



Aquinas ALUMNI NEWS

OFFICIAL AQUINAS, ST. MARY'S, ASSUMPTION & MARIETTA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

ALUMNI EVENTS

EVENT:
All Souls Day Mass--
November 5, 2019,
8:10am

EVENT:
Phone-a-thon--
November 10th &
11th, 2019

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Alumni Association Welcomes 53 new members!



The Class of 2019 became the newest members of the alumni association on May 19, 2019. The successes of this class are reflected in their class statistics. This class had an average ACT score of 26 and were offered over \$2 million dollars in scholarships. Every member of the class is going on to further their education with 46 of them attending colleges in Nebraska and seven of them attending out of state. Ten of these students also

plan to participate in a sport in college including football, basketball, volleyball, track, softball, and cross country.

Tradition and dedication to Aquinas were evident in this class with 31 of the students being children of parents who are alumni of Aquinas themselves.

Welcome to the Aquinas Alumni Association, Class of 2019! We are proud of you. God bless you as you continue on.



A Message from Aquinas & St. Mary's Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Aquinas Alumni,

People always ask me this time of year, "How is the new school year?" And I respond, "It has been a great start!" We have good kids, passionate and hardworking teachers and staff, and we love our mission of educating and forming students in their Catholic faith. We are very blessed to have our Aquinas Catholic Schools, and we are striving to make good progress in our mission every day.

Aquinas and St. Mary's Catholic Schools receive ZERO financial support

from the state, whereas the government schools are fully funded by your taxpayer dollars. We rely completely on the generous giving of donors like yourself.

As our tuition rates steadily increase, so also does the need for financial assistance among our families. Would you kindly consider making a donation today towards our Guardian Angel Fund Scholarship Fund? Please pray about sponsoring a student at Aquinas through the Guardian Angel Scholarship Fund for one year. The full tuition amount for one academic year has

increased from last year, but it is still less than most Catholic schools across the country, especially just an hour away in Omaha, where the annual tuition often exceeds \$10,000. A St. Mary's (K-5) child is \$1,500, an Aquinas Middle School (6-8) student is \$2,100, and an Aquinas High School (9-12) student is \$2,590.

Many of our alumni went to Aquinas when there was no tuition, as your schooling was paid for by full-ride scholarships from your parishes under the form of assessments. The no-tuition model is no longer feasible

today, but we do still need help for struggling families who desire a Catholic education for their children. Your support of our Guardian Angel Scholarship fund will directly help those families. Thank you for your financial support of Aquinas!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Fr. Sean M. Timmerman

Fr. Sean M. Timmerman
Chief Administrative Officer

Donations can be made online at: www.aquinas-catholic.com



A Message from Aquinas Catholic Advancement & Alumni Office

Dear Aquinas Alumni,

Summer reunion time is always such a fun time for me and one of the favorite parts of my job. I love seeing alumni and past teachers rekindling old friendships and reminiscing as they walk through the halls of the school. This past summer I saw alumni from the Class of 1969 who recreated old year book photos. I saw the Class of 2009 attend Mass that

was celebrated by their classmate, Fr. Doug Daro. I saw Msgr. Herbek come back to celebrate Masses with alumni celebrating 50 years.

I visited with an Alumni Director from another school this past year who said they just can't get their alumni to gather for reunions. If you take a close look at this newsletter, you will see that Aquinas alumni don't have that problem.

Your reunions are well attended, and everyone has a great time. Thank you so much for staying connected. We wouldn't be here without your support and care for your alma mater. One of the best ways of staying connected with your classmates is through email. If we learn that an alumni is in need of prayers because of illness, trauma, loss of a spouse, child, sibling or parent, we send

out an email to the class requesting prayers and giving additional information. It is one way you can lift each other up even if you are miles apart. **Please send us your email so we can keep you in the loop.**

In Christ,

Deb Svec
Alumni Director

News and Notes

Valerie Smith Engel '06, sings the National Anthem at University of Nebraska, Lincoln games. She had to audition and was then selected by the University as a vocalist for UNL activities.



Scott Nemeč '15 graduated from St. Gregory the Great Seminary with a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy on May 4, 2019, and is attending Mount Saint Mary's Seminary for theology, continuing his discernment and studies towards the priesthood for the Diocese of Lincoln.



