ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020









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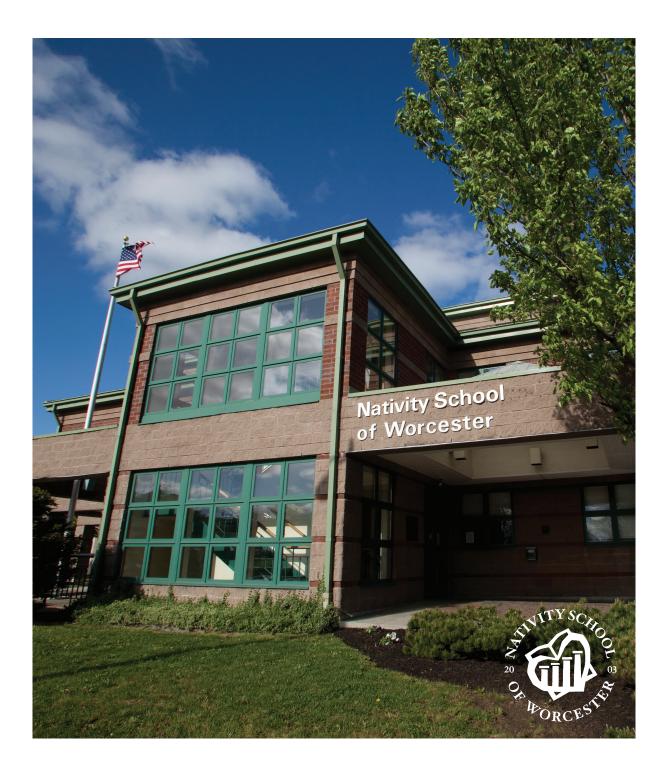
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Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Report this year. As always, this entire issue is dedicated to showing you what our students, graduates, and teachers are doing, and to express our gratitude to you for making it possible. As a tuitionfree, private school, we hold a unique position not only in Worcester, but in our region. We can only provide this unique experience to our students through the support of others. Thankfully, you, and other like-minded individuals, corporations, and foundations, have always supported our program and our mission so that we can confidently serve our community to the best of our ability, and this past fiscal year was no different.

You don't need me to remind you that this past year was unlike any other. On March 12, 2020, we dismissed our students thinking that we'd see them again in two weeks. Two months later, it was clear that our 8th Grade Espinal Class wouldn't be taking another class on-site before their graduation, our Spring Gala event wasn't going to take place, and all of the plans we put in place for a short-term closure needed to be re-examined for long-term feasibility and application.

"How can we help?" became the mantra that echoed through the empty hallways of our building and in phone conversations and video chats. When many parts of our program were stripped away, we dug deeper into our core identity and mission – provide a high-quality education and serve as a support system for our students. Our faculty and staff expanded and mobilized our food pantry, reconstructed curriculum, how it was delivered and learned how to teach in a completely different fashion. They engaged our entire community with renewed focus and urgency in diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism (DEIA) work. Students and families became even bigger advocates and supporters of their classmates, friends, and neighbors despite the fear and anxiety that gripped us all.

You, our friends and supporters, sent encouraging messages, dropped off bags of groceries after waiting in long lines to make purchases, provided funding for us to continue our program and expand services to meet immediate and critical needs. You went above and beyond to support our students during a challenging year.

At a time when we faced a multitude of disappointments, our community, of which you are a big part, you provided strength, stability, support, and affirmation. We couldn't be more thankful for what you have done for our students, graduates, and families. I hope that what you see on the following pages displays our gratitude and illustrates the tremendous impact that a single gift can have. Remember that an investment in quality education today, will lead to a brighter future for all.



