



***"True friends help us envision
our new horizons."***

-Hamp Adams '75

Hello Alumni and Friends,

I hope you had a fun and happy Memorial Day weekend. Summer is right around the corner and there is a sense of eagerness and excitement on campus in this last week of school. During the month of May, we have had two major and successful celebrations.

On Saturday, May 21st we were honored to welcome the Class of 2022 to the greatest alumni group in the world. We are so proud of our Ritamen and want to congratulate them on all that they accomplished here at St. Rita.

On Sunday, May 22nd we celebrated the feast day of our patron, St. Rita of Cascia. Thank you to all who contributed to our week of giving in celebration of this special day. Your donations go directly to our young men, faculty, and staff. You helped us in raising over \$24,000. Once again thank you, without your continued support none of these fundraising efforts & successes would be possible.

St. Rita Pray for Us,

Jim Juchcinski '97
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DONATE

Where Are They Now?

Alumni Updates

Hon. John C. Griffin '69
***From the Halls of St. Rita
to the Halls of Justice***

Griffin graduated from the **DePaul University**

College of Law in 1976.

He went on to become a judge and later a justice of the Illinois Appellate Courts.

For over 30 years he was in private practice, arguing before the chancery, law, probate, county and municipal divisions courts.

His greatest career accomplishment is the law firm he helped build.

"At the end, I had five attorneys working for me, and they were all females, and it's still an all-female firm to this date. I'm pretty proud of that," said Griffin.

Griffin is also on the [Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade](#) Committee Board and served as Grand Marshall this year.

He was also inducted into the St. Rita Hall of Fame at our alumni dinner celebration in April.



Photo: JAMS

The Rita Report

School & Student Highlights



Ritamen goes to Princeton

Senior James Healy '22, will be attending Princeton University in the fall on a full-tuition academic scholarship.

Healy is a four-year member and three-time captain of the Scholastic Bowl team, the president of [Big Brothers](#) and the National Honor Society, and an altar server, lector, and Eucharistic minister.

"Walking into school every day, I knew I was surrounded by great friends and teachers who are invested in everyone's successes. I am thankful for having gone to St. Rita," said Healy.



Thanks for the Memories

Seniors celebrated Prom on May 14th. The theme this year was Hollywood Nights.

Last year, in order to ensure COVID compliance and safety, prom took place at St. Rita mainly outside. This year students returned to a more traditional prom venue celebrating at The Vineyard in Beverly.

Students were also treated to a [360 photo booth](#) this year.

"Our students love social media so the boys and their dates all really loved the photo booth and having access to the videos right away to post. It was great to have another thing for the students to do if they were taking a break from dancing," said Melissa Smialek-Gyrion, Chaperone and Science Department Chair.



Just Keep Swimming

This year the Chicago Catholic League selected Senior Homero Olivares '22 as the Lawless Award Winner for water polo.

"Olivares is special to the team for many reasons but his leadership is definitely at the top. In my eyes he is the best player in the state," said Coach Sigfredo Cruz

Olivares has been on the water polo team all four years of his high school career.

"This award means a lot I couldn't have done it without my teammates supporting me. It shows our hard work and dedication all season long and my family's support. They always push me to succeed in sports and the classroom. I love water polo, I'm glad to accept this award," said Olivares.

Check out more prom photos [here](#).

Olivares will be attending [St. Francis College](#) in the fall and is committed to D1 swimming.



We Saw, Laughed and Listened *An Evening of the Arts*

On May 4th, the Art Department hosted its annual Fine Arts Evening.

The evening began with an art exhibit from AP students followed by a performance by the improv team and closed with the honors band concert.

"During the intermission of the band concert, the audience is invited to see the art exhibit. This night is about building pride and awareness in our students' capabilities," said Robyn Kurnat, Fine Arts Chair.



This year marked the world debut of the musical piece "Sacre Matres" (Latin for Sacred Mothers) by the band. The piece honored our four faculty members' mothers who passed this year, as well as represented all the mothers of current and former Ritamen and staff.



"Fine arts is a critical component to education and has been proven in study after study how students who participate in music and art as part of their education excel beyond non-artistic students," said John Donovan, Band Director.

Donovan hopes that next year many more supporters will pack our auditorium and attend the evening of arts.

For more athletic news
check out the

**Mustang Sports
Weekly**

Spot the Alum

A Little Party



Never Killed Nobody

Do you know this dancing man or these lovebirds? *Hint: This photo was taken in the '70s.*

Email alumni@stritahs.com with your answers.

Then vs. Now

"Unofficial" Ritaman Favorite
Fast Food Restaurant

1975
Taco Bell



2022
Chick-fil-A



What was your favorite part of prom?

The Ice Sculpture

The Discoball

The Live Band

The DJ

The Red Carpet

The Photobooth

Cascia Collection Corner

Brick Walkway Campaign

Pave the Way for Students

Support St. Rita by becoming a part of our commemorative brick walkway located between the McCarthy Center and Mrozek Family Fitness Center.



[More Info](#)

Save the Date



July
15th
2022
Alumni Golf
Outing

[Register Here](#)

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

EVENTS

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
-Winterfest -Grand Raffle Drawing	-Caritas Gala		-Alumni Banquet
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
-Feast Day of Giving		-Alumni Golf Outing	-Memorial Classic Golf Outing
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
-Homecoming	-Grand Raffle Launch	-President's Dinner	



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