

REGIS

FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS OF REGIS HIGH SCHOOL | WINTER/SPRING 2019



Contents

- 3 President's Report
- 4 Springtime Giving Fuels the Annual Fund
- 5 Live the Mission This Giving Weekend
- 6 News & Notes
- 11 Ignatian Spirituality: The Fourth Day
- 12 A Record-Setting Giving Tuesday
- 13 Fore! Get Ready for the Regis Golf Outing
- 14 Seniors Dive into DNA
- 16 Regis Through the Eyes of a Centegenarian
- 20 Regis's Newest Principal
- 22 In Memory of Mr. Bob Weimann
- 23 Prowlings
- 34 Milestones
- 35 Events Calendar



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Above Mr. David Bonagura '99 teaches Latin to the current freshman class.

On the Cover Students gather in the quad on a pleasant day

President's Report

Spring Renewal



After three winters here in New York, I am still adjusting to this phenomenon of cold which brings me back to my youth in Chicago. I remember learning during grad studies in California that winter could be something that one “visited” rather than endured. Yet, it does make

the prospect of the newness of spring and flowers something to truly relish.

While still a couple of weeks away as I write this, our annual Parents Club Auction will have come and gone by the time you receive this. It is always a great event, and really our only fundraising event of the year. And it is definitely a sign of the coming of spring.

For ten years now, we have had the Auction Challenge which is a raise-your-paddles portion of the Auction which funds some school renovation project. Recent efforts have helped renovate science labs, the cafeteria, classrooms, and fund technology advances. This year we focused on two renovation ideas top to bottom—the Physics Lecture Hall and the Lower Locker Room. Both will get a complete makeover this summer and will do much to improve student life here at Regis.

These improvements, along with a host of other summer projects, reflect one element of the Strategic Plan that the Board approved last spring, a copy of which you received with the last Regis News magazine. But physical improvements are only a few of the many things that the Strategic Plan mandated us to do. We have also increased our support for our REACH program; we are adding an additional college counselor to our guidance department after doing an evaluation of our program this past fall; and we continue to plan for a broader implementation of other areas as well.

While last year we were busy with the Strategic Plan, this year we were involved in self-study prior to our recent Sponsorship Review by the Northeast Province of the Jesuits. Generally, on a six-year cycle, this self-study requires us to examine those areas of school life which touch on five particular areas: Jesuit and Catholic Mission and Identity, Governance and Leadership, Spiritual Formation, Educational Excellence, and Faith that Does Justice. Nearly half our faculty and staff were involved in committees that prepared the report, and then we recently hosted the visiting committee made up of five Jesuit school educators from across the province.

After a three-day visit to Regis, the committee made an oral report to the full faculty and staff at the conclusion of their time with us. They had numerous commendations, pointing out many improvements in how we fulfill our mission since our last visitation. They also had several new recommendations for us in other areas that will strengthen the work that we do here each day.

Life is rarely boring here at Regis. As one season turns to the next, as one year leads to another, we continue to look for the best ways we can deliver on our important mission. Our students deserve it, our alumni demand it, our faculty honor it. Since I wrote you last, after a thorough search process, I named Fr. Anthony D. Andreassi, CO, as the Principal of Regis High School. Many of you know Fr. Andreassi from his 15 years of service here in a variety of roles, including as the author of our Centennial history, *Teach Me to Be Generous*. I look forward to continuing to work with Fr. Andreassi in implementing the change that our Strategic Plan and the Sponsorship Review challenge us to undertake to make sure that Regis High School remains true to our mission and provides the best possible education for our young men. Thank you for your support of that mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel K. Lahart, SJ". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the initials "DKL" being particularly prominent.

Daniel K. Lahart, SJ
President

The Office of Development

Springtime Giving Fuels the Annual Fund

There is no busier nor more important time of year for fundraising at Regis than Spring. The last quarter of our fiscal year, which ends on June 30, typically draws around half of the revenue for the Annual Fund, which is the school's most critical income stream. Because Regis is tuition-free and has never been fully endowed, the Annual Fund must continue to cover the majority of our yearly operating expenses.

Fueling a strong finish to this year's Annual Fund: *Live the Mission* will be several important moments, which will encourage all members of the Regis community—our alumni, families, and friends—to support this year's campaign and inspire future giving to Regis.

Giving Weekend

Giving Weekend, which in its third year will take place around the festivities of Graduation, encourages all members of the community to come together and celebrate the mission of Regis—its past, present, and future. Last year, over 1,200 donors participated in Giving Weekend, which raised \$2.23 million, including an historic \$1 million match set by Trustees and Board Committee members. This year, as the school's newest alumni, decked out in white jackets, are charged with “setting the world on fire,” members of the Regis family will again be encouraged to come together to raise necessary resources to sustain the mission of Regis. Stay tuned for details for this year's Giving Weekend, which will take place from May 30 through June 1.

Young Alumni Challenge

For the fourth year in a row, the youngest sixteen classes (from 2003 through 2018) are facing off in the highly competitive **Young Alumni Challenge**. The challenge is a bracket-

style elimination tournament, modeled after the NCAA's March Madness. In a nod to Regis's Jesuit identity, this first round of competition is called “**March Magis**.” In each matchup, the class with the higher Annual Fund participation percentage advances to the next round, until a champion is crowned at the end of June.

The goal of the Challenge is to encourage alumni to promote class connections and friendly competition, as well as support a lifetime habit of engagement with their classmates and giving back to Regis. Three classes will qualify for a special barbecue this summer at Regis: The Young Alumni Challenge Champion, the winner of the consolation bracket, and the class that attains the highest overall Annual Fund participation rate. Last year, Regians from 2012 emerged victorious after defeating the Class of 2002 in the Championship Round.

The 2018 Young Alumni Challenge raised over \$125,000 for the Annual Fund, with five classes surpassing 50% overall participation. As this year's challenge gets under way, may the best Class win!

Reunions

Springtime is reunion time at Regis as hundreds of alumni from 10 different classes return to 84th Street to catch up with their classmates and share memories from their formative four years here. In keeping with the recent tradition of other classes celebrating their milestone 25th and 50th reunions, the Classes of 1994 and 1969 hope to each find a special way to show their gratitude to the school for the gift of a Regis education. The Class of 2009 has been hard at work as well, with a goal of doubling their participation

in honor of their 10 year reunion. We look forward to welcoming all reunion classes back to Regis.

There is still plenty of time left to participate in the 2019 Annual Fund and help Regis continue to *Live the Mission* of providing exceptional tuition-free Jesuit education. There are a variety of ways to give, and the Office of Development is here to assist. We can be reached at giving@regis.org or 212-288-1142.

Annual Fund Giving

Online:

regis.org/give
Venmo (@RegisHighSchool)
Paypal (regis.org/paypal)

By check:

Mail to:
Regis High School
ATTN: The Office of Development
55 East 84th Street
New York, NY 10028

Other ways to give:

IRA Charitable Distributions
Securities
Donor-Advised Funds
Matching Gifts

Tax ID Number: 13-1624155

Planned Giving

Bequest:

Consider including Regis in your estate planning. Such gifts benefit the Regis Endowment and leave a legacy of support. Individuals who include Regis in their estate plan are named members of the St. John Francis Regis Society.



GIVING WEEKEND

2019

MAY 30 THROUGH JUNE 1

As the 102nd class graduates from Regis, join us for Giving Weekend, a three-day Annual Fund campaign to help keep alive the unique mission of Regis and send forth the next class of *Men for Others*.