Patrick T. Maloney President



NATIVITY IN THE NEWS



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IGNACIO ELLACURIA, S.J. CLASS OF 2023





An important tradition here at Nativity School of Worcester is naming each class after some outstanding Jesuit whose life serves as a beacon of hope and promise and inspiration. The name of this Jesuit remains with the class throughout its four years here at Nativity Worcester and beyond. The life and contribution of this Jesuit to the human family and to the building of God's kingdom of peace and justice give the young men whose class is so named a unique and special way to understand and grow in the values of the four pillars that characterize a Nativity student: strength, scholarship, character, and service.

The process for selecting the Jesuit is simple. A list of three or four equally prominent Jesuits is drawn up. During the summer session, as faculty and staff get to know the young men in the fifth-grade class – their gifts, talents, personality – they choose the one Jesuit that they believe best matches the qualities and the needs of the class as a whole.

This year the faculty and staff have recommended that the new 5th grade class, from this day on, be known as the Ignacio Ellacuría Class.

Ignacio Ellacuría was born in 1930 in the Basque country of Spain and raised in a deeply religious family. After a Jesuit high school education, he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus at the age of 17. Soon after taking his vows, he was missioned to El Salvador where, apart from studies, he lived and worked for the next 42 years.

He studied Humanities and Philosophy at Quito, Ecuador and Theology at Innsbruck, Austria. He was a great athlete and during his studies he scaled the Andes mountains and played soccer and racketball. After completing his Doctorate of Philosophy at Madrid, Ellacuría returned to El Salvador in 1967 where he worked at the University of Central America, becoming President in 1979.

Fr. Ignacio Ellacuría is regarded as having made a significant contribution to "Liberation Philosophy" which "focuses on liberating the oppressed in order 'to reach the fullness of humanity." He is probably best known as one of the principle contributors to Latin American Liberation Theology.

Ellacuría did not simply comment on the situation of the poor and oppressed from an academic standpoint. He became directly involved in the lives of the poor through his pastoral work. Reflecting on the situation in El Salvador, he wrote: That those who wield power and are oppressing the poor must make sacrifices in the cause of justice – "a justice which involves giving to the people what belongs to the people and struggling to uproot injustice and exploitation, and to establish a new earth, wherein the life of the new human may be possible."

Outspoken in his criticism of El Salvador's military and the ongoing civil war, Ellacuría was viewed by some as dangerous. On November 16, 1989, he was gunned down by U.S.-trained members of the Salvadoran army at the Jesuit residence at the university, along with five other Jesuits with whom he lived, their housekeeper, and her daughter.

The life of Fr. Ignacio Ellacuría modeled in many ways the four pillars of Nativity.

Strength: He remained steadfast and fearless in speaking out on behalf of the poor against the brutality and oppression of the military. With courage he repeatedly worked to negotiate peace between the military and opposing forces in the war that raged in El Salvador for years. And in the end, when threatened with death, he refused (along with his Jesuit companions) to leave the residence on campus where they were assassinated.

Character: He believed passionately in the gospel message of "a faith that does justice," and gave his voice and life to proclaiming that message. He held firmly to the conviction that all people were to be liberated from oppression and poverty to reach their full potential as children of God. And he ceaselessly advocated for this liberation of the oppressed in newspaper publications, on radio, and through television broadcasts.

Scholarship: Fr. Ellacuría studied for many years: the humanities, philosophy, theology. He was a leader in the development and promotion of "Liberation Philosophy," especially as it applied to the poverty and oppression in Latin America. He served as a professor and then President of Central America University from 1967 to 1989. All of his scholarship was directed to the work of social transformation – addressing the rights of the poor - all grounded in the Gospel values.

Service: Fr. Ellacuría worked tirelessly for the voiceless – using the University as an instrument to bring about change in the social and political structures that supported the oppression and abuse of the powerless. In his own words: "Precisely because education is inescapably a social force, it must transform and enlighten our society in which it lives."

CLARKE EVENT

After 3 years at its Boston location, the Clarke Showroom and Test Kitchen in Milford, MA hosted the 5th Annual Clarke Event and Culinary Fundraiser on Friday, October 4, 2019. Clarke is New England's official Sub-Zero, Wolf, and Cove Showroom and Test Kitchen, with locations in Boston and Milford, MA, as well as South Norwalk, CT.

