

PHSpirit

2023



Presenting The Class of 2023!



**A PUBLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY
OF PARACLETE HIGH SCHOOL**
The Catholic High School of the Antelope Valley

PHSpirit 2023

PHSpirit is published annually by the Advancement Office at Paraclete High School for alumni and friends.

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Presenting the Class of 2023



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Meet the Class of 2023

**Here is a snippet of words
from the '23 grads' senior surveys...**

Describe Paraclete in five words:

Jonathan Braganza: "Senior year was the best."

Brynna Weir: "Legendary, exciting, funny, happy, faithful."

Celeste Romero: "Exciting, interesting, creative, fun, loving."

Donovan Chao: "Amazing, awesome, heart-warming, great, fun."

Adrion Lacoste: "Wish I had come earlier."

Milan Meza: "Fun, goal-setting, motivational, welcoming, helpful."

Advice to future self:

Patrick Ward: "Walk in integrity, be humble, be yourself, find love,
enjoy life, nothing is promised, and work hard to achieve your dreams!"

Kaitlin Hong: "Always believe in yourself."

Herman Loaisiga: "Veni, vidi, vici. Nothing will stay bad forever. Keep going."

David Gonzalez: "Remain patient and let things pan out. Things happen for a reason."

Alex Rivas: "Keep having fun and loving yourself."

Chance Kroeger: "Be on time everywhere you go. Make sure you hold value in others'
lives. Work for everything; nothing is free."

Julia Munoz: "Don't be afraid of failure; it makes you better."

Justin Chamberlin: "Don't let what other people think determine how you think."

Jonathan Moisa: "Don't be so hard on yourself; your failures don't define you... they
teach you."

John Balok: "Always be funny and never worry about how someone thinks of you."

Favorite memories:

Evelyn Amado: "I will always remember participating and helping at retreats, especially
Veritas. The Veritas retreat is where I first met my best friends and began to open up
at school."

Jaelyn Santiago: "Every single lunch with my friends, because it just doesn't get better
than that."

Chase Chapman: "The student section was my favorite memory. All the basketball,
football, and volleyball games were the most fun I have had at Paraclete."

Charlie Burr: "Being a part of ASB, and when I ran up and down the sideline of a close
football game with the Paraclete flag."

Breanna Marroquin: "My senior year homecoming... meeting my best friend
in AP Language junior year... going to the baseball games at Jethawks."

I am most grateful for:

Jaylee Watts: "The amazing community Paraclete has, and the bonding we
get through retreats and ASB events."

David Shaver: "My teachers who actively encouraged me to pursue my goals."

Gavin Maish: "My faith."

William Mahoney: "My parents supporting me academically and financially
to allow me to graduate from Paraclete."



Caleb Ponder: "The people I now surround myself with."
Jensen Lederer-Collins: "People who genuinely love other people from the bottom of their hearts."
Josie Navidad: "Everything I've accomplished at Paraclete."
Jeffrey Bower: "Being healthy and blessed."
Alexander Mendoza: "My parents... they have done so much for me."
Ashley Cox: "My family's support throughout high school."
Joshua Medellin: "The lunch lady crew; they fed me and gave me motivation to push through.
 Shout out to you, CleteHouse!"



Who is your hero and why?

Mark Costa: "Jesus Christ, my Lord and my God."
Lauren Dace: "My mom because of all of the sacrifices she's made for me to have the life I do and making me the person I am through life lessons and advice."
Ralph Landicho: "It was a random stranger I saw on the internet that passed away many years ago. The words he said when he was alive, however, motivated me to change my life for the better."

Give a prediction for 10 or 20 years in the future about a classmate.

Gabrielle Fox: "Grant Jackson will still be the most enthusiastic person in the room."

Homecoming 2022

It's good to be back! We welcomed alumni from 1967 through 2022.

We're hoping Homecoming 2023 is at our new Athletic Complex! As we approach the Homecoming date of October 6th, look for an update on game location at www.paracletehs.org/alumni/important-dates-events/.



Alumni Profile ~ Scott Furrow

Written by Brighton Bacchus '89

Scott Furrow from the Class of 1989 was one of the funniest and most entertaining high school friends of mine when we met freshman year. One of the reasons that I thought Scott was so amazing was his ability to do impressions of famous people - Johnny Carson, Jimmy Stewart, and my personal favorite - Ronald Reagan. Scott literally grew up in church, as his father, Rev. Don Furrow, was the Pastor of First Baptist Church of Palmdale. After a time of working in politics and business, Scott felt the call of God to serve his community as a pastor and that was the path that he chose.

