The event was made possible thanks to their efforts and the enthusiasm of the musicians of Saints and OLP. Undoubtedly, the force was with them.

► Deac

Continued from Page 1

different challenges. I will not be sitting in a rocker!"

Deac doesn't plan on wasting a moment during his "unscheduled days."

"I'm hoping that the extra free time will permit me to follow some of my long-term dreams," he said. "I envision spending more time praying, enjoying my family and reading at the beach or anywhere for that matter. In addition, I would like to continue striving to master playing the piano, the banjo, and the clarinet."

Deac also said that plans to do a lot more surfing. "Indeed, I'm eager to carve up some of the electrifying waves at Tourmaline and La Jolla shores during the (school) week. Playing hooky sounds fun!"

Junior Mitchell Stoddard, one student impacted by Dn. Hardick's teaching career, was privileged to have him as a math teacher, intramural referee, and Aquatic Sports instructor.

"Deac has shown me what it means to be a Saintsman," Stoddard said. "I will never forget the 'Marvelous' way he fist bumps students in the hallway and shreds in Pacific Beach. I, like those whom he has taught before, am forever thankful to have known Deac."

Lax Dawgs Become CIF Finalists



By Joseph Mikolaycik ('17)
SPORTS WRITER

The St. Augustine Varsity Lacrosse team finished up a remarkable season recently. In fact, it was the best season for lacrosse in school history, as The "Dawg Pound" was able to go to the CIF Finals for the first time in school history.

The team's regular season got off to a great start with a 12-0 victory over the Valhalla Norsemen. Senior Jack Spencer led the way with five goals as the Saints cruised to victory. The regular season had its fair share of exciting matchups as well. The Saints took Patrick Henry to overtime twice and were able to prevail over the Patriots in both matchups, winning the games 8-7 and 7-6, respectively.

After winning their first ever League title last year, the Saints were able to take home the banner once again this year. They clinched the League title with a decisive 10-2 win over Serra. The team's overall chemistry is what led them to great success. The team coined the nickname, the "Dawg Pound" and were closely bonded throughout the whole season. The team was even able to have a day of fun and relaxation as they all went paintballing on one of their days off.

The team also highly benefited from senior leadership. Jack Spencer led the team with 29 goals and 18 assists through the season, and seniors Spencer Mishky and Ricky Reed were major contributors as well. Mishky put up 19 goals and 10 assists and Reed added 14 goals to go along with another 10 assists.

The Saints came into playoffs hungrier than ever. In the first round they



Freshman Jack Page takes a shot on goal.

blew by Bonita Vista 11-5 to reach the semifinals for only the second time in school history. Last year, this was where the Saints' season ended. Not for the Dawgs. They came out and feasted on the Canyon Crest Ravens and came away with a 10-4 victory. With the win, the Saintsmen were able to reach the CIF Championship for the first time ever, a truly special moment for the school.

Ultimately, the Saints were not able to take home the championship. Despite being up 2-1 at halftime, the Saints were not able to halt the Del Norte Night-hawks' comeback efforts. The Night-hawks stole a 5-3 victory and took home the title. Despite a tough loss, the Saints left it all on the field and made the whole school community very proud. They should look forward to next season as

Photo courtesy of Peter Dougherty

many talented underclassmen will return.

Co-Captain Junior Chris Tanaka commended the team saying, "Our boys went out there and played their hearts out, everyone here is super proud of what we've been able to accomplish. We'll miss the leadership of the seniors but our Dawgs are ready to pick up the mantle and take it all next year."

SAVI (Student Ambassadors Visit Illinois)



By **Diego Eros ('17)**
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, April 6th, the latest set of “chosen ones” set off from Saint Augustine High School to the holy land of Chicago for their turn to attend this year’s SAVI gathering.

As has become tradition at Saints, six students were nominated by faculty, staff, and SAVI alumni to attend the Student Augustinian Values Institute, a yearly gathering in which the ten Augustinian high schools of North America congregate to strengthen their religious communities. These six young men, Alec Stonehouse, Andrew Tran, Alejandro Penunuri, Rodrigo Quijano-Luna, Ben Leach, and Joey Rougas were nominated to spend four days at Providence Catholic High School in New Lenox, Illinois, interacting with the other Augustinian representatives.

The purpose of the Student Augustinian Values Institute is to help young men and women come together to develop the perfect Augustinian community and to discuss how to employ most effectively the core values emphasized in St. Augustine’s teachings. The directly educational part of the gathering consists of speeches from Augustinian representatives from around the world and leaders from within our own growing community. These speeches and group seminars largely focus on Unitas, Veritas, and Caritas, along with the other values of the Augustinian community. However, the four-day-long meeting is not just another day in class, and the students make plenty of time for their own enjoyment as well as to reinforce their faith.

“Getting to meet people from these high schools opened my eyes to the face of Christ, and how He can be present among all of us despite our geographical differences,” said Sophomore Joey Rougas. The communal in-



SAVI sophomores stop for a snapshot in the heart of Chicago.