The event featured a cooking demonstration by returning Chef Matt King. Chef King works for the Smith and Wollensky Restaurant Group as the Executive Chef for Boston Atlantic Wharf and Boston Back Bay. His culinary career began working at a catering company in his hometown of Shrewsbury, MA. The evening's student speaker was Demetrie, a member of the 7th grade Mveng Class of 2021. There was not a dry eye in the room with Demetrie's story which featured the support of his mother, Amanda, and 6th grade lead teacher, Ms. Munar.

A very special thank you to the Clarke Corporation staff for their generosity and effort in planning the event. In particular, we would like to thank: Thomas and Jeannine Clarke, Sean Clarke, Mike and Jill Fotiades, Nancy DiCicco, Sandra Lashway, Jeremy McCulla, and Staci Rogers.

A sincere and heartfelt thanks to all attendees Nativity School of Worcester's Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, students, families and graduates for all of their support, guidance, and contributions that make this event possible, and successful.





HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Members of the Spanish Department, Nerelly Checo, Elizabeth Moore, and Kathleen Schlegel, initiated our first annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration on Friday, October 18th. Observed from September 15th through October 15th, Hispanic Heritage Month acknowledges the stories, traditions, and successes of the Hispanic culture. Student assignments highlighting celebrations and discoveries were incorporated in classwork and displayed during the evening event for families to see. There were also performances from Ritmos Dance Academy and Nativity Worcester families. Food was also donated by Rincon Criollo and Nativity Worcester families.



LASO TAKES US TO COLLEGE

Prior to the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, students visited the College of the Holy Cross for a day with the institution's Latin American Student Organization (LASO). Members of LASO organized a campus wide scavenger hunt. The day was called "LASO takes you to college" and they met student athletes of color, got a tour of the campus in the form of a scavenger hunt and got to play games with members of LASO's e-board.





This year, our Green Team (and entire school) have worked very hard on reducing our amount of garbage by recycling plastic bottles, utensils, and bags. Every Nativity Man was provided their own reusable water bottle throughout the day. In addition to several community cleanups, Mr. DeSouza, Mr. Carey, and the Green Team have also brought back our school's compositing program! Thank you to The Agro-Eco Project and Alice Laffey for supporting our developing sustainable community.



SOCCER SEASON

This past soccer season we had the opportunity to play in matches against teams from Bancroft, Nativity Prep Boston, and Hillside. The Nativity Worcester team excelled in their development of their soccer skills, soccer knowledge, and, most importantly, teamwork. Members from the 7th grade Mveng class stepped up and led the team during practices and games. Our lead scorer was none other than Vincent Quintanilla (pictured wearing #2), a member of the 5th grade Ellacuría class. However, all members were valuable contributors to our successful season!





WINTER ARTS NIGHT

Santa Claus came to town with a pit stop to Nativity Worcester along the way! The students from the 6th grade Grande class and the 7th grade Mveng class performed "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" at this year's Winter Arts Night. The Briggs Gymnasium became a winter wonderland, while the hallway became the Ellacuria Art Museum. The night also featured a reading of "A Visit from Saint Nicholas, by Mrs. Deliberto and Mr. Maloney. Thank you to our partners Cornerstone Bank and Youth for Community Improvement, a program of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation for supporting Winter Arts Night.



SATURDAY COMMUNITY SERVICE DAYS

With the guidance of Aaron Perry, 5th Grade Lead Teacher and Community Service Coordinator, students participated in numerous Saturday Service Days throughout the 19-20 school year. Service sites included Friends of Worcester Public Library, and the Shore Drive 5k. Our 8th grade class participated in additional community service projects with 8th Grade Lead Teacher, Bowen Lee. The Espinal class volunteered at Seven Hills Charter School as part of United Way of Central Massachusetts Day of Service and spent Valentine's Day with residents at the Worcester Health Center. Service is a key part of our mission, and one of our four pillars.

