

REGIS

FOR ALUMNI, FAMILIES, AND FRIENDS OF REGIS HIGH SCHOOL | SUMMER 2020



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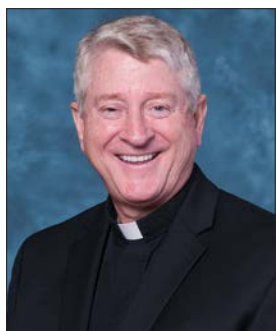


Above An owl keeps watch over the Regis quadrangle.

On the Cover The Class of 2020's time at Regis came to an end under unique circumstances. Learn more about how Regis celebrated its resilient graduates on p. 13.

President's Report

Living Up To Our Ideals



When I wrote my column for the Spring edition, and labelled it *Interesting Times*, I certainly hoped that by this point our lives would be *less* interesting. Maybe now it is just boring at times after more than five months of these challenges associated with this pandemic.

In June, the tragic killing of George Floyd set off a series of protests and a national conversation about racial injustice and prejudice, with so many companies and institutions called upon to do better. The stories on an Instagram page, BlackAtRegis, certainly make it clear that Regis has much room for improvement.

This summer, we have held Town Hall meetings on race at Regis, and those have been both informative and challenging. We will have several task forces this school year that will thoroughly and systematically examine this critical issue, and help us identify concrete areas and opportunities for improvement.

I recently received a letter from an alumnus who graduated almost 70 years ago responding to my July email on race. He wrote:

In your email you wrote that Regis is "far from perfect." I would agree, but I believe that Regis is a far better place today than it was years ago. I believe the same can also be said about many aspects of our society. However, much more undoubtedly needs to be done, both in society, and at Regis...

Regis has been far from perfect. I say that from my experience as a student in the 40s... However, reflecting on my student days at Regis and my association as an alumnus, I consider Regis to be one of the greatest blessings of my life. Although not being perfect, I am convinced that Regis has always tried to do the right thing. Through the years it has tried

with passion to live up to its ideals. Although Regis has improved through the years, it will never be perfect. However, I am convinced that Regis, with God's help, will continue to grow better and better. Through the years, I have lost confidence in most of the institutions for which, during my youth, I had respect. Regis has been the one big exception. For me, Regis has been an institution to be admired and emulated. Regis has changed most everything about itself, except its basic ideals.

Yes, this place is certainly different from when he matriculated in the 1940s, and there are some things that are better, and some things perhaps not. Our world is certainly different on so many levels, and we try to thoughtfully reflect and grow as we go along. I think we have done a pretty good job of it over the years, and I hope and pray that the work we are doing now is also progress towards being better tomorrow than we are today or were yesterday.

Our basic ideals have not changed. We didn't use the phrase *Men for Others* in the 40s as we do today, but it was the same idea: train these talented young men to use their God-given talents in the service of other people. That is our hope and prayer.

With the pandemic still raging, this will be a strange year, and if I could just fast forward it a year, I would happily do so. Instead, we will persevere. God only knows what it will entail, but certainly grace will abound somehow. And we will work to come out of it better than today.

Please keep us in your prayers as I remember you in mine.

God bless.

Daniel K. Lahart, SJ
President

The Office of Development

The Spirit of Generosity Continues

The 2019-2020 school year was without parallel in so many ways. In the midst of significant uncertainty, the 2020 Annual Fund: *Transforming Lives* reached \$9.8 million, a strong result for any year, and a remarkable result given the circumstances. This is the second largest Annual Fund in the school's history, just shy of the \$9.9 million mark set in 2018. We look forward to sharing a complete report in the 2020 Annual Report, which will be published this fall. In that report, we will formally recognize and thank our thousands of supporters. At this time, the Office of Development wants to express its sincere and significant gratitude for the many supporters who contributed to last year's fund and allowed the school to meet its operating expenses without taking an unbudgeted withdrawal from the endowment. Thank you!

Alumni, parents, and friends contributed not only through financial support, but also through efforts to maintain connection and community, despite social distancing measures and other obstacles. As you will read in these pages, some of the most prominent alumni of Regis, including Dr. Anthony Fauci '58, generously shared their time and insight with the graduating seniors in the week leading up to graduation. Over 200 alumni have given of their time and insight over the summer during Town Halls where Race at Regis has been a focus of conversation. Current parents have generously offered their time and support guiding incoming freshman families. And of course faculty and staff

have been creative and persistent in making sure that we pursue our mission of academic excellence and forming selfless leaders. Generosity begets gratitude, and we are deeply grateful for all of these special and meaningful efforts.