After 25 years of church ministry, beginning as a young adult pastor and eventually serving as the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church of San Diego, Scott, his wife Kristy, and two sons James and John recently moved to Los Angeles. The family enjoys hiking, traveling, and going to the beach. Scott is now the radio host of *The Pastor Scott Show* (formerly *Southern California Live*) which discusses political and other news of the day from a Christian perspective. Furrow is on 99.5 FM KKLA - the largest Christian talk radio station



A pastor with humor as his sidekick!

in the second largest radio market of Los Angeles, and on 106.1 FM/1210 AM KPRZ in San Diego, and those stations online and on any radio app. Furrow is on drive time radio 3pm-5pm.

In February, Scott had the honor of moderating an event in Pasadena, called "Ask a Jew, Ask a Gentile." Some 1,100 people attended the event, which discussed many important issues in our world today. The one thing that was clearly agreed on by all sides is that the wisdom within the Scriptures will change your life. There were healthy and lively discussions about how Jews and Christians keep the Sabbath holy, and what it means, in today's world. Scott shared that he believes in Saint Tommy of Lasorda as a dedicated Dodgers fan, which got a raucous laugh.

Dennis Prager, with the Jewish point of view, shared an interesting philosophy that there are really only two races in the world - the decent and the indecent, and God does not see the color of our skin. Eric Metaxas shared from the Christian perspective, that you are a true Christian not based on your theology, but based on the way that you live your life which proves what you really believe. Scott presented interesting topics for discussion and the event was deemed a success.

One last note – with Scott Furrow one must be careful! In 2021 he posted on social media that he intended to run for governor of California. A few of his friends took that message to heart and were excited for his success and what that would mean for California. Well, it was April 1st when he did this, and he got another laugh from his gullible friends!

In Memorium

"Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."

Luke 10:20

Kari Ann Foster from the Class of 1995 passed away on June 11, 2022.

Mark Housekeeper from the Class of 1987 passed away on January 10, 2023.

Joe Clunich from the Class of 1984 passed away on January 13, 2023.

Michael Rutledge from the Class of 1973 passed away on January 8, 2023.

Tom Gerlits from the Class of 1973 passed away on April 28, 2017.

Sian Rodela from the Class of 1992 passed away on December 15, 2021.

Brad Martineau from the Class of 1988 passed away on February 24, 2023.

Dave Christensen from the Class of 1969 passed away on March 28, 2023.

Mark Adams from the Class of 1971 passed away on April 17, 2023.

Staying Connected

1974 Gerard Gibbons published a book about his famous grandfather Tommy Gibbons and his quest for the World Heavyweight Championship against the legendary man-killer of the ring, Jack Dempsey. Gerard and his partner Mia enjoyed an early world premiere book launch in Shelby, Montana and experienced a wildly successful trip. The book, **Shelby 1923, The Dempsey-Gibbons Fight For Glory and a Little Montana Town's Impossible Dream**, is the first of several books Gerard will be publishing. Gerard shares an interesting note about the famous boxing match: "My father, Tommy Gibbons, Jr., age 6, was ringside at the fight sitting next to the great Blackfeet Chief, Curly Bear."



The Worldwide Book Launch of **Shelby 1923** is targeted for September. The book is a 4-color, 210-page coffee table style book full of amazing photographs, illustrations, and graphics interwoven with an exciting "true good" American story.



1976 Debbie (Bolton) Ogan retired from Antelope Valley Hospital as a registered nurse after 41 years. Here is what she wrote the day before her retirement: "Tomorrow will be my last day working at Antelope Valley Medical Center. After 41 years and countless memories, I am retiring. I am so grateful that God led me to this path and to these people who have been by my side through most of my life. This career and this hospital allowed me to raise my boys and provide them with a good life. My work family has laughed with me, cried with me, and celebrated with me. I've had the privilege of caring for countless children and their families. So many, many memories. As this era comes to a close, all I can say is that I have been blessed beyond measure. Tomorrow will be bittersweet. This has been so much more than a job; it has been my joy."