#BLESSINGSINBACKPACKS INITIATIVE/COVID-19 RESPONSE

When COVID-19 caused our school closure on March 13th, one of our priorities became expanding our Food Pantry Program. On March 16th, we began distributing weekly bags full of nutritious food to each of our 60 families and up to 15 bags a week for graduates. We packed 75 bags a week through the generosity and support of our donors. With the help of our community of supporters, we were able to raise over \$30,000 for the Food Pantry Program within the first month of our school closure. We want to recognize those that contributed full meals and perishable food items, which became additional resources and supplies for our families: SAGE, Dining Services at St. John's High School, Clarke Corporation, Seven Hills Pasta, The Roessner Family Foundation, and Fallon Health.





NETWORKING NIGHT

The Graduate Support Team hosted Networking Night on January 9th at Hanover Insurance. Networking Night is an annual event that invites all Nativity Worcester graduates, and current 8th grade class, to meet community members and learn the various internship and job opportunities available to them. The evening had three components: a career fair, mock interviews, and workshops on budgeting and LinkedIn. 34 students attended the evening and left with new knowledge as they begin or continue their development in the work force.

Networking Night could not have been a success without the support of our volunteers: Sheena Agyemang, Joy Murrieta, Yetziann Ortiz, Raquel Castro-Corazzini, Adrianna Buduski, Lauren Hopper, Alexis Griswold, Lt. Col. Jim Foyle, Helene Winn, Erin Brosnihan, Julie Bowditch, Trey Cassidy, Bill Keville, Geovanna Diaz, Aaron Perry, Conor Carey, Lizbeth Perez, Ursula Arello, Liz Wambui, and Jacob Vazquez '11.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these programs, please contact Kimberly Driscoll at kdriscoll@nativityworcester.org or (508) 799-0100 x120.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BASKETBALL SEASON

The 7th and 8th grade basketball team for the 2019-2020 season, coached by Jordy Melendez '08 and Elizabeth Moore, was made up of ten (10) players, six (6) from 7th grade, six (6) from 8th grade, and one 8th-grade team manager. The team won 2nd place in the St. Mary's League for 7th and 8th grade teams. The team showed great leadership and sportsmanship throughout the season. The 5th and 6th grade team, coached by Aaron Perry and Theresa Seavello, grew tremendously and developed comradery as a team with new players and new friends. One of the main focuses for the team was on sportsmanship and being good team members. Each of the players rose to the challenge and supported each other through every game, regardless of whether they lost or won. This team is a true example of excellence.

Although both teams' seasons were cut short due to COVID-19, our students played their best and are eager to be able to get out on the court again soon.



BLACK HISTORY

The newly formed Event Planning Committee (Andrea Munar, Bowen Lee, Aaron Perry, Jordy Melendez, Lizbeth Perez, and Nerelly Checo) hosted the first Annual Black History Month Celebration on Thursday, February 27th. Similar to the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, teachers were asked to incorporate studies of black history into their curriculum and was later displayed for families at the evening event. The knowledge our students gained was put to the test with a questionand-answer raffle where the top prize was a shirt featuring Kobe Bryant and daughter Gianna. Community performances included a presentation from the Seven Hills Stomp Team and slam poetry from the Espinal class. Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Anokye Krome and Addie Lee's Soul Food, local restaurants owned and managed by Nativity Worcester families, supplied amazing delicacies that everyone enjoyed.

Prior to the celebration, members from both the Nativity and greater Worcester communities spoke to students on what Black History Month means to them. We'd like to thank the volunteers who played a vital role in our celebration and shared their stories with our students.