All in all, the Regis community remains exceptionally strong, even as we remain physically separated. Many alumni have been gathering on Zoom, and the Class of 1966 deserves special mention. They have been Zooming each weekend since the pandemic began — that's 20+ weekends in a row! The crowd varies from 20-40 participants, and it is a great way to stay connected. If any class would like support when connecting on Zoom, please write to alumni@regis.org

As we look ahead to another year beset by uncertainty, the Development Office is actively planning to continue its work of building community and raising critical financial resources in support of the Regis mission. There are several virtual events on the calendar already, including JUG Night for all alumni on October 16 and a reception for Freshman Parents on October 14. The Deo Et Patriae reception will also take on a virtual character, not dissimilar from the President's Dinner last May. While we hope to be able to hold spring reunions and other events in person, we will continue to monitor guidelines and restrictions from the appropriate authorities, and we will keep everyone informed as plans evolve.

Regis Polls Alumni Parents

In April, the Development Office fielded a questionnaire among Regis parents from the classes of 2010 to 2020 with the goal of better understanding the ways in which this group might be interested in connecting with the school and with each other. A total of 226 parents completed the survey, which covered a range of topics.

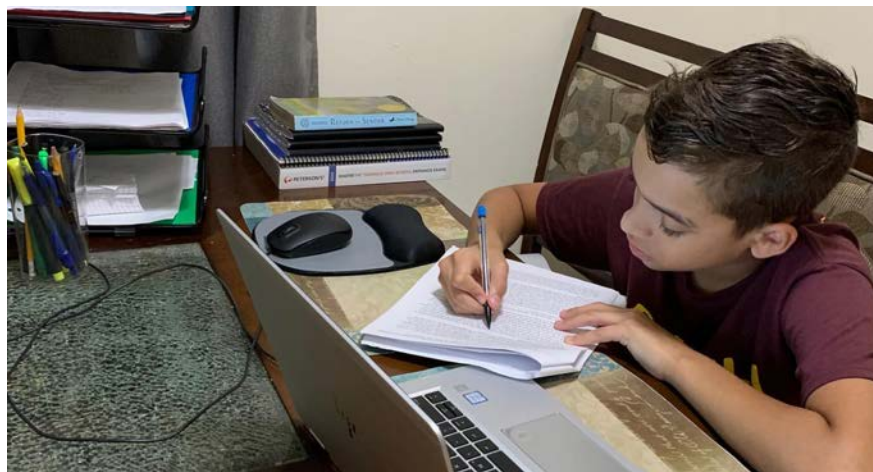
Following are some highlights from the responses, more detail of which will be shared with alumni parents in the coming weeks and months:

- Nearly 70% expressed a strong interest in becoming more connected to what is currently going on at Regis, while 63% were very interested in becoming more connected to their fellow alumni parents.
- From a list of possible events and activities, parents showed the most interest in a lecture series, alumni parent Masses and meals, community service, and social events (e.g., wine tasting, class "reunions").
- Although awareness of Regis' Ignatian Parent Program was low (26%), many expressed interest in attending lectures, spiritual meetings, and retreats led by this group.
- The Regis Magazine remains the primary way in which alumni parents stay connected to the school and responses indicated a desire on the part of this group to see more alumni profiles, teacher profiles, and stories about student service projects.

News & Notes

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

REACH Program Thrives in Virtual Setting



The COVID-19 pandemic created the most unusual and perhaps most challenging summer in the history of the REACH Program. Normally, the devoted team of REACH administrators and faculty and REACH's hardworking students depart for the University of Scranton in early July for three intense weeks of classes, formation, and fun followed by another three weeks commuting each day to Regis. This summer, the public health risks made in-person instruction impossible.

Instead, REACH persevered with REACH @ Zoom, an entirely virtual summer session that sought to replicate all of the most critical aspects of the usual experience. The program was defined by the dedication and tenacity of REACH students, whose schedules stretched from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on most days. By the end of the six weeks, those involved agreed that despite the unprecedented challenges, the summer was a success.

"I've taken all the habits that I learned in the classroom to REACH @ Zoom, but it's just a tad different because sitting over the computer screen seeing my mates over Zoom, it's not the same as being with them in person," one REACH student said during a panel discussion about REACH @ Zoom that is available at news.regis.org. "But overall I still continue to cherish and love REACH no matter where it's from, and it will always be one of the greatest things I have in my life."

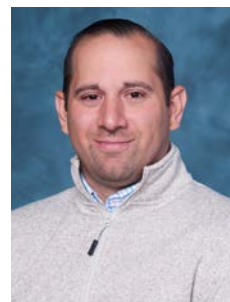
Regis Begins School Year in Remote Instruction

On Friday, August 7, Regis High School shared its plan to safely and effectively operate for the 2020-21 academic year in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In a letter to students and parents, Rev. Daniel K. Lahart, SJ, announced that Regis would begin the year in remote instruction and hopefully transition to a hybrid in-person model after the midpoint of the first trimester.