Photo courtesy of Campus Ministry

teractions between the fifty-eight school representatives play the largest role in crafting the SAVI experience. Another goal of the religious convention is to create connections and strengthen the nation-wide Augustinian community. Discussion between the representatives is strongly encouraged, and the students often return home with new perspectives on how to be leaders in their community. This kind of one-on-one interaction between students is spurred on by the collective meetings held at SAVI and the joint service project that occurs at the end.

This year, that service trip came in the

form of a massive food and household item drive for low income families, in which students from every school took part. The drive was sponsored by an organization called SHARE Family and Community Services that helps fund community service events for low income families and others in need. After the service trip, the Saintsman headed off to the great state of Indiana for Mass and a Stations of the Cross ceremony to finish their travels with some religious contemplation.

The group of six made sure to devote some time to exploring the surrounding area during their stay, which involved an enjoyable

tour of urban Chicago.

“The trip to Chicago was amazing. The skyline was astounding, the food, especially the pizza, was incredible, and all the modern art in Millennium Park was super cool,” Alec Stonehouse said about his sightseeing experience.

Every Saintsman who attended the religious getaway came home with a different story and a different experience, but all returned in agreement that next year’s Sophomores should wait with bated breath for the announcement of the next SAVI pilgrims.

Final Homily in Dougherty Gym

Delivered by Deacon Hardick on April 5, 2017

This old gym is just a building! It is made from brick and steel and wood. The bleachers always creek and the floor seems to be sinking. It really is just an old building!

Nonetheless, this old building has experienced many shining moments. It is a warehouse of innumerable memories and it could tell countless stories about the lives of almost every young Saintsman. For decades, over two hundred banners cast shadows of champions over its hardwood floor.

If we listened very carefully I’ll bet we could still hear echoes and sounds from the past: cheers from the Pit, music from the Saints band, yelling from the cheerleaders, songs sung at Mass by our student choir, even the always clever daily announcements, and most especially, voices of priests proclaiming the solemn words of consecration.

Over the years this edifice has presented us with exceptional and time honored events: fun freshmen overnight retreats, absolutely crazy and totally insane rallies, slightly scary freshmen dance lessons, contemplative prayer services, dynamic historic basketball games, grueling wrestling matches, wild volleyball games and somewhat genocidal intramural games, notably spine-chilling dodgeball games in which every player tried his hardest to murder his best friend!

Our little gymnasium is dear to the hearts of every Saintsman. It is a place where the Pit was born. It is a place where we prayed and worshiped and celebrated Junior Ring and Baccalaureate Masses. And it is a place where we all sang our favorite songs, The Fight Song, “When the Saints Go Marching In,” and our beloved Alma Mater.

Interestingly, the construction of Dougherty Gym began in 1950 and was completed in 1951. It was named in honor of the Augustinian Provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova in Pennsylvania, Fr. Joseph Dougherty O.S.A.

The gym was nearing completion in 1951 when Fr. Bob Gavotto and Fr. John Keller as 14-year-old freshmen stepped onto this campus for the first time. They graduated in 1955. It was their gym for four years as it was mine from 1953 until I graduated in 1957. Today we say farewell to this building every Saintsman undeniably cherishes!

Today, also, is the last time we will be privileged to celebrate holy Mass here in Dougherty Gymnasium.

I truly wonder if we can capture sixty-five years of the excitement, the drama, the wonder and the magic Dougherty Gym holds in our minds and in our hearts? I doubt it is possible to evaluate its importance, its significance, its impact on the physical and educational lives of each of us.

My friend Tom Graciano, class of 1968, wrote to me saying, “The gym was our church where we celebrated our oneness with God in the Mass. It was the one place on campus that symbolized home away from home.”

To my students I posed [the] question: “Why should we be excited about having a new community center?” My students responded, “It will be a great place to create new memories and events. An opportunity to build a new culture and experiences. To create a new form of brotherhood.”

I am excited for the new traditions to come. It will be wonderful and a great part of the Saints community. It’s going to be fun. I am excited and I can’t wait!

I believe that the new community center will educate and enrich the lives of many Saintsman and enhance their futures. The opportunities for new traditions are endless. You and I only need to dream a little, since we have such wonderful traditions to build upon. It will be up to each of us to invent new ways to express and live out the Augustinian values of community, truth and love.

Our most valuable tradition is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and it happens

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Funds Raised for Hogar Infantil in the 2016-2017 School Year

Potato Sales	\$680
Donut Sales	\$1,897
No Shave November	\$2,929
Golf Team	\$650
Student Poll Workers	\$2,765
Grilled Cheese Sales	\$2,363
March Madness Tournament	\$4,566
Mr. Linville's Fundraiser	\$506
David Pack's Cook-Off	\$850
Miscellaneous	\$368
TOTAL	\$17,574

Stage Set for New Construction

By Aidan Dougherty ('18)
STAFF WRITER

July 17, 2017 will mark the beginning of another construction project on the Saints campus. The project entails a renovation of Dougherty Gymnasium, transforming it into two new facilities, a performing arts center and brand new weight room.