2019 Celebrate Nurses Award Winner: **Anne Krivanek Richeson '91** is proof that it's never too late to make a difference. She was working in the for-profit corporate world and felt something was missing. When her father-in-law became ill and eventually needed hospice care, she was forever changed. Anne wanted to work where she was able to serve and care for people and give hope and courage to those who are at their most vulnerable. Anne is a nurse therapist in the Traumatic Brain Injury and Stroke Unit at Madonna.



Jerry Hain '68 was appointed to the Board of

Examiners for Land Surveyors by Governor Pete Ricketts.

Becky Rerucha '17 represented Butler County in the Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen Competition this past summer.



After **Len Sloup '66** retired from the Nebraska Department of Revenue in 2017, he signed up for Leadership Lincoln Fellows and has been working to place retirees like himself throughout Lincoln in volunteer positions.




Jessica Bartunek '08 is now known by her stage name of Jae Maure'. She received her first radio plays here in Nebraska on July 4. You can search YouTube for her song "Inevitable".



Please pray for our Aquinas Alumni who are serving as FOCUS Missionaries this next school year: **Jake Shonka '10, Marissa DeWispelare '13, Evan Kranda '14, and Eric Kobza '14.**

James Buresh '13 is doing nine months of missionary work with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal in New York working with the homeless. Please keep him in your prayers.



Assumption, Dwight Class of 1959 60th Reunion
 Front Row: Dan Navratil, Kathy Anderly Polivka, Betty Mares Sedlak, and John Sedlak
 Back Row: Margie Hurt Liska, Clarence Greguras, Larry Codr, Marvin Houdek, Beverly Sisel Dolezal, Helen Sygal Koterba, and Irvin Cidlik.

Email Address
 Emails have become more important than ever when staying in touch with a class regarding class news. Whether it is a request for prayers for a classmate or planning a reunion, having your email address is the best way to go. PLEASE send us your email address to: deb-svec@cdolinc.net or go to the website at www.aquinas-catholic.com to update your information.



Mini Monarchs

Mary Paczosa Reyes '06 and Jesse Reyes, a daughter, Milly Marie Reyes, born October 10, 2018

Luke '06 and Nancee Bougger Coufal '07, a daughter, Clara Marie, born October 23, 2018

Justin '03 and Emily Bomar, a son, Lincoln Robert, born January 28, 2019

Brad '99 and Michele Smith, a son, Trevin John, born March 29, 2019

Amanda Stara Brittenham '06 and Seth, a son, Zachary Lee, born March 29, 2019

Nathan '04 and Michele Dinkelman '08 Jakub, a son, Pryor Rudolph, born April 18, 2019

Ashley Kobza Witmer '09 and Austin Witmer, a son,

Vincent Lee, born May 15, 2019

Maria Longenecker Hippen and Tanner Hippen, a son, Bridger William, May 18, 2019

Bill '00 and Katie Meister Janak '06, a son, Lane Asher, June 21, 2019

Andrew '06 and Melissa Eickmeier Daro '06, a son, Raymond Douglas, born June 22, 2019

Jeff '11 and Allison Eller, a daughter, Emma Rose, born August 13, 2019

Spencer '13 and Katerina Reimers '13 Jakub, a daughter, Marija Fiat, born August 15, 2019