Fr. Lahart, who has relied upon the advice of Dr. Anthony Fauci '58 throughout the pandemic, wrote that the decision on whether to return to Regis' historic building on Monday, October 19 using this hybrid model would be announced by October 1. To read Regis' full Reopening Plan, please visit news.regis.org.

With Gratitude to Departing Faculty & Staff

A number of faculty and staff members left Regis this past academic year to pursue other professional opportunities. We are so grateful for their dedicated service.



Mr. Vincent Catapano '96
ALUMNI DIRECTOR
12 YEARS



Mr. Andrew Kent
THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT
5 YEARS

Ms. Victoria Cerrone
SCHOOL NURSE
3 YEARS

Mr. Evan Chyriwiski '13
ADMISSIONS ASSOCIATE
1 YEAR

Mr. Esteban Angeles '15
ALUMNUS MENTOR
1 YEAR

Mr. Thomas Tyson '15
ALUMNUS MENTOR
1 YEAR

Ms. Molly Cesarz Receives Hannon Award



In May, during the virtual Spring Academic Convocation, Ms. Molly Cesarz, a long-time member of Regis' Language Department, was honored with the Patricia Hannon Ignatian Educator Award.

Named in honor of the late Mrs. Patricia Hannon — who not only shared her knowledge and passion for chemistry with countless students over her 23-year career, but also touched just as many hearts in the process — the Ignatian Educator Award recognizes a faculty member whose dedication to his or her students fosters a learning environment that is the model of Ignatian pedagogy.

In announcing this year's recipient, Regis Principal Fr. Anthony D. Andreassi, CO, praised Ms. Cesarz for her "long, generous, and quiet service of our school and our students." He touted her success in the classroom as well as her commitment to her students that is often on display after school in the Language Resource Center, where she is sometimes joined by her sons, who attend Saint Ignatius Loyola School across the street from Regis.

"As an Ignatian educator, she is a sincere Catholic who like St. Ignatius Loyola himself gives her best effort as a teacher and as a mother to the greater glory of god," Fr. Andreassi said. "And also like St. Ignatius, she possesses a genuine humility in that she never seeks credit for herself, preferring instead to put others first."

That same humility was reflected in Ms. Cesarz's response to receiving the award.

"I am honored even to have been considered for the Patti Hannon Ignatian Educator Award, but I must say that I have been more educated than educator, as I am the one who has learned so much from my students and been so enriched by the entire Regis community!" she said. "I am grateful for the blessing of Regis in my life."

"Colloquia Aestiva" Zooms Regis Latin to New Heights



How do you say "refrigerator" in Latin? That's not a word found in Cicero or Caesar's writings, but it is an essential vocabulary word for speaking Latin. Knowing that the "amarium frigidarium" keeps food cold may not raise a student's Latin grade, but it does make for a more enjoyable, and more complete, understanding of the language. Latin teacher Mr. David Bonagura '99 decided to hold "Colloquia Aestiva," or "Summer Conversations," for Regis Latin students via Zoom for the four Mondays in June in order to facilitate this broader experience of the Latin language, with a special emphasis on helping students to speak Latin.

The format of the sessions was modeled after the active Latin seminars that Mr. Bonagura has participated in the last several years. Students encountered new vocabulary that is essential for everyday life: greetings, telling time, and housewares. Then students would, either in pairs or as a full group, engage in exercises that required them to use the new vocabulary in a creative manner. For the June colloquia, such exercises included writing a scene for the movies *The Jungle Book* and *The Grinch*, describing the physical characteristics of Hercules, and stating what one does upon rising from bed.

The colloquia also spent time reading Latin related to the two liturgical solemnities celebrated this June: Corpus Christi, for which they sang the beautiful hymn "Lauda Sion" that was composed by St. Thomas Aquinas; and the celebration of Sts. Peter and Paul, for which students read in Latin Jesus' entrusting Peter with the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and then narrated in Latin Perugino's famous Sistine Chapel painting of this event.

William Liao '22 summed up the communal goal of the Colloquia in the midst of challenging times quite well. "We begin each Latin class with the following quote from Virgil: 'Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit' ('A joy it will be one day, perhaps, to remember even this'). This pandemic will end one day, and I will remember the things that have bound us as Regians during these challenging times. Latin summer Zoom meetings were a great way for us to come together to learn and have fun."

Colin Jost '00 Promotes the REACH Program on *The Tonight Show*



Saturday Night Live star Colin Jost '00 appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* on Tuesday, July 14 to discuss his new memoir, *A Very Punchable Face*. During the show, Jost also spoke passionately about the REACH Program.