Amazon Addie Lee's Allied Universal-Charles River Laboratory AT&T Best Buy **Blue Haven Iniative** Boys and Girls Club **Burncoat** Pizza **Charter Communications** City of Worcester-Department of Public Works & Parks College of the Holy Cross Construction **Department of Youth Services** Dino's Restaurant Expressions Freelance-Graphic Deisgn Gap Harold Brothers Holy Cross Lobby Shop Leominster Credit Union **MAPFRE Insurance** Marine Corp National Guard Nativity School of Worcester NFL **Open Sky** Panera Bread Papa Gino's/D'Angelo's Pulse Magazine **Recreation Worcester** St. Vincent's Hospital Saint John's High School Target **UMASS** Medical **UMASS** Memorial **Upland Gardens** Vistaprint Shaw's Sushi Miyazawa Wellington Management Worcester Youth Soccer YouthWorks Summer Program



Nativity Worcester is committed to the success of its students not only in middle school, but also in high school and college as well, through guidance, tutoring and financial support. Staffed by the Vice President, Director of High School Placement and Support, Director of College Placement and Transition, and Associate Director of Advancement, Nativity Worcester's Graduate Support Program meets the growing and diverse needs of our graduates. We provide a safe and quiet space for homework help or schoolwork, high school transition and completion support, a new mentoring program, afterschool and summer job search assistance, program events and community service opportunities, college search and financial aid application support. The Joanne and Brian McClatchy Graduate support room is a dedicated space on campus that functions as a safe haven for program participants looking to use computers for research, receive tutoring, or work on school assignments in a space conducive to learning. The newly dedicated Office of Graduate Support, generously donated in honor of Sister Cecilia Leonor Naxas, O.P., houses our Graduate Support staff and provides a meeting space for graduates and their families.

Nativity School of Worcester has graduated 201 students from 15 classes. The school has witnessed 15 successful classes of graduates matriculate in the area's high schools: Algonquin High School, Assabet Valley Technical High School, Bancroft School, Burncoat High School, Cheshire Academy (CT), Claremont Academy, Cornerstone Charter Academy (FL), Davies High School (ND), Deerfield Academy, Doherty Memorial High School, Gardner High School, Glastonbury High School (CT) (ABC Program), Gould Academy (ME) (ABC Program), Haverhill High School, Holy

Name Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School, Leicester High School, Masconomet Regional High School (MA) (ABC Program), Massachusetts Academy of Math and Science, New Canaan High School (CT) (ABC Program), Nobles & Greenough, North High School, Oxford High School, Portsmouth Abbey School (RI) (ABC Program), Saint Mary's Junior/Senior High School, Saint Peter-Marian Junior-Senior High School, Saint John's High School, South High School, South High School – Goddard Scholars Program, South Salem High School (OR), University Park Campus School, West Boylston High School, Worcester Academy, Worcester Technical High School, and Xavier High School (IA).

With application assistance and guidance from Nativity Worcester's Graduate Support Program, Nativity graduates from the classes of 2006-2016 are attending or have attended the following colleges: American University, Assumption College, Boston College, Brandeis University, Bridegwater State University, Chemeketa Community College, Clark University, College of the Holy Cross, Curry College, DePaul University, Diablo Valley College, Emerson College, Emmanuel College, Fitchburg State University, Fordham University, Franklin Pierce University, High Point University, Johnson & Whales University, Johnson & Wales University -North Miami, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, Molloy College, Morehouse College, Nichols College, Oregon State University, Providence College, Quinnipiac University, Quinsigamond Community College, Southern Adventist University, St. Anselm College, University of California at Berkeley, University of Hartford, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell campuses, University of Michigan, University of New Haven, Wentworth Institute of

Technology, Western New England University, Westfield State University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester State University, and Yale University.

After completing their Bachelor's Degree, 6 Nativity Worcester graduates chose to continue their education with a Master's Degree. These graduates are currently pursuing, or have completed their studies, at the following schools: Assumption College, Northeastern University, University of Chicago, Bowling & Green State University, Molloy College, University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Nativity School of Worcester is proud to announce that 13 members of the Brooks Class of 2016 have the following post-secondary plans: Apprenticeships, Brandeis University, Providence College, Quinsigamond Community College, University of Massachusetts-Boston, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, University of Michigan, Westfield State University, and joining the workforce.