1976 Frank Roberto sent in this photo taken shortly after his mother, Mrs. Olga Roberto, passed away. Pictured with Frank are his dad and brothers, David, Rick, Eddie, and Rolando.

1979 Cathy Resa Fitzgerald and her brothers recently celebrated their father's 90th birthday. "Standing behind my dad are my brothers: **Brian Resa** (Class of 1984), myself **Cathy Resa Fitzgerald** (Class of 1979), **Dave Resa** (Class of 1976), and **Steve Resa** (Class of 1980). Missing is **Chris Resa** RIP (Class of 1978)," Cathy shared.

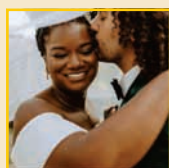
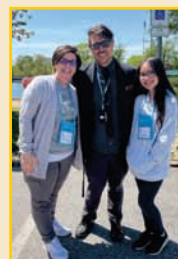


1983 Steve Steinberg sent in his news: "I retired in 2015 after 28 years of working as a social worker for Riverside County Mental Health. Since then, I've been spending time with my two young adult children, traveling, writing a blog, and painting. My art has been shown in coffeehouses and galleries in the Temecula and San Diego areas since 2010. Diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2013, I write a blog about 'living and laughing with Parkinson's and anything else life throws at me.' I can be reached at, and you can find my blog at www.whatsshakingman.com, I live in Temecula, California."



1989 Ernest Siy Recently Paraclete principal, John Anson, presented Ernest with an accreditation certificate at La Salle High School. Ernest is now the Interim Principal at La Salle after having served as Dean of Students.

1993 Nikki (Mazzola) Keever (alumnus and PHS teacher) shared her Paraclete experience on the east coast. "I had the great pleasure of accompanying my daughter as a parent chaperone for the Sacred Heart School's Junior High trip to Washington, D.C. the week of April 17th. One of the highlights of this trip was touring part of the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. This was an especially positive experience because I was blessed to see my former student, U.S. Naval Academy specialist **Chris Silva** (Class of 2006) who gave a tour of the cemetery, offering historical insights into the rich history and people of the Naval Academy. Another highlight of this venture was visiting two former students, **Lucas Schatz** (Class of 2019) and **Wyatt Gore** (Class of 2022) who are current Naval Academy midshipmen (students). They also talked with the junior high students and answered questions about their hard-working experiences."



2010 Rosalind Darbeau and **2010 Andrew Dowling** married on May 27, 2023 – Spirit Love! Rosalind's mother, Starletta, shared the wonderful news. They met when they were nine years old while studying under the same violin teacher and continued their friendship throughout their years at Paraclete. The wedding party included the following Paraclete alumni: **Kevin Avila, Vittorio Banez, Casey Finn, Jennifer Hathaway, Charlie Villa, and Adam Voegtli**. Best wishes to the happy couple!

1989 Mark Harvey News about a fellow alumnus brought to you by Brighton Bacchus: “When Mark Harvey was asked what his favorite quotes are – he had two – one from the Bible and one from Walt Disney. For the Biblical quote, it is from Micah 6:8 which says 'He has shown you, O Mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' For the Walt Disney quote, it is, 'The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.' I have known Mark Harvey since elementary school at Sacred Heart School in Lancaster, and he was always one of the quietest, kindest, and nicest people that you will ever meet. These quotes are synonymous with Mark's life – as he usually lets his actions speak louder than his words, which has led him to great success as a small business owner, husband, and father.



“When it comes to favorite teachers at Paraclete that have helped him in life, Mark recognizes Mrs. Deborah Duke for helping him make sense of algebra. He also credits Mr. Carl Ladensack as an influential coach and mentor for cross-country, as well as his psychology class. Another favorite teacher was Mrs. Sandy Acciani, his English teacher. He truly appreciated all his teachers from Paraclete.

“After Paraclete, Mark graduated from San Diego State University with a BS in Criminal Justice. Soon after, he joined the Air Force, met his wife Jenna, and they had their daughter, Julia. After getting out of the Air Force, Mark spent some time substitute teaching and then got a corporate job working for a health insurance company. At the same time, his wife Jenna started a company called Chic Sparrow, which makes beautiful custom bags, notebook covers, and other leather accessories. After several months with the business, Mark quit his corporate job and started helping Jenna, and they have been up and running, just short of a decade. The company has a beautiful website featuring their exquisite and rich leather goods.