“It’s basically a boot camp from 5th grade to 8th grade for kids who are economically disadvantaged from all the boroughs of New York, and it helps get them extra training and help intensively in the summer and also throughout the school year to basically bridge the gap that exists for a lot of kids in New York,” Jost explained to host Jimmy Fallon. “It’s super effective. So many of the kids get into great high schools, great colleges, have great careers, and they just do such a good job.”

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, *The Tonight Show* has invited its guests to discuss organizations they feel passionately about and encourage viewers to make contributions to these causes. Jost, a head writer and co-anchor of *Weekend Update* on *Saturday Night Live*, chose to highlight REACH, which has opened doors and changed trajectories for hundreds of Catholic boys from New York families with financial need since its founding in 2002.

You can watch Jost’s appearance and his praise for REACH at news.regis.org.



Regis Rep Releases Virtual Performance

In the early weeks of 2020—what now feels like a lifetime ago—The Regis Repertory gathered together to begin working on and rehearsing its spring musical, a production of the musical comedy *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. The musical tells the story of an annual spelling bee set in a Putnam Valley Middle School and a cast of quirky kids vying for a spelling bee title under the direction of a likewise idiosyncratic collection of adults.

As with many other school-related activities, the global pandemic threw a proverbial wrench into the Regis

Rep’s plans and they were forced, with heavy hearts, to suspend and ultimately cancel the production. In the weeks that followed, the talented cast—by now experts in the world of Zoom—gathered together to perform and record a song from *Spelling Bee* with the intention of sharing this performance with the Regis community at large. This collaborative effort is a testament to the talent, tenacity, and unwavering passion of the young men and women who comprise The Regis Repertory.

To watch their performance, please visit news.regis.org.

In Memoriam

Two beloved members of the Regis High School staff passed away this summer. With deep appreciation for their decades of service to Regis, we remember them here. Please join the Regis family in praying for the Jaworski and McGregor families.



MR. ANDRZEJ JAWORSKI

Mr. Andrzej Jaworski, a longtime member of Regis High School's Maintenance Staff, passed away on June 10 at the age of 64. He had been admitted to the hospital days earlier due to an illness.

"Andrzej's strong work ethic and kind, gentle nature will be sorely missed by so many of us at Regis," Regis President Daniel K Lahart, SJ, said. "Please join me in praying for the repose of Andrzej's soul and for the comfort of his family and friends."

A native of Poland, Mr. Jaworski joined the Regis staff in 2002. He is remembered by his colleagues past and present, as well as many Regis students and alumni, for his quiet warmth and acts of kindness.

Mr. Jaworski is survived by his wife, Danuta, and their son, Bartosz. The Jaworski family asked that anyone wishing to make a memorial donation in Andrzej's honor consider a contribution to the The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.



MR. ERIC MCGREGOR

Mr. Eric McGregor, Regis High School's longtime Building Superintendent, passed away on July 4, 2020. Mr. McGregor, who had been battling health problems in recent months, suffered a stroke while in the hospital. He was 54.

For the past two decades, Mr. McGregor oversaw and maintained Regis High School's landmark building. He managed the school's Maintenance Staff and was a friend to many current and former faculty and staff members.

"It's difficult to imagine life at Regis without Eric," Fr. Lahart said. "His careful, expert stewardship kept our building fully operational and beautiful. His kindness and keen sense of humor will be sorely missed by Regis staff, students, parents, and alumni alike. I ask the Regis community to join me in praying for the McGregor family."

This spring, Mr. McGregor celebrated his 20th anniversary working at Regis. The 2020 edition of the *Regian*, the school's yearbook, marked this milestone with a brief appreciation of his service written by Vice President for Operations Mr. Joseph Amatrucola.

"Every school day, before most members of our community have even opened their eyes, one staff member has already arrived at the school

building, turned on the lights, checked the boiler, and executed a one-man fire drill (yes, he sets off the fire alarm every morning to ensure its proper operation)," the yearbook passage begins. "These are but a mere few of the numerous behind-the-scenes tasks completed by our Building Superintendent, Mr. Eric McGregor, as he works to keep the physical plant in tip-top shape. Throughout the year he can be found doing everything from fixing furniture and painting walls to monitoring equipment and ensuring compliance with local safety regulations. In addition, for 20 years he has supervised the maintenance staff that works diligently to keep our building clean and orderly. As the weather gets warmer and most head away from Regis, Mr. McGregor kicks into high gear serving as the foreman for all summer construction projects, including the most recent renovations to the lecture hall, locker room, cafeteria, and upgraded classrooms. Though he would certainly prefer to simply fade into the background and not have any attention brought to his significant contributions in service of the students, faculty and staff, we would be remiss to not recognize Mr. McGregor on this milestone in his career at Regis. Thank you!"

Mr. McGregor, a native of Ireland, is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and their daughter, Shannen. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Lung Association.