Learn more at regis.org/givingweekend

REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

THE 2019 ANNUAL FUND

LIVE THE MISSION

News & Notes

For expanded coverage of these and other news stories, visit news.regis.org

The Relaunch of Regians in Tech



On Tuesday, January 15, the recently revitalized Regians in Technology group co-hosted its first event: “Unscaled: How Upstarts Are Challenging Giants.” The event, which kicked off with a cocktail social, will hopefully prove useful for Regians in the field of technology to connect and build a network. In a display of the strength of the Regis community, 112 attendees representing various specialties and fields within technology were present to help relaunch the group.

Following the cocktail hour, the panel conversation began. Panelists included Artie Minson '88 (the President and CFO of WeWork), Roger Knight '00 (Managing Director at Lincoln International), and Zach Garippa '08 (CEO and Co-Founder of Negotiatius). Using their expertise and experience, these three gentlemen discussed the ‘unscaling’ of the economy, a phenomenon whereby smaller companies and start-ups can now ‘rent’ the scale they need to compete with larger, established companies. After the guided panel discussion, the floor opened up for Q&A.

“As more and more Regians pursue careers in technology, relaunching the Regians in Tech group felt like a good way to let this community get together and share experiences and insights,” Conor McKeown '07, one of the organizers of the group, said. “We’re planning to hold more events, both formal and informal, and allow Regians to leverage the network to mentor, share ideas, and learn more about new opportunities.”

Regis Community Lights Christmas Tree



On Friday, December 7, the Regis community celebrated the season at the annual Christmas Tree Lighting. The crowd first gathered in the Regis auditorium for prayer and a musical performance. Then, it was time to venture out into the cold of the quad. Father Lahart blessed the tree, and the mass of students, teachers, family, and friends cheered as the Regis Christmas Tree was lit.

After a ceremony filled with music and candlelight, the group moved into the Regis cafeteria for Christmas treats and more music!

Repertory Marches to Success with *Parade*

The Regis Repertory’s performance of *Parade* enjoyed a stellar four-night run in January. Playing to a packed house each night, the cast and crew handled the subtleties and difficult subject matter of the play with strong dramatic and musical acumen.

Musical director Vince Peterson was incredibly proud of the work the students put into the production: “The cast and crew of *Parade* this year was a group of students we knew would embrace and elevate the importance and beauty of this story in deep ways,” he said. “What they did instead was truly develop an empathy so powerful that, for me, it evoked the spirit of Leo Frank himself, and countless others in the fabric of America who

suffered dearly from the negative effects of religious and racial segregation. I couldn’t be prouder that this work of art was brought to our community as a true and divinely given way to ignite the fire of justice in all of our hearts.”

“*Parade* was a tremendous success,” said Regis Rep moderator, Gena Reisig. “We saw record numbers in attendance and sold out the last two shows completely. More importantly, we have received incredible feedback from parents and students, who have told us how moved they were by Leo Frank’s story and how our performance encouraged them to read more about the history of anti-Semitism in America.”

Congratulations to the entire cast and crew!



David Bonagura '99 Discusses *Steadfast In Faith* with Cardinal Dolan



Earlier this year, David Bonagura '99 was interviewed by Cardinal Dolan to discuss his recently published book *Steadfast in Faith: Catholicism and the Challenges of Secularism* (Cluny Media, January 2019). Written for the benefit of the regular Catholic, Bonagura's book explores the nature of faith and belief in light of the many challenges that believers regularly experience.

"The book was a labor of love," said Bonagura, who currently teaches Latin and serves as the chair of the Language department. "It took me a few years, but I wanted to help bolster the faith of so many Catholics who, quite understandably, are feeling a bit unsettled in their belief due to the increasing secularization of the world around us."

Regis Hosts First Collegiate Holiday Luncheons

On Friday, January 4th and Tuesday, January 8th, Regis held its first ever Collegiate Holiday Luncheons. The events presented an opportunity for recent graduates of Regis to spend an afternoon of their college winter break catching up with old classmates and teachers.

Throughout the two luncheons, over 100 students came back to 84th Street to take in the sights of their old stomping ground. These recent alumni were treated to a whole host of new scenes around the school. For many of the alumni, the new cafeteria and video screens were a complete surprise. "It really looks fantastic. It's good to see the school is updating itself," said one member of the class of 2016.

Though, for all of its changes, Regis has remained steadfast in its enduring and welcoming community. "It was great to see so many guys back in the building, and to hear what they were up to in college and abroad," said Mr. Douglas Eickman '05 of the Math Department. "I particularly enjoyed hearing from a bunch of former students who were doing interesting things in either math and science, and who were putting what they had learned here at Regis to good use."

Vincent Catapano '96, Director of Alumni Relations, echoed this sentiment. "Having over 100 of our college-aged alumni back was a great experience and it was a pleasure seeing how they took their experiences at Regis and brought them to college campuses across the country," he said. "We look forward to getting them more involved in the alumni network and helping them utilize the resources available to them."

Parents Gather In Celebration & Gratitude



On Tuesday, February 26, over 150 parents from the Classes of 2020 and 2021 came together in the auditorium for a Presidents' Day Party. With an All-American selection of wines to taste and food to enjoy, these sophomore and junior parents celebrated another year at Regis and received Father Lahart's thanks for the many different ways in which they support the school.

One week later on Shrove Tuesday, senior parents attended a Mardi Gras celebration (complete with colored beads, jambalaya and beignets) and reminisced about their four years at Regis. Cathy McCordick P'14 '19, in her moving remarks, recalled the many milestones and events which made the Regis experience so special for the boys and their families. She also spoke eloquently of the lasting impact Regis will have on its graduates. "Our sons will be the 102nd graduating class of Regis. It's a remarkable testament to the Foundress and her family. Our boys will inherit a unique and wonderful legacy that will bind them together for the rest of their lives. Regis has not just equipped them intellectually for the future. It has forged them into true *Men for Others*, always ready and willing to step up and do what is just. They are, and always will be guided by us, the principles of their faith, and the values they learned here at Regis."



Varsity Soccer Repeats as City Champions



At St. John’s University in Queens, Regis Varsity Soccer took on St. Francis Prep (who handed Regis one of its three league losses in a 2-1 mid-season match) in the 2018 CHSAA Boys “AA” Championship.

Both teams came into the game as number one seeds from their respective dioceses, and it showed. The teams were evenly matched, and competed on the pitch in what would prove to be a battle of two stalwart defenses. After 80 minutes, there was nothing to separate the two teams, and so extra time was needed.

At the end of extra time, the scoreboard still read 0-0, and so penalties were needed to decide the champion. With the

game at his feet, junior Francis Barth ’20 slotted his penalty home into the bottom right corner to win the game (the final was 5-3 in penalties) and win Regis its second consecutive city championship.

“Winning our first ever “AA” soccer championship for Regis last year was something special and the large group of graduating seniors left their mark on the program,” head coach Vincent Catapano ’96 said. “With a different roster composition with only eight seniors this year it is truly amazing to go out and repeat—not only winning the Archdiocesan Championship but also repeating as City Champions. It shows what hard work,

dedication and perseverance can do and I am amazed every day with what this talented group of student-athletes has been able to accomplish.”

Regis continued on to compete in the New York Catholic State tournament, where it first met the representative from the Buffalo Diocese, St. Joseph Collegiate in a semifinal matchup. After an exciting overtime win, Regis reached its second straight New York State Final. In an exciting defensive struggle, the Raiders unfortunately fell to Chaminade by a final score of 1-0.

Congratulations to Coach Catapano and the whole team for an incredible season!