“Mark and Jenna are grateful for the blessings in their life from God, on how the business took off and continues to grow to this day. For anyone who is interested in looking for a new beautiful leather bag for work or a soft leather cover for a writing journal cover as a gift for someone you love, Mark has provided a special discount code for members of the Paraclete community: <https://chicsparrow.com/discount/ParacleteAlumni>.”

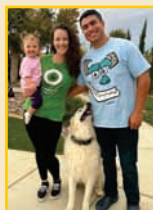


1995 Allegra Perkins Perez shared her news: “After graduating Paraclete in 1995, I attended Monterey Peninsula College and later transferred to UCLA where I earned a bachelor's degree in European Studies. In 2000, I met my husband, Mario Perez, while working in a restaurant in Santa Monica. We later married in 2002. In 2007, I received my JD (Juris Doctorate) from Southwestern Law School and started my career as a Medical Malpractice Defense Attorney. In 2008, Mario and I opened our first restaurant,

Tortuga Bay, which is a Mexican restaurant in Inglewood, California and is about to celebrate its quinceanera! In 2018, we opened our second restaurant, Corsair Cafe, which is inside the cafeteria at Santa Monica College. In August 2019, we opened our third restaurant, Allegra California Cafe, which is an Italian restaurant in Culver City and has a gorgeous umbrella sky patio which can be seen on our website: <https://www.allegracaliforniacafe.com/> as well as on Instagram, Facebook, Yelp, etc. In December 2019, I left the practice of law to focus on our restaurants and have been extraordinarily happy ever since. We are also blessed with two beautiful children - Max (10) and Evangeline (7), two dogs, and a hamster. I encourage anyone in the LA area to check out our restaurant and come say 'hello.'”

1999 Jeff Bradley and his wife Stacey enjoy being Paraclete parents; their two sons, Jeff Jr. and Grant, are both on the football team. Jeff and Stacey own Authentic Appliance in Lancaster and provide sales, service, repair, and installation of most major home appliances.

2011 Marshall Siordia sent in these photos of his family.



2012 Veronica Cruz What's up with Veronica? Now we know! “I'm still living in the Bay Area. I'm a Product Manager working at Doximity (a medical software company building workflow tools for doctors). I've been there over 3 years now! I'm coaching women's ultimate frisbee (club sport) at Stanford.”

1995 Carla Corona ran for Antelope Valley High School District Board Member, Area 4, and she won! “I couldn't be prouder and more excited for the next chapter. I can attest that it was Paraclete High School that gave me the foundation I needed for compassion, professionalism, and a sense of academic excellence. All our students, both public and private, deserve this,” Carla said.



2002 Holly Zeeve Lemos is still happily together with Loren Lemos ('02 Mr. Paraclete himself). “In fact, we just celebrated 20 years in May (we've been together since Grad Night at Disneyland). I am currently back in school pursuing a master's degree in computer science, and I am working as a data analyst at a cyber security firm based out of Boston,” Holly shared.



Here is an update from Mrs. Lisa Jorgenson on her three Spirits:

2011 Chelsea Jorgenson “Chelsea graduated from Cal State Northridge in Communication Studies, and has been working as a supervisor for AmaWaterways, almost ever since. AmaWaterways is a luxury river cruise line in Europe, Asia, and Africa. She has not only had many opportunities to travel herself, but her boyfriend, family and friends have benefited, as well! Most recently, we were able to take a family cruise along the Rhine, from Amsterdam to Switzerland, to celebrate all of the Jorgenson children having graduated from college. Chelsea has also cruised along the Danube, the Seine, and visited Paris twice. She was recently chosen to attend a Future Leaders in Travel conference in Cabo San Lucas. She lives in North Hollywood and is the proud parent of an adorable Shih Tzu, named Mocha.”



2015 Drew Jorgenson “Drew graduated Magna Cum Laude from Cal State Long Beach in 2019 and was chosen as one of the top three Political Science majors in his graduating class. He also received recognition in his Communication Studies and Business Marketing minors. Following his undergraduate studies, Drew earned a scholarship to Loyola Law School, Los Angeles. Last May, he graduated from law school, and found out he passed the Bar in November! Last summer, he worked as a Summer Associate for Newmeyer & Dillion, a law firm in Newport Beach. At the end of his internship, they offered him a job when he finished law school. As of November, Drew lives in Irvine and is now officially an attorney!”