Ignatian Spirituality

The Fourth Day

Unity in Difference

By Fr. A.J. Rizzo, SJ
 Director of Mission and Identity

At its core, what we mean when we say that we believe in a triune God — Father, Son, and Spirit — is that we believe in love. Ours is a God who loves us so much he created us as God the Father. Ours is a God who loves us so much he became one of us as God the Son. And ours is a God who loves us so much that God remains with us as God the Holy Spirit, abiding with us and continuing in astonishing ways God's creation.

The unity that we see in the Trinity — a community of persons who even in their difference are so in love with each other that they are undivided — is the unity amidst our differences, which we are created for and invited into. It's what our families should look like. It's what our Church should look like. It's what our nation should look like. It's what our world should look like. And this is an experience we know deep in our bones: that we are created for love, for unity, for communion. How do we know that? Because we know how right that feeling of connection is. And how meaningful and joyful and just full it is when we experience it. There are glimpses of the perfection of this love all around us if we pay attention.

Before I knew how to articulate this, I saw God as love present in my parents — My Dad, a Philly police officer, and my Mom, a 4th grade social studies teacher — in the way that they looked at each other and the way that they looked at their six children. There are clues all around us pointing toward this unity.

Wherever there is love between human beings, God is present. God is the energy, the force that binds us. And in the love we have for one another, we make God manifest in the world.

As our country reels from the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, what I just described sounds like a Hallmark card — too good to be true. And that is because we are invited to live our lives in love, to participate in the life of God. We have a choice. And the sad truth is that all of us sometimes choose not to. Sometimes we get it wrong in obvious ways — perhaps through some blatant action we take against a sister or a brother. We consciously choose not to live in this love, to disconnect ourselves, or worse to disconnect someone else from the community. But sometimes missing the mark can be much more insidious.

And when it comes to the issue of race and systemic racism in the United States, I believe this is more often than not the case. I believe all people of good will would cringe at the idea of choking another person, leaning on their neck until they expire. But if my experience as a white man, an educator, and a Jesuit priest has taught me anything, it has taught me that apathy — doing nothing in the face of injustice — is far more common than active hatred toward people who don't look like me. It is far more common and far more difficult to root out.

Here's what we know: Black people are three times as likely to be killed by a police officer as white people. Because

we believe that God is unity in difference, we believe that this is our responsibility.

Here's what we know: For every \$100 of wealth held by white families, Black families hold \$5.04 in the United States. Because we believe that God is unity in difference, we believe that this is our responsibility.

Here's what we know: George Floyd was held down for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, fighting for breath, crying for his mother. Because we believe that God is unity in difference, we believe that this is our responsibility. Ours together. When we fail to speak out and act, we become a part of the problem.

This is not a partisan argument I'm making. I'm not writing as a politician, but as a person of faith speaking to a community of faith. Our identity as Catholics, as humans, calls us to fight against the sin of racism that pervades our society. As Pope Francis said, "We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life." The sin of racism runs contrary to everything we believe about the sanctity of life.

It's challenging. It's where the rubber hits the road in being a *Man for Others*. This fight against injustice is the point of the Catholic and Jesuit education we offer in these hallowed walls because injustice stands in the way of unity in difference — of God among us. We consider the rights of the whole community as important as our own well being because we belong to each other. We are called to unity

in difference. And, students, we want you to be really smart not as an end in itself but because we want you to use your smarts to recognize these insidious injustices in our midst — the ones that unfairly hinder Black people and other communities of color — and we want you to fight against these injustices with all of your being.

To the Black members of our Regis community, especially our current students, I want to say that we, the faculty, staff, and administration on 84th Street, see you. Your lives matter period, and they matter to us. We stand with you in solidarity and as allies. We want to fight to protect you. For the times when we've gotten it wrong, for times that you've felt less than under our care, we are sorry. You deserve better. I can promise you we are already brainstorming how to be and do better in our curriculum, in our formation programming, and in opportunities for your voices to be heard.

To all of our students, I want to say that we are committed to continuing this conversation, one we've already begun

truly with you and finding a way forward together. As Fr. Bryan Massingale told us this spring, the Jesuit *Magis* is a sense of dissatisfaction with the status quo. We are always searching for what is greater — that which is beyond us. We have a lot of work to do, and we will do it together.

To the white members of our Regis family, it is incumbent upon us to recognize and actively seek to dismantle these unjust social structures, our own privilege. This may seem like an impossible task, but it begins with everyday actions. Make an effort to really know someone of a different race, to listen to their story, to walk in their shoes. Use the gifts that you have been given to offer people on the margins opportunity. Connect to organizations that are working to make equal rights and equal justice for Black Americans a reality, like New Yorkers United for Justice or the Vera Institute of Justice. Add your voices to theirs and vice versa. I urge us all to use our voices to stand up to people in our spheres of influence who speak out against equality, even when they do it unknowingly.

