



Roncalli High School

E-Jetstream

February 2012

Volume 1

Calendar

- 1/30/12 - 2/7/12 1st semester art show in Roncalli Atrium
- 2/3/12 Catholic Schools Week Liturgy in gymnasium 12:30 p.m.
- 2/9/12 Blood drive in gymnasium 6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- 2/11/12 Snowball dance
- 2/22/12 Ash Wednesday Mass in Fine Arts Center 1:50 p.m.
- 2/29/12 Parent/Teacher conferences
- 3/2/12 No school
- 3/12/12 Choral Concert
- 3/16/12 Stations of the Cross in Fine Arts Center 1:50 p.m.
- 3/22/12 - 3/25/12 Spring Musical "Les Miserables" - Zimmer Auditorium
- 4/21/12 Mr. Roncalli Spirit Competition in the Zimmer Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- 4/28/12 Pierside Auction
- 5/4/12 Roncalli Prom
- 5/27/12 Graduation in the Zimmer Auditorium



Welcome to the first Roncalli digital newsletter. We will be providing you with a first-hand glimpse into things going on with our students, faculty, alumni and community. We hope you enjoy it!

Back Where You Belong

As classes change every year, so do the teachers. Six of Roncalli's newest teachers are under the age of 30, and five are Roncalli Alumni. Why did they decide to go back to high school at Roncalli?

"The fact that I had been a student here helped me make that decision," said Ms. Green. "I knew the atmosphere I was coming into, and I had most of the teachers here as a student. I knew they were good teachers that I could continue to learn from." Mr. Garceau added, "It was my goal that if I would become a teacher, I would try to come back to Roncalli, and last year it happened. I really like this school."

Roncalli's reputation for having an outstanding learning environment attracted Mr. Van Sickle, who graduated from Whitehall High School in western Wisconsin. He said, "I interviewed at other schools, but none were as good as Roncalli."

Many of the students and faculty are proud of the strong Catholic community at Roncalli. Mr. Berres had this to say: "One thing I like about Roncalli would be the close knit community, and the fact that Roncalli does a wonderful job of pushing their students to do their best, which is something that I think is important."

Mr. Schweigl said, "When I learned about the job opening, I knew that the transition would be an easy one."

For Mr. Mack, even job offers from as far away as Hawaii couldn't draw him away from Roncalli. "I was asked to stay on after completing my student teaching at Roncalli in the fall of 2009," he said. "Nothing could compare to the opportunity to be a part of the Roncalli community. Getting to work with the people who mentored and taught me is a great honor."

Story by Branden Timm (2013) and Ben Wichlacz (2014)



Mr. Joe Garceau
Roncalli Class of 2002
High School Activities: football, basketball, track, baseball, theater arts, Lasallian Youth, bowling, and The Driftwoods (Men's Choir)
College: Alverno 2011
Teaches: Tech Survey, Software Apps, Algebra Essentials, and Algebra 1



Mr. Tony Mack
Roncalli Class of 2002
High School Activities: football, student government, mock trial, bowling, yearbook, NHS, and track
College: UW Milwaukee 2006 and Silver Lake 2009
Teaches: 9th and 10th Grade PE, World History, and Psychology

For more teachers that are alumni of Roncalli High School please check out the January, 2012 issue of the Pilot magazine posted on our web site at <http://www.roncallijets.net/pilot.html>

For more information about Roncalli, its students, faculty and alumni, read our Jetstream newsletter that is mailed to all alumni twice a year or [CLICK HERE](#) or go to the Roncalli web site www.roncallijets.net and click on the Alumni tab to read it online.

An Interview with Brother Gary Smith



Brother Gary speaking at graduation ceremony

On December 24, 2011, Roncalli lost a good friend, teacher and mentor when Brother Gary Smith entered into eternal life. He will be missed by many but forgotten by few.

Recently, before his passing, Brother Gary was interviewed by Katie Orth, a student at Roncalli and asked about his life.

Brother Gary has been a beloved teacher at Roncalli for many years. With his health failing, he generously shared his thoughts on his life and faith with the Pilot staff.

A few days ago, the choir came in and sang to you,, what did it make you feel like

or what did it make you think of?

Well, it was very emotional for me, for one thing... that kids would come on a day off on their own without anybody saying, "Why don't you do this?" I spent a summer teaching in Israel at our university there, and we went into the camps. We had to be in UN vans, which we couldn't get out of [and weren't allowed to] open the windows. The Israeli army was watching us. They had a jeep with a mounted machine gun. When [the choir] sang "The Prayer of the Children," I kind of broke down because what flashed through my mind was these kids coming up to the van. They looked in, and we couldn't communicate because the window was up. The conditions that they were forced to live in, the suffering that they did... that kind of all came together with that song, "The Prayer of the Children." So I think it was probably a very meaningful event for me, both them coming and singing, and the other memory of being there.

When did you decide to become a brother? How did

you hear the call of God?

I wanted to do something in the church. As a little kid, I was attracted to the priesthood. But then, as time went on, it was not for me. My girlfriend, when I was in junior high and high school, was a girl who was very interested in religious life, too. The more we were together, the more we got to like each other. So we had to make a decision eventually. We decided that we would each go and try it out. If it was not for us, we'd come back. Well, my girlfriend was in the convent for 26-27 years. She works as a lay missionary down in



Brother Gary often greeted guests at Roncalli's annual madrigal dinner

Tennessee, Alabama... down through there. We felt that was what God wanted us to do, so we did.

What words of wisdom would you like to leave to current or future students at Roncalli?

I would say get involved. There are so many opportunities to develop. Develop yourself, spiritually, mentally, whatever. Jump into something, get involved, be a part of more than just coming to class... You'll find it makes the school year go quicker, and it builds relationships that you'll have the rest of your life.

"My fondest memory of Roncalli...

I would say [is] the openness, friendliness and generosity of the students. Not every school is like this, believe me."

Brother Gary continued to meet with students even during his illness



For the complete interview with Brother Gary, check out the article posted on Roncalli's web site at <http://www.roncallijets.net/pilot.html>.

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