2018 Lexie Jorgenson “Lexie was a Presidential Scholar at Cal State Long Beach and graduated Summa Cum Laude last May. She studies Business Marketing and Event Planning/Management and was chosen as one of two Outstanding Business Marketing graduates. She was able to earn numerous internships while in college including: a canned wine company, a sustainable clothing business, an entertainment PR agency, Fox Entertainment, and King's Hawaiian. In June, Lexie moved to Redondo Beach to start her new job at Mattel as a Global Brand Marketing Associate in the Hot Wheels Division!”



2012 Phillip Grove is living the giving life! “I’m teaching in a small farming town (one traffic light haha) in the middle of nowhere and I’m in absolute heaven. I teach high school students English as a second language. It’s a different world over here and very humble living, but I’m the happiest I’ve ever been. What I love most about the experience is the astounding sense of community. I feel so close to everyone here, and the Thai culture of graciousness and warm friendliness shines through in a place like this. I love playing basketball, soccer, and badminton with the kids after school, and then having dinner with the Thai teachers. It’s really been a cultural exchange in its purest form. I miss everyone back home very much, but I don’t think I could ever get tired of Thai food. Our basketball team is headed to the National Championship next week and all the players are in my class and good students too!”



Editor's note: Did they win? This question prompted an additional update from Phillip: “Unfortunately, the boys lost in the National Championship, but we're still tremendously proud of them for making it that far!”

2013 Elyssa Alburez Hernandez sent in her news: “Since graduating high school, I’ve been married for almost five years to my husband who I actually met when I was a junior at Paraclete. We have a two-year-old son and our second baby on the way! I’ve also been a registered nurse for almost five years! It’s hard to believe it’s already been 10 years since being a senior at Paraclete; I really have no idea where the time went! Two of my best friends from Paraclete were in my wedding and we remain close to this day! Well thank you for allowing me to provide an update for you all, cheers to the next 10 years!”

Proud mom shared this news about her twins: **2018 Jasmyn Vigilante** graduated from Cal State Fullerton in May 2022 with a degree in Business Management. She moved to Melbourne, FL right after graduation to work for Northrop Grumman Corporation. **2018 Aaron Vigilante** graduated from Cal Poly Pomona in December 2022 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He’s currently in San Diego but will move back to Palmdale to work for Northrop Grumman Corporation.

2019 Jared Johnson graduated from Arizona State University in May with an MS in Applied Biological Science, Magna Cum Laude. Way to go Jared! “The environmental research he is doing is on predicting areas for amphibian conservation in dry lands,” his mother shared.



2014 Emmanuel Sanchez became a priest on June 3, 2023. His first assignment is the Resurrection Church in Los Angeles. “I want to be able to help people remember that, even in the darkest of times, no matter what may happen, God is there for us,” Father Sanchez shared.



2018 Aubrey Gilman's excitement is known to all. “New year, new adventure! I am so excited to officially announce that I have joined NBCUniversal’s Entertainment Marketing and Digital Media department as an AirTable/Project Coordinator for the West Coast Production Engineering team!”

Paraclete High School Business Partners

Thank you to our Business Partners for your support!
We encourage the Paraclete Community to visit these businesses.

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contact Vicki Novelli at VNovelli@ParacleteHS.org or (661) 943-3255 ext. 128
or Janet Bower at ext. 111 or JBower@ParacleteHS.org.

ATHLETIC COMPLEX PHASE 1 NEARS COMPLETION

Curious about the Athletic Complex construction progress?
Check out this page on our website with photos taken from the
beginning of the project to the current date:

www.paracletehs.org/athletic-complex-donate/



WHOSE HOUSE? CLETEHOUSE INDEED!

Once a SPIRIT, Always a SPIRIT!

*Join the campaign to fund our new Athletic Complex. All gifts help!
Can we count on a gift from you today?*

We have not fully accomplished our funding goal for the first phase of the “Once a SPIRIT, Always a SPIRIT” campaign. We would like to encourage all of you to help us reach our funding goal by sending in your gift today. Please prayerfully consider a gift to Paraclete. We are truly grateful for your love and support. Give online at Donate with PayPal Giving Fund or mail in your donation to: Advancement Office, Paraclete High School, 42145 30th St. W., Lancaster, CA 93536.