Something that gives me great peace amidst this turmoil is the idea that the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity who Jesus sent upon his apostles, is as present among us today as on that first Pentecost. We have been given the Holy Spirit as our advocate. And the Holy Spirit is given to us in the form of breath — the breath which Jesus breathed on his disciples and which George Floyd was so tragically and horrifically robbed of. That breath of God still moves among us whenever love and connection and unity are to be found, especially unity in difference. It is the point of our lives as humans to seek out those pockets of unity and connection and to break down barriers so that everyone is valued and welcomed and safe.

That's the Catholic story, and I'm sticking to it. So let's get to work.

This article was adapted from a homily Fr. Rizzo delivered on June 6, 2020 during a vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Holy Spirit. The Mass, which was broadcast live from the Regis chapel, can be viewed in its entirety at regis.org/livestream



FIGHTING RACISM AT REGIS

In the midst of a global pandemic that has disproportionately affected minority communities, the murder of George Floyd on May 25 ignited a national conversation about racism in the United States. That conversation continues at Regis, where identifying, understanding, and fighting against racism will be a focal point of the 2020-21 academic year for students and faculty alike.

During Regis' virtual Graduation ceremony on June 6, Board of Trustees Chairman Anthony DiNovi '80 called on the Regis community to commit to a thorough process of self-examination and self-improvement.

"Regis must be better, and we will be," DiNovi said. "We will do our very best to lead on these topics, to support and protect our Black students and all students of color, and to encourage the dialogue and education necessary as the first step."

DiNovi said this important work needed to begin immediately, and the Regis administration spent much of the summer listening to and learning from its alumni and students. The @BlackatRegis Instagram account, where

anonymous Regians past and present have shared stories of the discrimination they experienced at the school, has underscored the urgency of the need to improve.

"These terrible anecdotes must become a thing of the past," Regis President Daniel K. Lahart, SJ, said in a July letter to all Regis alumni. "All of us at Regis are determined to create a safer environment for our current and future Black students and other Regians of color."

In the letter, Fr. Lahart announced that this fall Regis would convene a steering committee of administrators, alumni, trustees, and other members of the Regis family to thoroughly examine this important issue. This committee, chaired by Regis Director of Mission and Identity Fr. A.J. Rizzo, SJ, will ultimately recommend to the Board of Trustees concrete steps the school can take to prevent and combat racism within its community and prepare its graduates to leave Regis fully equipped to live up to and live out its ideals. The steering committee will be supported by a number of task forces made up of additional members of the Regis family examining specific aspects of the school.

In his July letter, Fr. Lahart invited all Regis graduates to participate in

this effort in two critical ways. He asked alumni to take a survey on their experiences with race at the school. The survey results will aid the steering committee and task forces in their work. Regis also hosted three virtual Town Halls on race for alumni during July, August, and September, providing an open forum for graduates to reflect on their experiences, listen to one another, and make recommendations to school administrators.

At the end of the final Town Hall, DiNovi echoed his comments from Graduation and assured the alumni assembled over Zoom that this effort to eliminate racism at Regis would be the Board of Trustees' highest priority during this academic year. It's a priority he shares with Fr. Lahart, Regis Principal Fr. Anthony Andreassi, CO, and the rest of the faculty and staff.

"While we are proud of our school and the service-minded Catholic men it produces, Regis is far from perfect," Fr. Lahart said. "To comprehensively and continually prevent and address racism and prejudice within our community, we need to do more and do better. With the help of so many members of our community, I am confident that we will!"

The Regis family rallied around the Class of 2020 as their time at the school came to an end in the middle of a global pandemic.

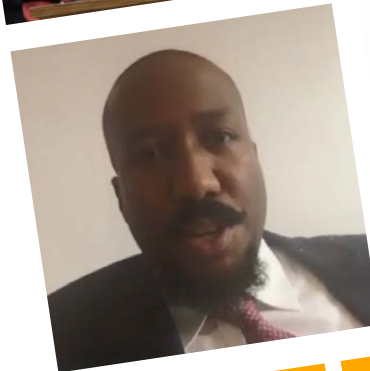
Dr. Anthony Fauci '58 is not very available for lunch dates these days. At the helm of the country's response to COVID-19, Regis' most famous alumnus has a packed schedule. But on June 1, 2020, in the middle of the day, he got together with 128 New York City teenagers.