Return of the Regis and Dominican Academy Walkathon

After a seven year hiatus, the Regis Walkathon is back! On Friday May 3, the Regis and Dominican Academy student governments are organizing a Walkathon around the Upper East Side as well as club activities, coffee house performances and more to follow at Regis. Students from both schools hope to bring their communities together to promote a sense of solidarity, kindle

new friendships and inspire a spirit of generosity for Catholic education. The reintroduction of the Walkathon comes at the request of the current students who wish to continue the event’s previous tradition of promoting both fellowship and fundraising.

The students have set a goal to raise \$25,000 for the Annual Fund by the end of April, which works out to about \$50 per student and represents the cost to educate a Regian for one year. As part of their outreach, students plan to promote the mission of our school and introduce Regis’s unique mission to a new audience, sharing the message of how their Catholic education has changed their lives and asking for help to continue the opportunity first set forth by the Foundress for future Regians. At the close of the fundraiser, students and advisements will be given the opportunity to win prizes based upon their outreach efforts.

For more information on their progress, follow #RegisDAwalkathon and visit regis.org/walkathon. Thank you for your support!



Members of the Class of 2014 participate in the Fall 2010 Regis Walkathon.

Regis Squares Off with Xavier in Triple Header

You could hear the affair before you could even see the gym—a rapturous chorus of ooh’s and ah’s from students, sneakers squeaking on the parquet courts, the thump-thumping of feet on bleachers.

And the sight was something to behold. Students on either side of the gym never left their seats for the duration of the three games. It was a Triple Header to remember, full of excitement, drama, good basketball, and—yes—noise.

The freshman game kicked things off at 3:45. A raucous crowd urged the Raiders onward, but they unfortunately fell in a hard-fought battle, 62-39. Regis, which plays in the CHSAA ‘B’ division, kept the contest close until the end, when Xavier (who compete in the ‘A’ division), began to run away with it.

The JV game was a defensive struggle, with Xavier prevailing 47-35. The Regis team gave the crowd a lot to cheer about, playing an impassioned and physical game.

At 7:00, the stage was set for the main event—the varsity showdown. Regis played a phenomenal game, defending with aplomb and moving the ball well to create scoring chances. After three quarters, the game was all square. Though Xavier ultimately came out on top, the final score of 58-49 belies how close this game really was. It was never more than a two possession game until Regis was forced to foul in the final seconds, giving Xavier free throws. The Regis crowd was appreciative of the team’s effort, keeping the energy high and positive throughout the duration of the game.

Many who couldn’t attend the game were still able to watch from home, thanks to the Regis Broadcasting Club’s livestream. Student announcers and crew worked tirelessly to bring the vaunted Regis-Xavier Triple Header into the living rooms of the Raider faithful. Thanks to everyone who tuned in!

Congratulations to the players, coaches, and broadcasting crew. It was another Triple Header to remember.



Juniors Luke Hartigan (L) and Danny Whang (R) call the game for the Regis Broadcasting Club livestream

Celebrating the Gift of Regis: The Parents Club Auction



On Saturday, March 30th, Regis High School hosted its annual Parents Club Auction. This year’s theme was “Celebrate the Gift of Regis,” and the festivities on Saturday night were marked by joy and generosity.

With over 600 guests in attendance and countless parent and student volunteers helping to orchestrate the night, many contributions made the event a resounding success.

The evening began with a silent auction taking place on the second floor of Regis. The Upper Gym was full of baskets offering valuable items, unique experiences, and more than a few pieces of Regiana and owl-themed articles. The Large Conference room featured “Big Board” items up for silent bidding, including trips to attractive locales or golf courses, exclusive tickets to games and shows, and chances to interact with some of Regis’s most famous alumni. Throughout the evening, food, drink, and good conversation were enjoyed by all.

At 8 p.m., bidding on most silent items closed, while the “Big Board” remained open until later in the evening. Guests then made their way to the auditorium for the main event: the Live Auction. Fr. Daniel K. Lahart, SJ, President of Regis, welcomed guests, and a group of seniors sang the Regis alma mater to get the proceedings officially underway. Mr. Eugene Flinn P’10, in his 13th year with the gavel, and Mr. Eric DiMichele, Director of Admissions, took the stage to begin the auction and to highlight the great items available, encouraging the highest bids possible. Some of the items were familiar to returning auction guests, such as “Go to the Head of the Class,” a chance to sit in the front row at graduation, or the “Jesuit Culinary Adventure,” in which the Jesuits on staff at Regis host a fine dinner for the highest bidder. Other items were new this year, such as a dinner gourmet hosted by Chef Daniel of Regis’s catering service, Cater to You.

At the conclusion of the Live Auction, the lights went down and a video began to explain the Auction Challenge, Renovating Regis from Top to Bottom. Each year, the Auction Challenge invites supporters to provide funds for an important project at Regis to be completed over the summer. This year, in celebration of the 10th Auction Challenge, Fr. Lahart highlighted two spaces in need of renovation: the Physics Lecture Hall and the Student Locker Room.

The Locker Room is where most students begin each day, and the renovations will make this space more welcoming and comfortable for the entire student body. The Physics Lecture Hall is easily one of the most recognizable spaces at Regis. Improvements will keep the classic character of this large room, but will increase its functionality, accessibility, and effectiveness for learning and events.

Regis is grateful for the many volunteers who helped run this year’s event, the numerous alumni, families and friends who donated items to the auction, and to the many guests who attended and supported Regis through generous bidding. Regis is defined by community and generosity, and the Auction is a testament to those values.

Triple Threat: Regis Sweeps CHSAA City 'B' Championships



March Madness came to Regis a bit early this year: during the last weeks of February, all three Regis High School Basketball teams made their way to City Championship contests in their respective divisions.

The Freshman and JV teams kicked off the action by storming into the finals of the CHSAA "B" Division games. Both teams faced Salesian High School teams for the titles in an exciting doubleheader on February 24 at Salesian. Led by head coach and Regis alumnus Dr. Jay Shanahan '77, the Freshman team took control late in the first game to earn a 47-44 victory and claim the Intersectional Championship.

Not to be outdone by their younger counterparts, just hours later Regis's JV team took a six-point victory and the second championship for the day, again getting the best of worthy opponents from Salesian. Coach Jack Moran, a Regis

alumnus from the Class of 2008, was pleased with his team's performance and an impressive city title.

A strong regular season performance earned the Varsity team a first-round bye. They advanced directly to the semifinal round, where they took a convincing victory over Cristo Rey at St. Raymond's in the Bronx.

A week later at Fordham University's Rose Hill Gym, the Raiders looked to repeat as City Champions. They faced a talented Salesian team in a matchup of squads that had split games during the regular season. In a low-scoring, back-and-forth game that came down to the final minutes, clutch play led the Varsity to win 43-40. This solidified a repeat City Championship for this team, as well as a clean sweep City Championships in all three levels of the CHSAA "B" Division.

The City Championship game was attended by many parents, past and

present, and several Regis alumni as well. Many continued the celebration on nearby Arthur Ave. after the game's conclusion. Unfortunately, the Varsity team did not win their first game in the New York State CHSAA tournament, but nevertheless had a very successful season.

Varsity Coach Kevin Cullen remarked, "This season was incredible. In my 18 years as Varsity Coach, only one other team has won 20 games in a season, and that team was a 2005 squad that won Federation Champions. So this 2019 team is in good company. They're also just a great group of guys." When asked what made the team so successful, he added, "Our defense was incredible this year. Out of the 26 games played, we held opponents to under 60 points 24 of the 26."