Gratitude is made of memories, smiles, and good times with special people.

Looking back on your time at Paraclete High School, the lessons learned, friendships developed, and the opportunities you were able to experience in a small Catholic high school have given you many blessings. While working at Paraclete we witness daily that the students are given a well-rounded curriculum that encourages academic excellence and faith formation. Additionally, Paraclete students participate in service projects, retreats, athletics, and various club activities which encourages a family atmosphere.

For over 60 years our campus has served thousands of families in the Antelope Valley. We are improving and expanding our aging athletic fields. The first phase of our athletic complex was originally projected to be 12.2 million dollars. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the cost for the first phase is a little over 14 million dollars. Along with the “Once a SPIRIT, Always a SPIRIT” campaign, there are many families that desire a Catholic education but need help financially. The Advancement Office continually fundraises to provide financial assistance for those families. This year we are assisting approximately 265 students; we appreciate all the donors that support these deserving families.

The first phase of the “Once a SPIRIT, Always a SPIRIT” plan entails connecting the current facility to the land between the school and Avenue M. This project will expand our property from 19 acres to 30 acres. Our first phase is detailed below:

- 1. 1500 seat multi-purpose stadium for football, soccer, and track.*
- 2. A new baseball field.*
- 3. A new softball field.*
- 4. A new restroom building.*
- 5. Improved parking and with an entrance on Avenue M.*
- 6. Installing (14) EV charging stations within our new parking lot area.*



All gifts are welcome, no matter the size of the gift. Consider purchasing a personalized paver for the SPIRIT Legacy Walkway: [paver-form.pdf](https://paracletehs.org/paver-form.pdf) (paracletehs.org). The first installment of pavers is going in now. We have various naming opportunities still available: Athletic Complex Naming Opportunities - Paraclete High School (paracletehs.org). We will have an outdoor display honoring donors who have contributed gifts of \$10,000 and up.

On behalf of Paraclete faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and our greater community, thank you!

With deep appreciation, we thank our donors!

PHS Honor Roll of Donors 2022– 2023

Making a difference with every gift!

This list reflects gifts made or received during our fiscal year: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

In reports of this nature, mistakes may happen. If your gift was omitted or missed, please accept our apologies.

If you notice an error, please notify the Advancement Office at (661) 943-3255 ext. 111.

1980 PHS Baseball Team	Antonio Aranzazu	Thomas and Janet Berard	Melissa Bustos
1980 PHS Girls Volleyball Team	Benigno Archila	Cecilia Bernal	Elizabeth (Anson) Buys
Mr. Eduardo Abueg	Claudia and Jose Arciga	Don and Judy Berry	Dave & Leona Byrne
Mrs. Sandra Acciani	Gregory Arcol	Chad Bethel	Shannon Byrne
Ms. Renee (Lee) Acevedo	Salustia Ardon	Alma (Betty) Camas	Maria and Ramon Caballero
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Becky Derrick Retires [sort of]

Alumni will remember Becky Derrick... she was the girls physical education teacher from 1967 through 1972 and served as a referee in girls' sports (volleyball, softball, and basketball) for many years. Ms. Derrick also served as a reserve deputy with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and eventually earned the rank of captain. She received many accolades throughout the years, but the one she is most proud of is the physical training award she received at graduation from the academy. "They made the announcement at graduation that they don't normally give it to a female but that I earned it," Becky said proudly.

In 1993, Ms. Derrick was honored as the Reserve Deputy of the Year, and in 2016 she received a lifetime achievement award from the Sheriff's Department. She's been a mainstay in the Antelope Valley... you might have seen her at the A.V. Mall, or at the A.V. Fair serving and protecting her community.

But wait... that only describes what Ms. Derrick did during her leisure hours. After teaching at Paraclete, she served as the athletic equipment manager for women's athletics for Antelope Valley College for 36 years.

Becky Derrick retired recently, but she returns to Lancaster monthly for a week to help where she is needed for the Sheriff's Department.

Margaret Neill, recently retired Paraclete Athletic Director and Class of 1973 alumnus, first met Becky when Margaret was 12 years old, serving as a bat girl for a team that Derrick played on. Commenting on Derrick's success, Margaret feels that Becky deserves "anything and everything" after what she has accomplished.