Nativity Worcester graduates have access to additional supports beyond our high school, college and post-secondary placement and transition programs as they pursue their degree and look for gainful employment. As part of our Graduate Support Program, we have developed a job placement and internship program designed to connect our graduates with employers through the Nativity Worcester community. This connection provides a channel for hard working, driven young men to connect with employers, gain professional experience, and access the corporate world.

For additional information, please contact Kimberly Driscoll, Associate Director of Advancement at 508.799.0100 x120 or kdriscoll@nativityworcester.org



FELLOWS GRADUATION

This year, four Nativity Teaching Fellows concluded their two years of service at Nativity School of Worcester. Although it ended in an unexpected way, we are very grateful to them for their dedication to our students, their families, and our mission.

CONOR CAREY

Conor Carey is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross class of 2018 and was a member of the 6th grade team. His time with Nativity Worcester began as a tutor while in college. He served as the After-School Liaison and the School Store Coordinator, the 7th/8th grade basketball coach in 2019, and led the Green Team club, the school's environmental group. He is currently working for Eurofins SAFER@WORK, stationed at ESPN. SAFER@WORK is helping industries across the world set up advanced risk management protocols to contribute to limiting the impact of COVID-19 on their business.

NERELLY CHECO

Nerelly Checo is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross class of 2018. She was a member of the 5th grade team, and coached the 5th/6th grade basketball team in 2019. She was an active member of the Event Planning Committee and established the Hispanic Heritage Month and Black History Month celebrations. She began the 2020-2021 school year as the 7th Grade Lead Teacher and DEIA Coordinator at Nativity Worcester. As of February 2021, Nerelly returned to her home in New York and joined Achievement First in Brooklyn as a 4th Grade Teacher.

KATHLEEN SCHLEGEL

Kathleen Schlegel is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross class of 2018. She was a member of the 7th grade team, and coached the soccer team. She also participated in the planning of the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. She now works at the Br. Robert Treanor Middle School Division at Saint John's in Shrewsbury.

THERESA SEAVELLO

Theresa Seavello is a graduate of Worcester State University class of 2017. She was a member of the 8th grade team, and coached the baseball and basketball teams. She served as the Admission Assistant and Student Council Coordinator during her time at Nativity Worcester. She is now a 7th Grade Special Education teacher at MATCH Charter Public Middle School in Hyde Park, MA.



YEAR END AWARDS PARADE

On Thursday, June 4th, Nativity School of Worcester faculty and staff held a year-end Pillar awards parade in lieu of our annual awards ceremony. Decorated cars and Nativity Worcester vans drove around Worcester to deliver plaques to our students and cheer them on for their hard work. The 8th graders received materials needed for the following day's graduation and were recognized at the ceremony if they won a Pillar award.

The school's faculty and staff selected students in all grades that best reflect the four pillars of strength (vires), character (mores), service (christianitas), and scholarship (studium). Awards are given for three of the pillars to one student from the 8th grade, and one student from the 5th, 6th or 7th grade, while the final Pillar award of scholarship is presented to one student from all four classes.

The Vires Award was given to Ray Rivera-Lopez, Espinal Class of 2020 and Nazsir Langford, Grande Class of 2022. The Vires Award is given to the students who show exceptional strength during their time at Nativity Worcester. This student faces struggles head-on, and doesn't shy away from a challenge.

The Mores Award was presented to Caleb Mancia, Espinal Class of 2020 and Jalen Morales, Ellacuria Class of 2023. The Mores Award is given to the students who display exceptional character and distinguish themselves with qualities of honesty, politeness, and fairness to others.

The Christianitas Award was presented to Mark Dompreh, Espinal Class of 2020 and Javian Allen, Grande Class of 2022. This award is given to students who show exceptional dedication to service both inside and outside of the school and who never hesitate to put others before them.