Congratulations to Coach Kevin Cullen, the entire coaching staff, and the players on all three levels on an outstanding season.

Kyle McArthur '17 Stars in Off-Broadway Show *Superhero*

Earlier this year, Kyle McArthur '17 (far left) starred in a new Off-Broadway musical titled *Superhero*. A synopsis of the show from its website reads: "Before we can save the world, we have to save each other. *Superhero* is a deeply human new musical about a fractured family, the mysterious stranger in Apartment 4-B,

and the unexpected hero who just might save the day."

On Tuesday, March 12th, members of the Regis community joined members of the Marymount community for a special performance of the play, with a talk back from Tom Kitt (lyricist-composer) and Kyle MacArthur.



Ignatian Spirituality

The Fourth Day

By Rev. Anthony D. Andreassi, CO
Principal

Drip. Drip. Drip. That is how some have described the seemingly never-ended revelations of clergy sex abuse. Like me you probably have found yourself angry with righteous indignation not only with the crimes and sins themselves but also how other leaders in the Church—good shepherds supposedly—covered these up or at least turned a blind eye. And what do we have now? Lives destroyed because of the violation of the innocence of youth and more thinking that maybe the Church is corrupt to her core and walking away from connectedness with the Body of Christ.

While this has been horrible, in some ways we should not be surprised. We were warned. So many of the prophets from the Hebrew Bible wept and lamented over the corrupt leaders and shepherds of Israel in their day. The Lord had chosen them to protect and to lead the people of that day. But instead they often only enriched themselves while abusing or neglecting those most in need or vulnerable.

Because of this corruption—this misleading by leaders of the Church—we can be tempted to go it alone. If even those who claim to be close to Christ and entrusted by him with leadership can and do sin in such horrific ways, why listen to or follow them?

When I find myself asking these very questions, I try to dwell in reflection and prayer on the line from the Gospels: “At the sights of the crowds, his [Jesus’] heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd (Mt. 9:36).”

The word, translated here as ‘pity,’ means that Jesus was ‘wrenched in his gut.’ This is like the feeling of parents who see their child in real pain. The people’s hunger,

their heartfelt search, their longing for more, called Jesus forth. He allowed their need to turn him into a shepherd.

And that was Jesus’ lesson for the disciple—for those whom he was modeling what he was teaching in both deed and word. They saw how he identified with the needs that appeared before him. He was showing his followers that if they wanted to carry forth his mission, they had to feel the real needs of the people. Only in identifying with the pain, the need, the aimlessness of those that shepherds are called to protect, can they lead and give care in authentic ways and words.

In the long history of the Church, there have been corrupt shepherds who have preyed on the Lord’s flock. But there have also been good and holy ones too. In going through some old papers and files while settling into my new office at Regis last fall, I came across a memory of one shepherd, a priest, who did in his daily life lay down his life for his sheep. It was a homily preached in 1988 by Father Philip Carey, SJ (Regis Class of 1925) on the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Unlike many Jesuits years ago who were in the ministry of education on the high school and college levels, Father Carey spent most of his life as a priest working among those who labored with their hands fighting for their right to form unions as well as well as fighting the corruption these associations sometimes fell into.

Father Carey came from humble beginnings. His father spent his days as a conductor on the trolleys Third Avenue El (which, up until 1955, many Regians who lived in upper Manhattan and the Bronx rode back and forth to school each day). Before these trolley workers were unionized, his father was often forced to work 97 hours each week. For many years he only had two full days off for “vacation” and this is when he would



take his brood of kids to the parish Holy Name Breakfast in the winter and in the summer for a day at Coney Island. It was his father—a shepherd in his own right—whose words would shape Fr. Carey. He said to his newly-ordained son (and remember the time and context when they were said): “Don’t waste your time on God’s holy ladies. They come to Him naturally. It is grizzly guys like me who need you.” In reflecting on fifty years of service as a shepherd of God’s holy people, Father Carey said: “Somehow or another, the days of my priesthood have been with teamsters and sandhogs and dock workers—men who think and pray not with the twisting of philosophers but who come to God with ideas and goals they can squeeze in their fists.”

With regard to my own faith as a Catholic and commitment to the Church—it is because of the example of holy and humble service of men like Father Carey. And it also due to many women who have supported me in my life personally and modeled what it means to be a true follower of Christ, especially the Sisters who taught me in elementary school and their example of quiet, but real and effective, service of others in the education of generations of children. When the dark clouds of sin and scandal aroused by the misdeeds of others, especially Church leaders, tempt me to chuck it all over and walk away, it is both the memory, as well as the continuing service and commitment to Christ in word and deed, of good women and men that keep me inside the Church trying to do the best I can to be faithful.

May the Lord raise up more shepherds like Father Carey—those who lead good and decent lives of service to Christ and to others. We have no choice but to pray for this because it remains our belief as Catholics that Christ still walks among us even when the sins of the shepherds can cause us to throw up our hands and tempt us to walk away and go it alone.

A Record-Setting Giving Tuesday



For the fourth year in row, the alumni, families, and friends of Regis joined together to set new records for our Giving Tuesday campaign: our community made over 850 donations and pledges raising more than \$450,000 in necessary funds for the 2019 Annual Fund.

Throughout the day, students and faculty participated in a variety of fun challenges to encourage support for Regis. Here are some highlights:

12:00 p.m.: Dr. Tricamo Signed Journal
Commemorating his 47 years on the faculty, Dr. John Tricamo personalized and signed Regis journals for 47 of the randomly-selected donors who contributed by 12:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.: Get a Regian out of JUG!
Back by popular demand, donors who gave between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. shaved 15 minutes off of a Regian's upcoming JUG time. The community responded in full force, relieving over 60 JUGs. Grateful students benefited from this generous act of mercy during the third trimester.

8:00 p.m.: Regiana Giveaway
Donors who gave between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. were entered to win a giveaway of items from the Regis Shop! Congratulations to the winner, Vincent Indelicato '99.

Parents Challenge: Singing the Alma Mater
Parents who gave on Giving Tuesday challenged their sons to sing the Alma Mater with their fellow *Men for Others* in perfect harmony. Their young men

rose to the occasion with a (somewhat) harmonious delivery, which can be viewed on our Facebook page.

Faculty Run the Reservoir
Members of the faculty and staff, led by Regis President Fr. Lahart, challenged the community by offering to "Run the Reservoir" of Central Park, an iconic phys ed tradition, if more than 600 gifts were received on Giving Tuesday. Needless to say, the faculty are warming up and training for their run! Stay tuned for their times.

Notes of Gratitude
All students participated in Giving Tuesday by writing thank you notes to our donors, who continue the legacy of generosity of the Founding Family, and today make the opportunity of their Regis education possible.

For a full recap of our Giving Tuesday activities and challenges, visit regis.org/givingtuesday.

Thank you for helping us live the mission and keep Regis tuition-free!



REGIS

GOLF & TENNIS

— OUTING —

June 17, 2019

Pelham Country Club | Pelham, NY

You are invited to the Annual Regis Golf and Tennis Outing at Pelham Country Club! The outing has been a successful event for us for roughly 30 years, and we hope that you will consider joining us this year on Monday, June 17th.

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:30 a.m. Brunch
- 12:15 p.m. Shotgun Start
- 12:30 p.m. Tennis Start
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner, drinks, awards and raffle

Register online
regis.org/events

or call The Office of Development
(212) 288-1142



DNA Sequencing with Dr. Carew

How a science lesson becomes interactive with the help of a New York City resource

On a chilly Friday morning in early January, 26 Regis seniors, accompanied by their biology teacher, Dr. William Carew, file out of the 85th Street door after Advisement and head to the 6 train. Four quick stops later, they emerge from the subway and complete the by-now familiar journey to the Harlem DNA Lab located at 120th Street and First Avenue.