Happy Retirement to Ms. Becky Derrick!

Editor's note: Ms. Becky Derrick has left her legacy with a paver in our Spirit Legacy Walkway!



Staff News

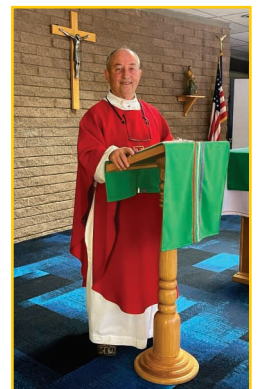
Mr. Rick McGuire shares his new title and duties...

"It is an exciting time at Paraclete High School with the first phase of our new Athletic Complex being completed this year. I have accepted a new position at PHS, serving as the Operations Manager for Facilities and Security to allow me to help with the changes and opportunities the complex will bring to our campus. Under the direction of our principal, John Anson, I will provide support to the maintenance team and the deans to ensure that the campus continues to be a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for students, faculty, staff, and guests. I am continuing as the Social Studies Department Chair, teacher for AP Government and Politics as well as Civics/Economic classes. I am also thrilled that this new position will allow me the time to bring back our very successful Mock Trial program.

"With the help from our supportive and dedicated parents, we will enjoy successful events that the new complex will bring to our school. I look forward to many great things happening for our Paraclete, and I am glad to be part of it."

Editor's note: Rick is being honored by his wife, Suzanne (Orr) McGuire '78, with the naming of the Shot Put Ring within the Athletic Complex

Other staff news: We say "Arrivederci!" to **Father Giampietro Gasparin (Fr. G)** as he retires in Italy, and we extend our best wishes to **Mrs. Dana (Centeno) Johnston '92** who is moving out of state. We will miss them both!



Reunions 2022

1972 A few gathered to mark the 50th reunion for the Class of 1972. In attendance were Dan Parra, Therese Barbagallo Walden, Richard Caton, George Rodriquez, Ernie Dluzak, Julie Kahler Walneuski, Mike Walneuski, Jim Greer, and Matt Stewart.

“Dan sang songs that took everyone back to the '60s and '70s; *Dock of the Bay* by Otis Redding, *Country Roads* by John Denver, *Take It on the Run* by Reo Speedwagon, *The Weight* by The Band, *Knights in White Satin* by Moody Blues and more! We had a quiz to see how much everyone remembered from high school days and they did quite well! About eight gathered the next morning for breakfast as well! A nice surprise, we ran into Les Lathrop from class of '69 while waiting to be seated for breakfast so he and his wife joined us as well! Friends came from as far as Washington state. Look forward to seeing everyone at the next one! Would like to thank Jim from Guido's in Rosamond for letting us use the lounge for our special event!” Joni and Dan Parra shared.



1982 “So much fun at our Paraclete High School 40-year class reunion last night! Loved catching up with all these wonderful people,” shared Yvonne Photias Ochoa.

A 40-year reunion dinner was held at Gino's Restaurant in Palmdale over Homecoming weekend, on October 15, 2022. Everyone had a great time catching up and enjoying each other's company.

Alumni in attendance are pictured: Front row seated L to R:

Andy Dreyer ('81), Lisa Dreyer, Elizabeth (Huntsman) Kernan ('82), Martha (Voge) Collins ('82)

Middle Row seated : Rick Ochoa ('79), Yvonne (Photias) Ochoa ('82), Andy Lynch ('81), Lisa (Herman) Preston ('82) , Cal Rios ('82), Lisa (Cooper) Cook ('82), Robin (Shuart) Harris ('83), Randy Harris ('82)

Back Row standing : Bill 'Dino' Ruffoni, Sara (McDonald) Martinez ('82), Teresa (Schmitt) Ruffoni ('82), Annette (Adams) Lynch ('82), Candy (Carr) Mason ('82), Kevin Hawkins ('82), Judy Rushing ('82), Jeff King ('81), Kathy (McLaughlin) Knurr ('82)



2012 Veronica Cruz shared the news about their fun reunion: “Alumni from the Class of 2012 gathered at the Embassy Suites in Palmdale for appetizers and drinks, music, and catching up. We enjoyed flipping through our old yearbooks and seeing how much people had (or hadn't!) changed. There were lots of marriages, children, new jobs, out-of-state moves, and other exciting updates to hear about!” In attendance were Nikolas Petrik, Kaitlyn Reed, Angelica Rivera, Mathayo Huma, Jordan Mlynar, Veronica Cruz, Nicole Monteiro, Bridgette Floyd, Nicholas Monson, Katelyn Petrelli, Alex Wallis, Emely Luna, Leana Moleta, Alexandra Barragan, Cole Cleland, Sarah Bannasch, Harlan Morris, Andres Martinez, Miles Robinson, Christian Plata, Majid Khan, Timothy Flanigan, Yvette Niebla, Mikee Pierson, and Slater Ammerman.