The new state-of-the-art theater will seat four hundred people with half of the seats on the floor level and the other half rising towards the back. All seating will look up towards a raised stage where generations of Saintsmen will perform their plays and music along with the many other activities. Attention to detail was very important in developing plans for the performing arts center. For example, staggered seating of varied widths will allow for good sight lines, making the stage clearly visible from anywhere in the theater.

The new theater space will include a workshop for theater crew. The workshop will provide the space and the tools necessary for set designers to create amazing sets and to transform the stage. For the theater tech crew, a sound and lighting booth will be built up above the seating and stage.

The weight room we have now has served our school well for decades, but it will receive well deserved upgrades. Expanded weight facilities will be more spacious with updated equipment.

A new classroom for the music program will replace the locker rooms currently located in Dougherty Gymnasium.



This is one of the first renderings of the upcoming theater.

The space will be gutted and made into two dividable dressing rooms which will double as a large classroom, making it a multipurpose space.

Along with new purposes, the building will also have a new name. The honor of naming this facility was given to a generous donor; the name of that donor is yet to be revealed.

If all goes as planned, this 9.5 million

dollar construction project will be completed in late April 2018, and by this time next year we will have a new theater and weight room.

"We realize that if we get this done, and get this done right, for many years to come it's going to be pretty nice around here," Mr. Hearn said.

> Homily

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here each week. During the Mass, we experience the most solemn and reverent celebration of Christ's passion and death. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty...whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood will never die." We believe Christ's flesh is true food, his blood is true drink. During this sacred ceremony, we receive food and strength for our journey through life.

It is here in this old gym that we walk on holy ground. As we prepare our hearts to celebrate The Last Supper on Holy Thursday, the passion and death of Jesus on Good Friday and his glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday, let us remember that during these forty days of Lent, God calls us from death to life, from darkness to light, and from sin to forgiveness.

Through our acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, our Lord promises to heal the eyes of our hearts so that we can recognize his real presence in other people.

So, we rejoice because we are blessed with remarkable new beginnings with hearts cleansed and refreshed by our Lenten sacrifices, hearts overflowing with the hope and joy of Christ's Resurrection and with an extraordinary new Augustinian community center.

It seems fitting to close with words from our Alma Mater sung here by each of you many times. Saintsmen never forget, "as the twilight shadows gather out upon the campus green" that as authentic "loyal sons of St. Augustine," your feet have left memorable footprints here, and what you achieved has left remarkable echoes reverberating in this treasured hall.

This homily was edited for space.

Fr. Menegatti Leaves His Mark

By Sebastian Larson Moreno ('18)
STAFF WRITER

Fr. Mark Menegatti, OSA has played an influential role in shaping the Saints community. Unfortunately, Fr. Mark will be leaving his current position as Director of Retreats and Ministry with the culmination of this year.

He began his career at Saints in 2013 working with Fr. Kirk in the campus ministry office as Director of Retreats

for all four grade levels. After a year he expanded his role in our community to include teaching. He undertook teaching freshman speech classes during Intersession in his first year, and will have taught four graduating classes during his tenure at Saints. Not only did Fr. Mark enlighten freshmen about the finer points of public speaking, he also later began the spiritual leadership course for seniors.

In regards to his initiative with the creation of the spiritual leadership course and innovative retreats, Fr. Mark said, "I always looked for creative opportunities in our school. Looking at a variety of different facilities, switching it up, enhancing the Augustinian elements so that students are literate in our Augustinian values."

As of the time of publication, Fr. Mark has not received his next

assignment from his provincial, Fr. Kevin Mullins. Still, he says that he looks forward to the future and whatever new opportunities it may bring. Fr. Mark mentioned an interest in the fields of Prison or College ministry as the next step of his ministry.

To remain connected with Fr. Mark, regardless of where the Spirit takes him, follow him on Instagram @friarfriend.



Based on the input of their peers, these seniors are most likely to...

Be Canonized a Saint.....**Chris Bernens** Have his Charm Backfire on him in College.....**JT Cox**

Have a video go viral.....**Diego Garcia and Thomas Rayner**

Be the Next Mark Zuckerberg.....**Trevor South** Get an Ugly Saints Tattoo.....**Joseph Mikolaycik**

Accidentally Drive to Saints Instead of College.....**Joseph Andrus**

Be Drowned by a Protein Shake.....**Jacob Yudsono** Have his own Reality TV Show.....**Gabriel Camou**

Have an interesting reason for a referral.....**Cameron Attisha**

Live at Home Forever.....**Daniel Wehbe** Beat Mr. Osberg in a Wrestling Match.....**Jonathan Lewis**