There, Melissa Lee, the Lab Manager, warmly welcomes the students for the third time this school year. Surrounded by state-of-the-art equipment and supervised by a team of highly experienced researchers-turned-teachers, they dive into today's lab work, this one involving a PCR, or polymerase chain reaction, a process by which a single copy of a DNA sequence is exponentially amplified to generate over a billion copies of a particular DNA segment.

This year marks a decade that Regis has been sending its senior biology class to the Harlem DNA Lab. As Dr. Carew recalls, "We were among their first

customers when the DNA Learning Center opened its Harlem branch in 2008." The lab is a satellite of the world-renowned Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island, home to eight Nobel Prize winners (including James Watson of the scientific duo, Watson and Crick, who along with Maurice Wilkins and Rosalind Franklin, co-discovered the double helix structure of DNA).

Staffed by PhD biologists and educators, the 1,200 square foot lab occupies space within the John S. Roberts Educational Complex and is dedicated to teaching 5th through 12th grade students the fundamentals as well as the latest developments in DNA-based science. During a typical school year, at least 65 different high schools will make the trip to the DNA Lab for half- or full-day lab work. While most schools average two visits, usually with two different sets of students, Regis is the only school to make three visits, and each time with the same set of students. At the complex,

students perform a series of labs, each one designed to build on the previous one in terms of the knowledge, techniques, equipment, and skills required.

The first lab, entitled "DNA Restriction Analysis," is focused on gel electrophoresis and requires the use of micropipettes and centrifuges, with which the students learn to cut and "measure" DNA fragments. In the second lab, they carry out a "Bacterial Transformation" where they transform bacteria with a jellyfish "glowing" gene, causing these bacteria to take on luminous properties of their own.

For their final lab and with parental permission, Regians perform "Human Mitochondrial DNA Sequencing." This process, by using samples of their own cells from saliva, allows the students to uncover information about their maternal ancestry. "The boys love this lab," says Dr. Carew, "because not only can they find out some real detail about their own family's history on Mom's side (we all

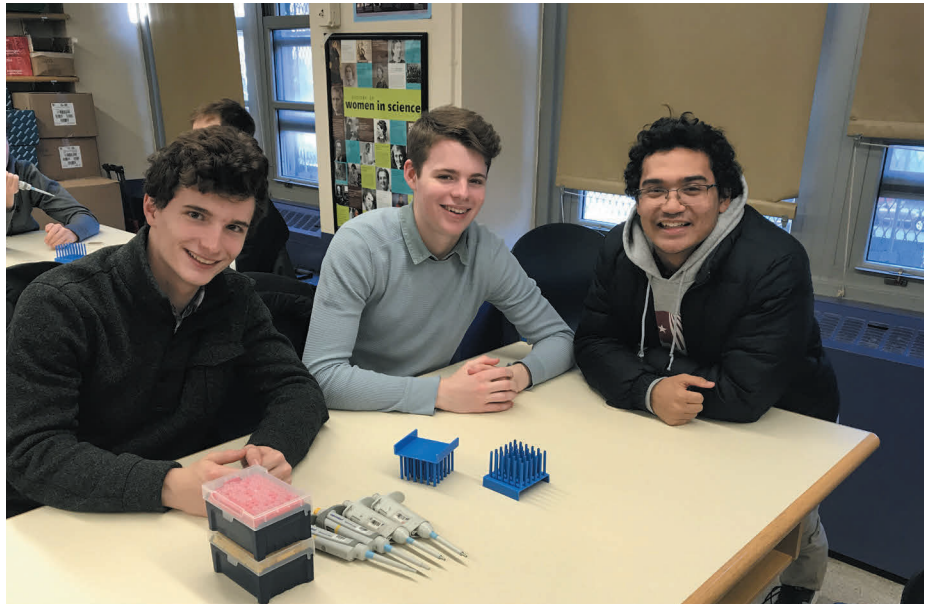
inherit mitochondria from our mother), but they can also compare their genetic make-up to each other's, to Neanderthals, and even to other living organisms."

"It's like being a kid in a toy store," says Senior Jacob Kaiserman, who believes a career in medicine might be in his future. "Only, we get to explore important scientific ideas with state-of-the-art equipment." Kaiserman, who conducts his senior service work at Memorial Sloane Kettering Hospital, also points out that having exposure to techniques like the ones they learn at the DNA Lab gives Regians a leg up to be chosen to do lab and research work in college.

Mastering the techniques, however, could not be possible without having a solid understanding of DNA biology before they walk in the lab door. And as Melissa Lee points out, Regis students know more than most high school students she works with. "I love having them here. They are extremely smart and well-mannered. They ask great questions and come up with things I haven't even thought about, so sometimes it's a challenge even for me."

Senior Cole Mader says the instructors at the Harlem Center represent "a rare combination of researchers who are also very passionate and engaging educators, willing to work hand-in-hand with us and explain the most complex topics." His friend, Jacob, echoed these sentiments saying, "Our instructors were able to answer the weird questions we asked, including topics related to newer material that wouldn't be in a text book."

In recent years, several Regis students have found a way to take the learning at the DNA Lab one step further by being accepted to the lab's highly selective Urban Barcode Research Program. This program pairs 40 students a year with a mentor-scientist to conduct original research aimed at unlocking the secrets of living organisms through a wide variety of DNA lab work and gene sequencing. Capping off this program for the lucky students is the opportunity to present, and potentially publish, their original research. Joshua Antony '20, who worked with a doctor of virology at Mt. Sinai for eight months and won first prize for his project, tells of having



Regis seniors prepare for their work at the Harlem DNA Lab as part of Dr. Carew's senior biology course

discovered a previously unknown virus in German cockroaches living in NYC. His classmate, Henry Lee '20, teamed up with a doctor of microbiology at Queens Community College in Henry's hometown of Bayside to study the genetic variances of bacteria found in public spaces versus those living in more isolated locations.

Robert Koniuta '18, who landed a genetics-based research position through another program, partnered with a doctor of microbiology from Dominican College for seven weeks to uncover the specific function of two homologous genes found in a certain species of yeast. Robert's research paper is currently on track to be published in *Scientific Reports*, an online journal from Nature Research. Robert described the benefits of doing original research in a lab: "It's one thing to learn the techniques needed to succeed in a microbiology course, but it's a whole different ballgame when you are conducting original research and there isn't any step-by-step process that you are directed to follow. I learned an invaluable lesson in problem solving and the creativity needed to come up with novel solutions to scientific challenges."

The long-running partnership that Regis has enjoyed with the Harlem DNA Lab is a perfect example of the kinds of experiences that Regis as a school

hopes to offer more frequently to its students, regardless of the subject. "The opportunities for our students to take advantage of this city's resources are almost endless," says Regis President Fr. Daniel K Lahart, SJ. "And investing in partnerships with best-in-class institutions like the DNA Lab, which brings the curriculum alive in an exciting and interactive fashion for our boys, is at the heart of some of the academic enhancements we are exploring as part of the Strategic Plan."

"Almost 50% of the senior biology curriculum is focused on DNA, which plays a major role in everything from the food supply chain to the latest advancements in medicines," says Dr. Carew, summing up the importance of the alliance with the DNA lab. "There is no doubt that the work the boys conduct at the DNA Lab represents a huge advantage in terms of their total learning experience."