Greg '04 and Jen Eickmeier, a son, Elias Joseph, born September 5, 2019



Monarch Marriages

-Michael Bomar '00 to Kayla Petersen on September 29, 2018

-Andrew Croghan '04 to Tara Mleynek, April 6, 2019

-Matthew Mimick '09 to Kristen Mortensen, June 1, 2019

-Julia Daro '15 to Robert Messbarger, June 8, 2019

-Elliot Rech '09 to Jaclyn Sutton, June 15, 2019

-Erin Maguire '10 to Justin Povich, June 15, 2019

-Laura Andel '12 to Lucas Cox, July 6, 2019

-Caitlin Klosterman '11 to Will Suter, July 13, 2019

-Emily Byers '16 to Isaac Meduna, July 13, 2019

-Lance Vandenberg '08 to April Martens, July 27, 2019

-Heath Ketteler '15 to Elizabeth Haberman, July 27, 2019

-Craig Nickolite '06 to Taeja Shore '07, August 8, 2019

-Kristen Vandenberg '11 to Brett Kaczor, August 24, 2019

-Zach Krenk '14 to Jamison Ulrich, September 7, 2019



Monarch Vocations

Priests

Rev. Rudy Oborny '63

Rev. Jim Meysenburg '81

Rev. John Birkel '82

Rev. Doug Daro '09

Religious

Sr. Marilyn Geiger '62

Sr. Frances Pytlik '65

Sr. Patricia Ann Hanus '70

Sr. Barbara Smith '71

Sr. Jeanette Rerucha '77

Sr. Mary Markita '99

Sr. Fiat Marie '10

Seminarians

Matthew Kovar '13

Scott Nemec '15

Augustine Reimers '16

Daniel Reiter '18

*Please pray for our alumni who are priests, sisters and seminarians.



Alumni News

Help us share the good news!

We are excited to share all the great things our alumni are up to. If you or another alumni have some news to share for the newsletter, please email the alumni office at deb-svec@cdolinc.net

2020 Reunion Honor Years



**1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995,
2000, 2005, 2010, 2015**

Let us know what your class reunion plans are! Class officers will be receiving information regarding making plans for your summer 2020 reunions. If you graduated from one of the classes listed above, then next summer is your big year! Make sure we have your updated email and cell phone numbers in addition to street addresses so that your officers can get in touch with you! This past summer,

over 200 alumni met at the school on different weekends for Mass and a tour before heading to their gatherings. We set up the class display boards in the back of the chapel for these classes and gave tours either before or after Mass. Let us know if you would like to include this for your reunion next summer! Update your contact information online at: www.aquinas-catholic.com



Aquinas Alumni Scholarship Recipients



Nya Jakub

Nya Jakub is attending Northeast Community College where she is majoring in Graphic Design. She is the daughter of Jeff '95 and Dawn '94 Smith Jakub

Suzanne Oborny is attending Bryan College of Health Science where she is majoring in Nursing. She is the daughter of Chuck and Patricia Oborny.

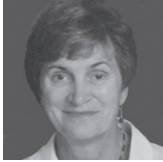


Suzanne Oborny



In Memory Of...

Celestine A. "Sally" Slosar Benes, 77, of Lincoln, died on March 26, 2019. Sally was born November 25, 1941 to Michael & Clara (Liskovec) Slosar in Ulysses, NE. She was a **1959 graduate of Dwight Assumption High School**.



Leo Reznicek passed away Saturday, April 27, 2019. Leo was born May 9, 1943, in Howells, NE to Ernest and Wylma (Dostal) Reznicek. He attended school in David City and graduated from **Marietta High School in 1961**. He is survived by his wife and children.



Dolores Sedlacek Andel, 83, of Schuyler, passed away Tuesday, April 30, 2019. Dolores Marie Andel was born August 15, 1935, in Prague, Nebraska to Emil and Kathryn (Vanek) Sedlacek. She graduated from **Marietta in 1952**. She is survived by her sons.



Edith C. Hottovy Sisel died May 8, 2019. She was born on June 30, 1935, to Ludvik and Rose (Helman)



Hottovy. She attended Dwight Assumption Grade School and graduated from **Dwight Assumption High School with the Class of 1953**. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Sisel. Edith is survived by her four children.

Cheryl Aerts Reisen, 56, of Ashland, NE entered into eternal rest on Sunday, May 12, 2019. She was born October 14, 1962 in Lincoln to William and Ilene (Mick) Aerts. She graduated from **Aquinas Catholic High School in 1980**. Cheryl is survived by her husband, Rodney and their four children.



Ellen Marie Hladky Jiskra was born December 10, 1943, in Seward, NE and died May 7, 2019, in Kansas City, MO. Her parents were Edward A. and Theresa M. Kunašek Hladky. Ellen graduated from **Aquinas High School in 1962**. Ellen is survived by her two sons.



Kenneth F. Kadavy died June 5, 2019, after a valiant battle with cancer. Ken was born August 12, 1953 at



David City to Frank and Pauline (Matulka) Kadavy. He attended Dwight Assumption Grade School, graduating from **Aquinas High School in 1971**. Ken is survived by his wife, Kay, one daughter and three sons.

David Louis Zimmerman was born January 24, 1944, at St. Mary's Hospital in Columbus, NE to Albin and Elsie (Hecker) Zimmerman. He died June 25, 2019. He **graduated with the first class to graduate from Aquinas High School in 1962**. He is survived by his wife and five children.