"I wouldn't miss this or not do it for anything, regardless of how busy I am," Dr. Fauci told the Regis High School Class of 2020 as they spent 35 minutes together over Zoom. Fauci answered questions, first from Michael Kuharski '20, the graduating senior chosen to lead the conversation, and then from several classmates, on everything from his work fighting COVID-19 and AIDS to his days on the Regis basketball court and the sandlots of Brooklyn. Fauci ended the conversation by pulling out a Regis facemask sent to him by an alumnus parent and proudly putting it on in front of the group. It was an experience the students won't forget.

"I think at the critical juncture where I and my classmates now stand in our lives, possessing a great foundational education but soon tasked with discerning what we want to advance our God-given gifts in service of, admirable leaders on TV screens fuel our aspirations for who we dream to become," Kuharski said when asked to reflect on the conversation. "In the

current crisis, no other leader seems to inspire our generation in this way quite like Dr. Anthony Fauci, with his objective, honest guidance, something increasingly rare in our polarized world. Remarkably, through the love of the one institution that binds all Regians together, I along with my peers had the unique opportunity to discuss in a relaxed, relatable conversation with this incredible individual, and there is something profound about that deeply personal experience that shifts the focus from what we can dream of becoming to what we can become as Regis graduates."

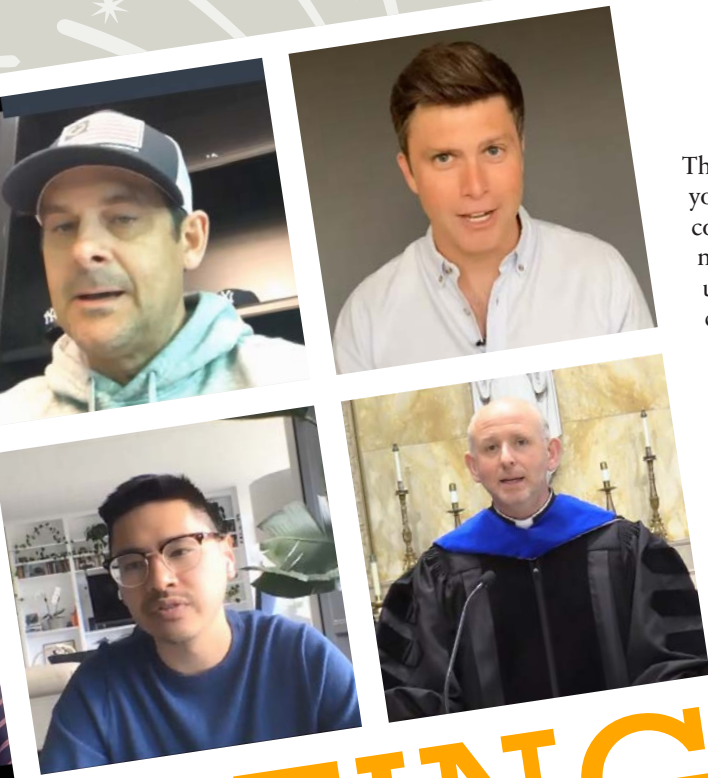
Dr. Fauci wasn't alone in his commitment to celebrating the Class of 2020. Seniors saw the end of their Regis careers permanently altered in March when Regis transitioned to remote instruction. The necessary public health measures instituted in response to the pandemic took away many of the traditional rites of passage for graduating Regians, from the prom at the St. Regis Hotel to graduation in the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola. Determined to make this time meaningful in spite of these challenges, the Regis faculty and staff and alumni, families, and friends



CELEBRATE THE CLASS

rallied around the class to create many memorable moments in the final days of their time as Regis students.

Dr. Fauci's virtual visit, held on the Monday prior to the June 6 Graduation, was the first in a series of conversations with notable Regis graduates that week. The program was the brainchild of Francis Barth '20, the president of Student Government, who asked the Regis administration for help in lining up an interesting graduate to meet with his classmates each day. In addition to Dr. Fauci, former WeWork co-CEO Artie Minson '88, ESPN host Pablo Torre '03, Assistant United States Attorney Martin Bell '99, and former Regis Dean of Students Kyle Mullins '05 reflected on



GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020

Regis and doled out advice to the class over Zoom. A different senior led each conversation and called on classmates to pose questions directly to their guests.

Similar lessons came up each day. The alumni spoke with reverence about the lasting impact Regis has had on their lives and urged the graduates to appreciate the school and their classmates.

“I say often, and I don’t say it just for effect, that of all the educational and other academic experiences that I’ve had in my now rather long career, there’s no doubt in my mind that my experience at Regis High School stands out a cut above everything else,” Dr. Fauci said. “One of the things that is of interest is that when you’re going through it, you don’t really fully realize the impact it’s having on you.”

The importance of directing your talents toward the common good was emphasized multiple times, with Bell urging the graduates to consider making “some chapter of your life one in which you can experience real public service.” The value of their shared Regis connection and the calling alumni feel to assist other Regians also was highlighted. “My assistant always knows that the one group of people who can always get on my calendar is when someone calls from Regis,” Minson said.