The students couldn't agree more. As Cole Mader, who currently aspires to be a neurologist, observes, "When most of your understanding of a subject is cerebral and classroom-based, this kind of lab work not only proves how cool and fun science can be, it also shows the awesome real world value and applications of the concepts we study."

Through the Eyes OF A Centenarian



Just months prior to his death, Ovid DiFiore '35—then the oldest living Regian—reflected on life, service to country, and the shared experience Regians “take with them for the rest of their lives.”

By Conor Newton '14
Communications Associate

In mid-November, I made my way downtown on the Lexington Avenue line for a conversation with Regis's oldest living alumnus, Ovid DiFiore. Ovid, who passed away in early February, was a member of the Regis class of 1935. Before conversing with Mr. DiFiore, I was chiefly interested in his military service in WWII. Regis was honoring the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day and the legacy of all Regis veterans, and what better way to commemorate this centenary than featuring the perspective of Regis's own centenarian veteran?

And while Ovid did share fascinating anecdotes about his time in the Signal Corps, I left the interview with so much more: a vivid picture of Regis as it stood eight decades ago. Throughout our conversation, Ovid—100 years young at the time—related stories of depression-era Regis and the Upper East Side with incredible clarity. Even in his second century, Mr. DiFiore was witty, humorous, and sharp throughout our chat.

He still remembered the day he received his acceptance letter. “My father was at a complete loss for words,” he said. “My father could only muster the word ‘wonderful’ over and over.” The year was 1930—just a year after Black Tuesday and the market crash—and Ovid's parents were already tasked with the financial burden of putting four of his siblings through parochial school. That Regis could offer a tuition-free private education was a windfall, to say the least. “At the time, most schools had troubles with money,” Ovid said. According to

him, even private schools had to cut back on uniform and book costs to ease the onus on parents.

In 1931, Ovid was set to begin his Regis experience. But there was one little issue—how to get there? When Mr. DiFiore (who hails from Fort Lee, New Jersey) matriculated to Regis, there was one key piece of infrastructure missing. “Those were the days before the George Washington Bridge was completed,” Ovid said. “There was no bus, so I had to go out of my way to get to school.” And so Ovid circumvented the issue by heading south, only to head back north. Like many current Regians, he found himself leaving in the pre-dawn darkness, even in September and June when the days were long.

But day-in and day-out, he did make it to the Upper East Side, which, in spite of a struggling market and widespread poverty, was still ritzy. “Oh, it was a fancy neighborhood, alright. There were people driving Bentleys, Rolls-Royces, Cadillacs. Sometimes people would complain if you so much as touched their cars.” And yet, it was precisely this high-class situation that often helped Ovid across the Central Park transverse. On a typical school day, he would ride the subway up to 86th Street. However, unlike the Regians of today, Ovid employed a special trick upon reaching the Upper West Side. “I usually hitchhiked across the transverse to get to school. Sometimes I'd get a good ride, sometimes I'd walk across.”

Though his commuting luck was sporadic throughout his first three years, in his senior year, he struck a veritable gold mine. “In my fourth year, I'd found



Opposite page: Ovid DiFiore '35 and his camera, which he used in his service as a photographer during World War II. This photo is also the cover of his 2008 memoir, *Melbourne to Manila*.

Above: Ovid in his old military uniform.

a chauffeur-driven car. The guy was wearing a uniform and everything. He was taking his boss—who lived on the Upper East Side on Park [Avenue]—to Amsterdam Avenue. On the way back, he'd pick me up, and we'd chat while going across the park. So here I am, a high school kid trying to save a nickel, and I'm being driven to school by a chauffeur in a limousine.”

Ovid also recalled a series of particularly memorable commutes. In one such instance, he found himself in a maroon convertible with a psychiatrist headed up to 179th Street (the bridge was completed in the middle of his freshman

year, with the bus station opening not long after). “The guy kept asking me how I felt about having to go to confession at school,” Ovid related. “He was fascinated by the idea of Regis.” Another time, on a chilly fall day in his senior year, he was headed home across the park, when a driver of a horse and wagon offered him a ride (a much more common sight in the Upper East side in those days). When Ovid accepted, the driver hopped off out of his seat, and beckoned to Ovid. “I’ve got to train for the Police Academy test,” the man said, according to Ovid. “You drive the horse and I’ll run next to you.” And so, a 16-year-old Regis senior found himself

driving a horse across Central Park to commute home. “Though, I think the horse knew the way on his own,” Ovid added, laughing.

Though the commute to get there was long and often convoluted, in Ovid’s eyes it was all worth it. “It was a wonderful school,” he often reflected in our conversation. “It was strict though,” Ovid said, pointing to draconian JUG policies that often facilitated a very serious environment. “You’d be lucky to go even a week without getting JUG for something,” he mused, laughing. And though Regis has changed quite a bit since then—we now have two gyms, an updated chapel, resource centers,

trees in the quadrangle (this newfound arboreal presence was a minor shock to Ovid when he came back to visit many years later)—in many ways, its ethos has remained the same. Noting the changes, Ovid added that Regis “maintained its main principles—good education, good behavior, teachers that take you under their wings, and good Catholic principles for the young boys to take with them for the rest of their lives.”

After graduating in 1935, he didn’t immediately go to college. In those days, this was commonplace. He went into the workforce to attempt to help with his family’s financial burdens, hopping from job to job (including one at a film studio).



Clockwise from left: (1) Ovid and a military vehicle. He served in the signal corps in World War II stationed in Manila. (2) Photo of US General Douglas MacArthur, taken by Ovid. (3) Ovid (second from left) on rest and relaxation from the War.

On September 30, 1941, Ovid DiFiore enlisted in the Signal Corps of the U.S. Military, serving as a photographer (he had spent time as a young boy learning how to work a camera, and later practiced developing film in the Regis chemistry club and in his job at the film studio). In the service, Ovid traveled all over the Pacific (he recounts his travels in a book of photographs and letters, entitled *From Melbourne to Manila*). While in the Pacific, he established a rapport with General Douglas MacArthur's assistant (a major), and, through this relationship, photographed the famous general many times. "I was extremely lucky," he said, "in that I was able to make one of my passions a part of my military service."

In 1945, Japan surrendered to the United States, and World War II came to an end. Ovid and his fellow servicemen in Manila couldn't take a plane home, so they found a bit of an alternate route. They boarded a cruise ship called the *Matsonia* and sailed back to the continental United States. "I still remember the day when we arrived back in the U.S. Our ship was traveling through the Golden Gate. All the soldiers were on one side of the ship, waving to the people waiting for them to come home. The harbor was packed with civilians cheering for us. And because we were all on one side, the ship was leaning quite a bit. I thought it might tip over. When we arrived on land, they gave all of us a doughnut and a cup of coffee, and loaded us into trucks." Ovid then took planes back across the country, remembering with striking clarity the route he took: from San Francisco to Ogden, Utah to St. Louis to New Orleans to New York and then on to Newark. "My mother almost knocked me down the stairs when she first saw me. She was so surprised!"

After being discharged, Ovid attended Pace University, and subsequently spent thirty-five years at the same company. Throughout this time, he never forgot his roots at Regis. He often reflected on



Above: Photos taken by Ovid during World War II.

his time there, and recalled it with great fondness. At the Regis Centennial Gala, he brought three generations of DiFiore family members to celebrate. At the Waldorf celebration, he recalls that he was "the oldest alumnus there." He seemed bemused when he was asked to stand and the crowd cheered for him. "There was such an applause, as if I'd done something unusual," he remarked, laughing.