Joseph F. Scholz, 75, of Bellwood, Nebraska, died Thursday, June 20, 2019, after an extended illness. Joe was born on July 31, 1943, to Marlin D. and Mary (Hiller). He graduated from **Marietta School in 1961**, and then entered the military. He is survived by his wife and two sons.



Karen Gall Uher died July 10, 2019. She was born June 19, 1954, to Ben and Eunice Gall. She graduated from **Aquinas High School**



in 1972. She is survived by her husband and three children.

Bruce Pandorf died July 29, 2019. He was born October 28, 1961, to Theodore and Irene Krumbach Pandorf. Bruce graduated from **Aquinas High School in 1980**. He is survived by his wife, one daughter and two sons.



Mildred "Millie" M. Buckingham, 89, of Ashland, NE, entered into eternal rest on Monday, August 5, 2019, at Oxbow Living Center in Ashland, NE. She was born September 4, 1929, in Dwight, NE to James and Anna (Vondra) Hraban. Millie graduated from **Dwight Assumption in 1947**.



Shirley Warholoski, secretary at Aquinas in the early 70's, passed away August 12, 2019. She was born January 4, 1935, in Omaha to Glenn and Margaret (Honnen) Kenyon. Shirley is survived by her children: Pam, Thomas, Vicki, Teresa, Ed and Alan.



Linda K. (Carter) Scholz passed away on June 6, 2016, at her home in Oma-

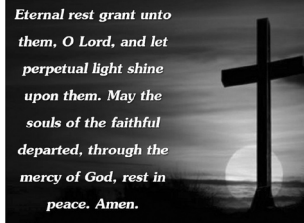
In Memory Of...

ha with her family by her side. She was born May 24, 1947, to Gerald and Dorothy Carter. She was a **1965 graduate of Aquinas**. She is survived by her husband, Gene Scholz and her three children.

Mary Kay Hanus Cihal was born on July 12, 1941 in Omaha, Nebraska to John and Mary Rose (Puetz) Hanus and passed away on July 14, 2019 in Dwight, Nebraska at the age of 78. She graduated from **St. Mary's Catholic School in 1959**. Survivors cherishing her memory include her husband, Melvin Cihal and three children.



Marie Catherine Dehner Biondo was born on January 11, 1928 in Butler County, Nebraska and passed away May 13, 2019 in California. She was the eldest of five children born to Mary and Henry Dehner. She graduated from **Dwight Assumption High School in 1946**. She is survived by her husband Giorgio and two children.



Presentation Parish, Bellwood, NE
would like to invite you to a
Mass of Remembrance
for
Sr. Clementa Turley, Sr. Barbara Schmit and
Sr. Roseline Tharnish
November 23, 2019 at 6:00pm

These three School Sisters of St. Francis died in a car accident 50 years ago on November 21, 1969 and were teachers at Marietta and Aquinas. If you are unable to attend but have a special memory to share of one of these three ladies, please mail your memory to: Bernard Hain, 1580 43rd Rd., Bellwood, NE 68624

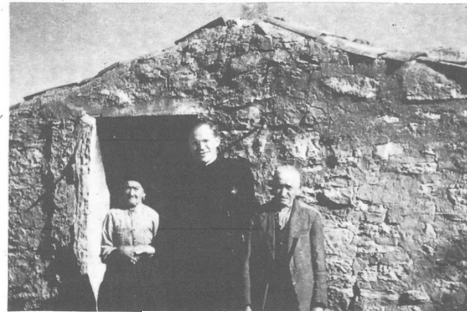
Remember when.....

Thank you once again to Dan Sanley '65 for this great story he shared on the Nebraska Bohemians Facebook page:

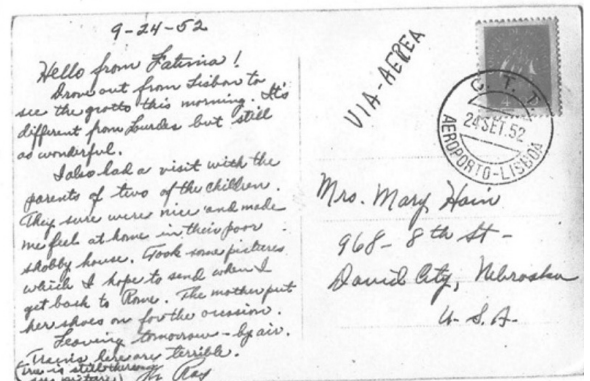
Everyone connected with Catholic schools in Butler County knew Msgr. Raymond Hain as a 1941 graduate of Assumption High School in Dwight and the first superintendent of Aquinas High School. Not too many years after his ordination, Msgr. Raymond Hain made a side trip (from Rome) to

Fatima in 1952. While there he was able to meet with the parents of the children who saw the Blessed Virgin Mary. Olimpia Marto was the mother of the children. She died in 1956. Manuel, the father, died in 1957.