The Studium Award was presented to Vyce Tetteh, Espinal Class of 2020,

Alvin Tette-Djwau, Mveng Class of 2021, Marcos Fernandez, Grande Class of 2022, and Kayden Martin, Ellacuria Class of 2023. The Studium Award goes to the student who shows the greatest dedication to scholarship by displaying intellectual curiosity and a drive for academic success.

The Spirit Award is awarded during the graduation ceremony to a member of the 8th grade class who has exemplified what it means to be a Nativity Man on countless occasions during his time at Nativity Worcester. This year's recipient was Ray Rivera-Lopez, Espinal Class of 2020. Congratulations to all of this year's award winners!





Glodi's Graduation Speech On Friday, June 5, 2020 the Father Luis Espinal Camps, S.J. Class of 2020 graduated from Nativity Worcester's parking lot. One hundred percent (100%) of the 8th graders were accepted into, and received sufficient financial aid to attend a private high school or a specialized high school program.

THE ESPINAL CLASS APPLIED FOR ADMISSION AT THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

Bancroft School Glastonbury High School, CT St. Mary's Jr./Sr. High School St. John's High School St. Paul Diocesan Jr. Sr. High School Worcester Academy Worcester Technical High School

OUR NATIVITY MEN WILL CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY AT THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS:

Zavian Black Doherty Memorial High School

Jayvian Bush St. John's High School

Jesaiah Burgos Bancroft School

Cameron Daniels North High School

Mark Dompreh Bancroft School

Randy Gomez St. John's High School

Hector Gonzalez-Montanez Penn Foster

Isaac Guzman Worcester Academy

Glodi Karagi Bancroft School

Caleb Mancia Bancroft School

Noah Miles St. John's High School

Jayden Mwangi Glastonbury High School, CT

Kemp Nguyen Bancroft School

Ray Rivera-Lopez Bancroft School

Vyce Tetteh Bancroft School

GLODI'S GRADUATION SPEECH

Good evening everyone. My name is Glodi Karagi. I'm sure you've seen me around. Whether I'm talking in the school hallways or playing video games in your own house, I have always been a part of the Espinal class. You may think you know me, but you may only know one side of me. You may see me as a charismatic, intelligent young fellow. And yet the person in the car next to you may know me as a disorganized, and random person. Every person has a different opinion regarding who I am to them.

However, the Glodi you know today is not the same Glodi that walked through Nativity's doors 4 years ago. My classmates and I began as childish boys, but we emerged as compassionate men. Despite being in the same environment for 4 years, we have all experienced different things and walked different paths to get us to where we are today. Surprisingly, a lot of us were shy when we first got here. It's hard to move to a new school and act like yourself right away. I've always acted like myself and I haven't stopped doing so since 5th grade. I was a loud and rambunctious child who only sought to have fun all the way up to my 7th-grade year. I racked up demerits and I ended up in detention almost every day.

Then came what I like to call the formation of the diamonds. You see, the Espinal class is a group of individuals who were all diamonds in the rough. Diamonds are created after sand or other minerals are exposed to intense pressure and heat. When a volcano erupts, chunks of mantel containing diamond are brought to the earth's surface.

Last year, along with some of my classmates, I stopped caring about detentions and demerits. I had decided that I would just deal with the detentions next year. Instead of leading a path that would end up in my becoming a diamond, I decided to blend in with the mantle. That's when the pressure hit. Something we like to call the high school process.

If I didn't have this pressure to keep me going and to create a competitive high school application, I don't think I would be getting ready to attend Bancroft today. The realization that we wouldn't be at Nativity forever and that we had competition waiting to take our spots forced us to mature. I couldn't have asked for a better way to get me back on track. Although I did skip over a few moments that I would rather not mention, the point is that this school really has changed me.

A rather infamous detention quote reads, "If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

These are the immortal words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Before I finish this speech, I should let you know how special this moment is. Not everyone can say they had a quote by MLK Jr. read to them by MLK Jr. Jr.