Regis was a vital part of Mr. DiFiore's life up until his passing this February. He related that a fellow member of his senior group also attended a Regis High

School—in Melbourne, Australia! "And they knew about us," he enthusiastically added. Ovid was tremendously happy with the direction he saw the school headed. "It has to change, sometimes. You can't stay totally static. There's no good in that. I'm glad it's maintained its mission while it's modernized!"

Even eighty-three years after graduating, Regis remained a key part of Ovid DiFiore's life. Perhaps he summed it up the most succinctly: "Regis was a big turning point in my life. There's no doubt about that."



Answering the Call

Rev. Anthony D. Andreassi, CO Named 23rd Principal of Regis High School

When Dr. Gary Tocchet retired after 12 years of service as the school's first lay principal, Regis president Rev. Daniel K. Lahart, SJ turned his attention to securing the next academic leader. This was no easy task, given Dr. Tocchet's impressive record of leadership and service to fair Regis.

Since Dr. Tocchet's retirement announcement occurred in the late winter, Fr. Lahart decided that naming an interim principal would be necessary for the 2018-2019 school year. After much reflection and consultation, Fr. Lahart named Fr. Anthony Andreassi, CO, interim principal on March 5, 2018.

Fr. Andreassi began his work in the summer of 2018, getting settled into his new role and responsibilities as students and teachers were away on vacation, and the building on 84th St. was relatively quiet. Along with his two assistant principals, Ms. Samantha Lehn and Mr. Christian Mariano '99, he planned for the academic year ahead.

When the school doors opened in early September, Fr. Andreassi was excited for the new year, but could not quite foresee what was in store for him. Over the course of the fall trimester, he did so well in the

role and enjoyed it so much, that when the time came for applications for the next full-time principal, he prayed, consulted with others, and ultimately decided to throw his proverbial hat into the ring.

The search process was indeed competitive and rigorous, with dozens of applications from educators around the country and indeed the world. At the conclusion of much deliberation, the search committee recommended three finalists to Fr. Lahart. From those three finalists, Fr. Lahart chose Fr. Andreassi to become the school's 23rd principal.

"It was a tremendous honor when last year Father Lahart asked me to serve as interim principal after Dr. Tocchet announced his retirement," Fr. Andreassi said. "And his decision to ask me to stay on in the role fills me with even more gratitude and honor. Ever since arriving as a classroom teacher at Regis in 2003 I recognized what a special place our school is and that feeling has only deepened over the years, especially in these months as interim principal. In this new role, I have also come to have a newfound respect for my colleagues on the faculty and the many gifts and deep passion they bring as Ignatian educators. And now I am

greatly looking forward to working with them as we respond to both the challenges and opportunities of the Strategic Plan in our common vocation to form young men to become servant leaders in the world and in the Church rooted in the vision of St. Ignatius."

Fr. A, as he is known by many, comes from a family of educators. Born in White Plains, his mother and father were both teachers, his mother a teacher of middle school math in Yonkers, while his father spent over three decades teaching children—many with special needs—in the South Bronx. Even Fr. Andreassi's brother is a teacher. "These things can run in families," Fr. A remarked.

On a more serious note, he continued: "I proudly come from a family of teachers. So much of my vocation in high school and college was driven by a desire to work with young people and children as a priest, and this reflects what my father did for all those years. The only title that Jesus ever accepted in the Gospels was teacher. Being a teacher is a vocation, and I see that here in the school. The mission is teaching, forming,

supporting. This has given me my life's energy. I've been blessed as a priest of the Oratory to be both a priest and a teacher."

Fr. Andreassi's preparation to become a priest and teacher is impressive. He studied philosophy at the Catholic University of America and received his master in Divinity from St. Joseph's College and Seminary. After returning to school, he earned both his Master's and Ph.D. in History from Georgetown University. His thesis focused on the Sisters of the Divine Compassion in the late 1800s and early 1900s. In 2007, Anthony Andreassi was ordained a priest for the Brooklyn Oratory of St. Philip Neri.

Since he joined our school in 2003, Fr. Andreassi has worn many hats. A regular in both the History and Theology departments, he has taught many different classes, including American and European history, Church history, Catholicism since Vatican II, Faith through Film and Fiction, Christian Ethics, and Macroeconomics. In addition to his dedicated work as a teacher, Fr. Andreassi served as the director of the Senior Christian Service Program prior to his appointment as interim Principal this past summer. He has moderated the Freshman Retreat and has led countless others. He has also served as the school's archivist, and is the author of *Teach Me to be Generous*, the centennial history of Regis High School.

"Of all the many blessings in my adult life," Fr. Andreassi said, "one of the singular blessings was when Fr. Judge asked me to write the history of Regis. To be able to research and write the story of Regis, was wonderful, especially to have spoken with alumni and parents." Now as Principal, Fr. Andreassi still finds joy "telling the story of the school."

With Fr. Lahart's arrival in 2016 and now Fr. Andreassi's, the school is under new leadership on the first floor. As President and Principal, respectively, Frs. Lahart and Andreassi will work closely together, despite focusing on different areas of school life. "I have known Fr. Andreassi since we worked together at Gonzaga College High School in Washington D.C. 20 years ago," Fr. Lahart said. "I have the utmost respect for him as an individual, and he has proven himself to be an outstanding administrator as well. He always leads with the heart of a teacher,

"Looking at the sweep of the school's history over the last century, so much has changed, and that is human—to be human is to change, and change is a sign life and growth. But there are some core things we hold on to. These core things are the substance of our mission, and I see this framed in the following question: *How do we form Catholic leaders rooted in the Gospel?*"

and with a concern for the students. I am confident he will be a wonderful principal here at Regis High School, and I am grateful to his Community for making him available, and to him for his willingness to take on this new challenge."

Fr. Lahart's thoughts are reflected in Fr. Andreassi's own approach to educational leadership: "I try to lead as a servant leader. When power is given to an authority, it's always for the common good. Power and authority come with great responsibility to all the stakeholders in the community." Fr. A continued in a manner characterized by humility to say, "I'm also not afraid to ask questions of people I trust. A leader should recognize that there's wisdom and insight he can draw upon from all sorts of people who are part of the community."