Pictured here is a post card Father Raymond sent back to the U.S. on 9-24-52, with his comments about the visit, and a picture of him with the parents of the Fatima children.



Handwritten note: Raymond Hain with the Fatima children, 1952. Msgr. Raymond Hain





Aquinas Summer Reunions



Class of 1964 55-Year Reunion

Front Row: Kathy Bohuslavsky Ptacek, Mary Jane Turek Hilger, Sharon Humlicek Snell Bennett, Betty Yindrick Betzen, Jane Kosch Trowbridge, Cheryle Hilger Krosch,
Second Row: Donna Rech Kuhnel, Greg Kuhnel, Rich Novak, Connie Thelen Bright,

Barb Curda Svoboda, LaVonne Kuzelka Behne, Dan Hilger. **Back Row:** Ed Meysenburg, Dean Kriz, Rich Stava, Jean Kriz, Bob Juranek, Ken Dobesh, Mike Litjen

Class of 1969 50-Year Reunion

First row: Eva Bougger Cockson, Sue Vanis Vidlak, Mary Lou Homan Zgud, Sandy Rezac Walstrom, Delores Kelch, Maxine Kula Hough, Sally Pekarek Hodge. **Second row:** Bonnie Kadavy Webster, Cathy Heimer Hesman, Deb Bartunek



Richter, Nancy Miriovsky Schendt, Pat Hotovy Wilson, Marg Platz Pitts, Sherrill Thomas Smith, Mary Jane Sabata Pogge, Carol Helgoth Manning. **Third row:** Dave Schmit, Marietta Matulka Sidzyk, Diane Plasek, Don Hilger, Tony Brennan, Ed Vandenburg, Pat Pernicek Supencheck, Margaret Kohout Bartek, Gail Janicek Bomar, Cathy Berglund Greguras, Pat Lavicky Brock. **Back row:** Bob Matulka, Judy Makovicka, Dave Bartek, Tom Tomek, Bernie Havlovic, Tom Samek, Bill Hook, Marv Roubal, Al Moravec, Ken Smith, Randy Hraban, Bob Smith.

Aquinas Summer Reunions



Class of 1974 45-Year Reunion

Front Row– Tom Nickolite, Mary Homan Gillespie, Connie Grubaugh Perry, Peg Dehner Weiche, Chuck Ekstein, Michelle Romshek Longenecker, Lori Smith Davison. Second Row–Jerry Menke, Barb Dehner, John Dehner, Marla Schmid Bock, Ernie Kohout, Duke McCawley, Teri Augustin Logan, Rachele Morgan Kuhl, Donna Jansen Mussino, Third Row–Mike Armstrong, Dale Kerkman, Betty Vanis Hruska, Carol Jakub Head, Deb Shipley Navratil, Shirley Semin Nelson, Rita Birkel Sabata, Anita Zavodny Klement, Back Row–Dale Dolezal, Ron Kallenbach, Tom Miriovsky, Greg Scholz, Rich Gillespie, Dan Snell



Class of 1979 40-Year Reunion

Left to right: Ann Kouma Rech, Terri Shipley, Audrey Stara Allan, Mary Hain Bowman, Deb Hoeft Svoboda, Tom Bougger, Karl Kovar, Mick Kovar, Paulette Hain Foreman, Mark Zeller, Deb Lawson Friedrich, Gary Juranek, Ann Longenecker Kirmse, Dawn Krenk Mussmann, Julie Hottovy Kendall, Judy Samek Moravec, Jeanne Heimer Hupp, Jeanne Hook Masur, Steve Hotoy, Pat Siroky Hays. Present but not pictured: Pat Meysenburg.