Anyways, I can assure you that, at Nativity, we were pushed to sprint. Although we would occasionally run off the path, or stop for too long, those moments are what shaped us into the hardworking young men we are today. In other words, as the pressure was about to melt us and liquify our dreams, we escaped from the mantel to become the best diamonds this world will ever be fortunate enough to see.

Even so, we can never forget those who helped us reach the finish line. That is why I would like to say thank you to every teacher I've had at this school. I would like to give a special shoutout to Ms. Munar, Mr. Lee, Mr. Perry, Ms. Brosnihan, and Mr. Kerrigan for giving me the best experience I could have possibly wished for at Nativity. You didn't put on so much pressure that I was suffocated, but you also didn't give me too much room that I grew careless, or at least too careless.

And so with my final words, I'd like to congratulate the real VIPs, the 14 other Nativity Men who stood alongside me throughout all my successes and struggles, the good and the bad. Thank you, Espinal Class of 2020. I know that you will all shock the world. I will be honored to be former classmates with the world's toughest students.

2019–2020 A N N U A L R E P O R T O F G V N G



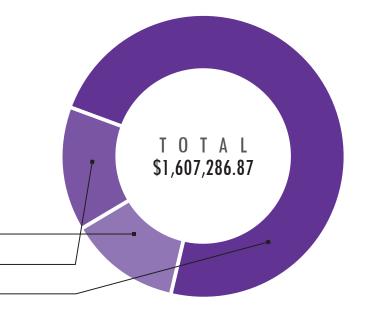


WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS, CORPORATIONS, AND CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIVITY SCHOOL OF WORCESTER'S ANNUAL FUND DURING FISCAL YEAR 2020 (JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020). WE HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO INCLUDE ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED DURING THIS TIME PERIOD. WE SINCERELY REGRET AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT ANY INADVERTENT OMISSIONS OR ERRORS.

WITHOUT ALL OF YOU AND YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT, WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS. OUR GRATITUDE IS ALSO EXTENDED TO THE COUNTLESS HOURS OF TIME OUR DONORS AND FAMILIES DONATE TO ASSIST WITH COMMUNITY EVENTS OR IN SERVICE ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TRUSTEE ASSOCIATES, COMMITTEES, AND THE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION. THANK YOU!

- \$1,607,286.87 was given to the Nativity Fund; the eleventh year in a row surpassing the \$1.1 million mark.
- Over 700 donors made a gift to Nativity Worcester
- The Espinal Class of 2020 graduated in June and are enrolled at: Bancroft School, Doherty Memorial High School, Glastonbury High School, North High School, Penn Foster, St. John's High School, and Worcester Academy.
- Thirteen (13) members of the Brooks Class of 2016 have the following post-secondary plans: Apprenticeships, Brandeis University, Providence College, Quinsigamond Community College, University of Massachusetts-Boston, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, University of Michigan, Westfield State University, and joining the workforce.
- One-hundred percent (100%) of Nativity Worcester's graduates who applied to private high schools, were accepted into and received sufficient financial aid to attend at least one of those schools.

- One-hundred percent (100%) of Nativity Worcester's high school aged graduates are enrolled in high school or a specialized posthigh school program.
- One-hundred percent (100%) of Nativity Worcester's graduates who applied to a 4-year college or university or specialized post-high school program, were accepted.
- Ninety-five percent (95%) of Nativity Worcester's graduates have graduated from high school or a specialized high school program (compared to the national high school graduation average of 75% for male students from low-income homes)
- Six (6) Nativity Worcester graduates have attained a graduate degree or are in the process of attaining one



SOURCES OF GIVING IN FY2020

CORPORATE/BUSINESS	\$205,421.47 13%	
CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS	\$226,287.49 14%	
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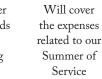
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\$25,000



year



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\$1,250





\$350



\$115



\$50 Will fill a bag

Pantry



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