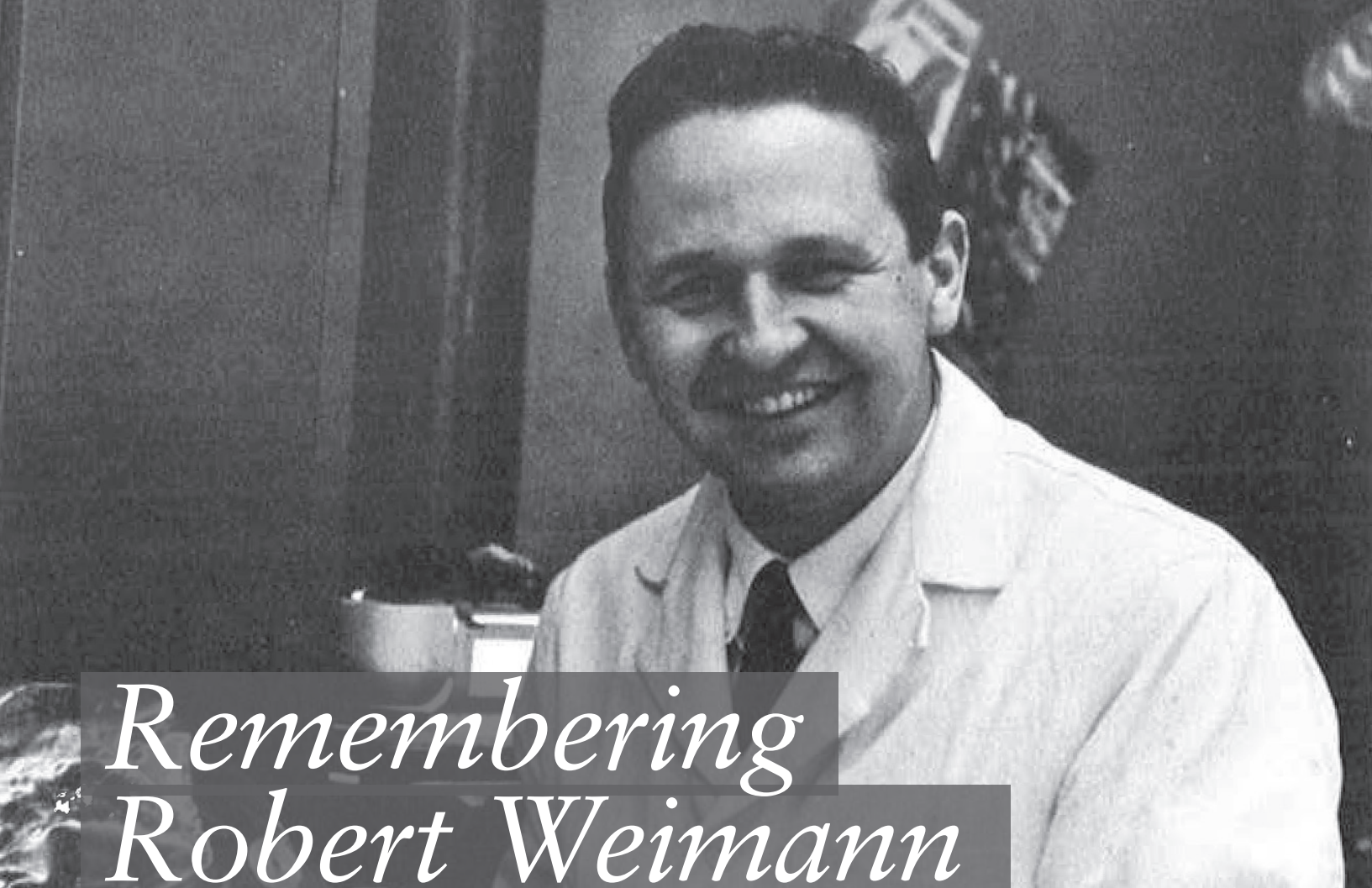
Being principal requires not only leadership and wisdom, but also the ability to make practical changes. As

mentioned above, Father Andreassi will work with the faculty to begin the implementation of changes that resulted from the multi-year curriculum review that all departments participated in, as well as the recently approved Strategic Plan. "This is an exciting time for Regis High School as we begin the implementation of both our Strategic Plan and our curriculum review," Fr. Lahart said. "I look forward to continuing to work with Fr. Andreassi as we strive to strengthen the good work that Regis has accomplished over the past 105 years."

And indeed Fr. Andreassi has already begun to implement changes that reflect the work of many over the prior few years. Among the positive changes in the works for next year, he is most excited about an adjustment to the daily schedule, which will see the school move from a five-day to an eight-day cycle of letter days, and also changes to the college guidance curriculum. The schedule change will offer "more opportunities for our community to come together regularly in intentional ways" and will also "help our students deal with stress in a healthier way," Fr. Andreassi said. Changes to the college guidance curriculum will help the school build on an "already strong program" and respond to changes in the college admissions landscape.

Naturally, Fr. Andreassi brings a historian's perspective to change: "Looking at the sweep of the school's history over the last century, so much has changed, and that is human—to be human is to change, and change is a sign life and growth. But there are some core things we hold on to. These core things are the substance of our mission, and I see this framed in the following question: *How do we form Catholic leaders rooted in the Gospel?*"

When not busy leading the day-to-day operations of Regis High School, Fr. Andreassi can be found taking a morning run in Brooklyn, which he cites as good for his health, "both mental and physical" or spending time with friends. But even many of his friends connect him to Regis. "I've been blessed to become friendly with colleagues and even some former students," he said. "The time that I spend with them gives me a lot of meaning and purpose in life."



Remembering Robert Weimann

Mr. Robert Weimann, longtime member of the Regis faculty, passed away on March 27, 2019 at the age of 84.

Mr. Weimann, affectionately known as “Bio Bob” within the Regis community, began his teaching career with brief stints at Salesian High School and then Fordham Preparatory, before joining the Regis High School faculty in the fall of 1966. During his tenure as a member of the science department, Mr. Weimann served on numerous committees, moderated a variety of clubs, and taught classes in health, chemistry, biology and advanced placement biology. Mr. Weimann remained at Regis for the rest of his career, retiring at the conclusion of the 2001 academic year.

For generations of Regians, Mr. Weimann was easy to spot in his signature blue lab coat. He was easy to hear, often rattling a pocket-sized package of the orange Tic-Tacs he loved. And his students were easy to identify, most prominently through the colorful biology illustrations which he enjoyed assigning as homework.



Pictured: Mr. Bob Weimann (far right) joined Mr. Jim Phillips (far left) and Mr. Greg Rapisarda (second from right) at a faculty luncheon last year to wish Dr. John Tricamo well in his retirement.

But it was his joy for teaching and his love for the Regis community that defined him. In a Summer 2001 tribute to the then-retiring Mr. Weimann, longtime science department colleague Mrs. Patricia Hannon wrote, “it is a rare day when you find a frown on Bob’s face. He is one of the happiest people you will ever meet and has a kind word for everyone.”

Mr. Weimann had a gift for dispelling freshmen anxiety over upcoming exams, and for encouraging students to work hard, do well, but not to forget to have fun along the way. Legions of Regis students, recalled Hannon in her tribute, will remember the kindness shown to them by Mr. Weimann and the energy and joy he brought to the classroom and science resource center each day.

Events Calendar

For more information on upcoming events, visit regis.org/events

MAY

9 President's Dinner

An annual dinner recognizing donors who made leadership gifts during the previous fiscal year.

13 Washington D.C. Regional Reunion

Join the Regis community to see the Yankees take on the Tampa Bay Rays

18 50th Alumni Reunion

The Class of 1969

28 Baccalaureate Mass

St. Ignatius Loyola Church

30-June 1 Giving Weekend

A three-day, community-wide fundraising campaign celebrating the class of 2019

JUNE

1 Graduation

St. Ignatius Loyola Church (ticketed event)

4 Regians in Media and Entertainment Event

Stories & Storytellers featuring: Ed Conlon '83, Phil Klay '01, Eddie Gamarra '90, Matt Thomas '93

8 25th Alumni Reunion

The Class of 1994

15 5th and 10th Alumni Reunions

Classes of 2009 and 2014

17 Golf & Tennis Outing

Pelham Country Club

SEPTEMBER

14 Golden Owls Reunion

Classes of 1954, 1959, and 1964

OCTOBER

25 JUG Night

Annual fall gathering for alumni

NOVEMBER

6 Deo et Patriae Reception

Recognizing supporters of Regis High School at the Order of the Owl level

2019 REUNIONS!

2014 | 2009 | 2004 | 1999 | 1994
1989 | 1984 | 1979 | 1974 | 1969

Email events@regis.org
for more information



Regis on the Road

Regis is hosting a number of upcoming regional events in major cities across the country. Check our calendar for upcoming dates, or contact events@regis.org.





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Ms. Robyn Prezioso instructs freshmen students as they sketch still life pieces in art class