Class of 1984 35-Year Reunion

Back row: Cindy Meysenberg Petree, Diane Hanus Bates, Julie DeWispelare Smith, Kris Nickolite Herout, Pam Zegers Huntley, Lynn Kirby Sabatino, Gwen Nemeč Covey, Tami Kratochvil Svehla, Chris Ostry Dvorak, Denise Demuth Hruska, Pam Jakub Siroky, Julie Nicolas Reiter. Front Row: Tomas Dunn, Phil Lyons, Tony Smith, Chuck Phillips, Rick Vavrina, Les Hotoy, Pat Kozisek, Aaron Schmid, Tim Shipley. Not pictured: Barb Polacek Byers, Trish Deacy.





Aquinas Summer Reunions



Class of 1989 30-Year Reunion

Front Row: Jennifer Bazer Fiala, Renee Stara Stuhr, Renae Hilger Krenk, Cathy Foral Schweers, Lynn Sabata Kocian, Lyle Stara, Gary Schmid. **Back Row:** Richard Hain, Mark Rerucha, Brad Behne, Chris Kozisek, Kevin Stuhr, Gary Marushak, Kelly Kirby Kampschneider, Tom Baer, Alan Cihal.

Class of 1994 25-Year Reunion

Left to Right: Andy Juranek, Jacquie (Schmit) Bendon, Lisa (Meysenburg) Hardy, Bryan Meysenburg, Diane (Schmit) Steffens, Traci (Kyander) Henke, Dawn (Smith) Jakub, Sean Matulka and Jason Muncherath.



Class of 1999 20-Year Reunion

Kasey Kadavy, Adam Smith, Matt Pohl, Matt Longenecker, Kristy (Vanis) Pohl, Susi (Vaca) Coufal, Mandy (Sabata) Blankenship, Sam Stara, Eric Dewispelare, Luke Schmid & not pictured, Brad Smith.

Aquinas Summer Reunions



Class of 2004

15-Year Reunion

Front Row: Matt Kratochvil, Nolan DeWispelare, Bryce Urbanek, Rob Daro. **Middle Row:** Meg Hicks, Bethany Hilger Pokorny, Dan Divis, Tony Meister. **Back Row:** Sara Bongers, A.J. Glock, Kayla Schmit Zebrowski, Greg Eickmeier, Elizabeth Holland Parker, Sarah Smith Nedrig, Lisa Schmit Meister, Kate Kloke Nienhueser, Elizabeth Prigge. **Not Pictured:** Seth DeWispelare, Shane Priest.



Class of 2009

10-Year Reunion

Back Row: David Jisa, Matthew Mimick, Mark Meysenburg, Fr. Doug Daro
Front Row: Christi Reisdorff, Jenna Engel, Taylor Pelan Murren, Ashley Kobza Witmer, Tanya Prothman, Gabi Comte, Charity Busboom, Katie Svec Sieck

Class of 2014

5-Year Reunion

Back row from left: Alexis Rodriguez, Peter Reiter, Andrew Oborny, Logan Kahler, Zack Krenk.
Middle row from left: Allison Hain, Sandy Chavez, Staci Hoefft, Sadie Horacek, Elizabeth Hain, Jorda Beringer, Josie Meister, Julie Vrbka, Becky White Stapleton, Maggie Gahan.
Front row from left: Ryan Vavrina, Eric Kobza, Alex Kalenbach, Evan Kranda, Jared Hain, Ben Aschoff.





**Aquinas
Alumni News**

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David City, NE 68632

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Alumni Phone-a-thon November 10 & 11, 2019

Local Aquinas alumni will be calling you to ask for pledges to the Alumni Phone-a-thon Annual Appeal. As in the past, this year's appeal helps bridge the gap between Parish Assessments and Student Tuition. We appreciate the support of our alumni and look forward to visiting with you in November!

You can easily give online at www.aquinas-catholic.com and click

Support Us



All Souls Day

November 5, 2019, at 8:10 a.m.

You are cordially invited to attend the All Souls Day Mass on Tuesday, November 5, at 8:10 a.m., Aquinas North Gym, for the deceased Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Students of Aquinas.



Gold Rush 2020

All alumni, 21 and older, are invited to come back for Gold Rush 2020. This year's theme is "Tribute to the American Farmer". This event is a great way to reconnect with alumni and to support your alma mater!



WWW.AQUINAS-CATHOLIC.COM