Reunions 2023

The Class of 1973 We are planning a casual get together for our 50th Class Reunion. Our plan is to meet at the Homecoming football game on Friday, October 6, 2023. Then on Saturday, October 7th we will meet at 5:00 pm for our reunion at MEDRANO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 1173 W. Rancho Vista Blvd., Palmdale CA 93551, (661) 224-1145. It will be an informal gathering ordering off the menu instead of doing a banquet.

If you have access to Facebook, please ask to join our group "Paraclete High School Class of 1973." We would love to be in contact with you.

Also, we would like our 1973 class to be a part of the SPIRIT LEGACY WALKWAY at Paraclete's Athletic Complex, by purchasing an 8 x 8 paver. All who walk there will recognize our role in helping build and sustain the legacy of our Paraclete. The class pavers are \$1000.00, and we can collect the money at the reunion, or you may give sooner. * That's \$100 for 10 people, \$50 for 20 people..... \$66.66 for 15 people... you get the idea. If you will not be attending the reunion you can send money to Paraclete, noting it is for the class of 1973 paver.

For more information contact Janet Waldron Chapman 661-406-2531 or Susan Turkal McDonough 503-410-9832 (text or phone works for both).

The Classmates of 1983 will be holding a celebration of the 40th Anniversary of their Paraclete graduation on Saturday, September 23, 2023. For additional information contact Laura (Quemada) Changaran by text to (408) 656-9275 or email at quebonita@yahoo.com.

The Class of 1993 held its reunion in August in Tiburon, California at the home of Darrin Lim who co-chaired the reunion with Micah Joyce Walsh. Look for photos of this event in the next newsletter.

The Class of 2003's very own Caylin Oriel Keber has begun the reunion planning for the class's 20th reunion for 2023. You may reach out to Caylin at CayKeber@gmail.com or (407) 755-9293.

The Class of 2013 Alexis Hall, the Senior Class President, planned a wonderful event for Saturday, September 9, 2023. To RSVP contact Alexis at (661) 492-4888 or Paraclete2013Reunion@gmail.com or AlexisHall416@gmail.com. Check out [@Paraclete2013Reunion](https://www.instagram.com/Paraclete2013Reunion) on Instagram.



PHS former
volleyball coach,
Tara Henn,
with her twins.



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Parents: If this newsletter is coming to your son or daughter who no longer lives at home, please notify the Advancement Office of your child's new address so the newsletter can be sent directly to him or her. We can continue sending the newsletters to parents as well!



Upcoming Events:

PHS news is published by Paraclete High School. Its contents are made possible by members of PHS staff, faculty, alumni students and parents. Any comments about this newsletter, or if you need to update your address information, or if you would like to submit articles, please contact: Janet (Godde) Bower jbower@paracletehs.org



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Ongoing Recruitment

Recruiting new Spirits! Do you know an 8th grader or a high school student who would love to be a Spirit?

Have them contact Evelyn Reyes at EReyes@ParacleteHS.org or (661) 943-3255 ext. 123 today!

Open House – Saturday, November 4, 2023, at 9 AM

Open House – Saturday, January 13, 2024

*Workshop for Entrance Exam – Saturday, January 20, 2024,
Entrance Exam – Saturday, January 27, 2024*

Thanksgiving

*Thanksgiving Prayer Service
Thursday, November 16, 2023*

Christmas

*Advent Celebration
Wednesday, December 13, 2023*

Catholic Schools Week January 28, 2024 – February 3, 2024

Opportunity Raffle Ticket drawing on Tuesday, May 7, 2024
Good Luck!

If you enjoy the printed PHSpirit magazine, please let us know! Stay in the loop! Please share your email address by contacting Janet (Godde) Bower '74 at JBower@ParacleteHS.org.