Several of the school’s traditional end-of-year dinners, all of which were held virtually this year and saluted in special ways graduating seniors, also featured appearances by inspiring and

interesting alumni and friends. Chris Wierzbicki ’83, a teacher who in the early days of the pandemic organized and led an effort to manufacture and distribute facemasks for hospital workers and others in need of them, spoke at the Catalyst Dinner. *Saturday Night Live* star Colin Jost ’00 headlined the virtual Hearn Dinner, which also featured appearances from a number of alumni, alumni parents, and friends of the school. And New York Yankees Manager Aaron Boone answered questions from Regis athletes during the virtual Athletics Dinner.

“These are times that are difficult but also help prepare you for inevitable gut punches you’re going to get throughout your life,” Boone said. “Hopefully we all will be a little bit better for going through this challenging time.”

The week concluded with a virtual Baccalaureate Prayer Service followed by

virtual Graduation on Saturday, June 6. The ceremony, which was pre-recorded from the Regis chapel and broadcast via regis.org/livestream, included another appearance from Dr. Fauci along with remarks from Regis President Rev. Daniel K. Lahart, SJ, Principal Rev. Anthony D. Andreassi, CO, Board of Trustees Chairman Anthony DiNovi ’80, Director of Mission and Identity Rev. A.J. Rizzo, SJ, and History Department member Rev. Arthur C. Bender, SJ, ’67.

During his remarks, Fr. Lahart cited the special bond he shares with the class, whose freshman year coincided with his first year as president. He urged the graduates to embrace the Ignatian values of gratitude and generosity.

“One thing doesn’t change with Graduation or with time: No matter what or where, you are always called to be a *Man for Others* and to remember that to whom much is given much is expected,” he said.

Fr. Lahart thanked the Class of 2020 for the myriad ways in which they shaped the Regis community. The 128 young men whose formal time at Regis ended with the school’s first-ever virtual Graduation have permanently touched their alma mater and, of course, one another.

“All of us share a bond that transcends the computer screens in front of us, or even the interactions we could have had at prom or graduation,” Jack Clyne ’20, who was chosen by his classmates to speak on their behalf at Graduation, said during his remarks. “So, remember the things that make Regis great. The hard work required that caused us all to learn to persevere. The individuals, traditions, and humor that made Regis a truly fun place to be. And, most importantly, the brotherhood.”

Full recordings of Regis’ Graduation and end-of-year events, as well as selected clips from the alumni conversations with the Class of 2020, can be viewed at regis.org.



CLASS OF 2020

College Destinations

American University

Donato Di Bari

Bates College

Colin Thoman

Bentley University

Jeremiah Alago

Binghamton University

Theodore Brita

Patrick Buff

Matthew Gomez

Elbys Gonzalez

Boston College

Joseph Guzzo

Matthew Virtudes

Daniel Whang

Boston University

Thomas Lawton

Brown University

Michael Kuharski Jr.

Henry Lee

Nathanael Perez

Fengyuan Wang

Carnegie Mellon University

Rafael Rivera

Christendom College

Kevin Farley

Claremont McKenna

Michael Gadinis

College of the Holy Cross

Brendon Alvarez

Cullen MacDonnell

Blake Sheridan

Timothy Smalls

College of William and Mary

Bartholomew Kaminski

Daniel McArthur

Columbia University

Zsolt Marka

Patrick Puma

Ciro Salcedo

David Vazquez-Ortega

Columbia University and Trinity College Dublin

Balthazar Sheehan

Cornell University

Christian Bertomo

Charles Brush

Marc Foley

Luke Hartigan

Derek Sanchez

Javier Vega

Dartmouth College

Justin King

Devin Kruse

Duke University

Brian Lee

Emory University

Stefano Derossi

Franklin and Marshall College

Evan Madden

Fordham University

Aaron Adviento

Owen Byrne

Andy Cuzco

Dramane Doumbia

Michael Early

Joshua Gilbert

Gregory Guzman

Matthew Hayes

Sebastian Lee

Peter Monteleone

Christopher Murray

Paul O'Connell

Christopher Owen

Andrew Rachek

Alan Ventura

Georgetown University

Timothy Brennan

Marcos Caballero

Alex Cha

John Clyne

Eric Fava-Pastilha

Joseph Manfredi

Brendan Quill

Georgia Tech

James Molz

Hamilton College

James Gallagher

Eric Moss

Harvard University

Michael Mantello

Hunter College

Alejandro Scacalossi

Johns Hopkins University

John D'cruz

Lafayette College

Ian Duffy

Loyola University Maryland

Sean McMahan

Middlebury College

Charles Doyle

New York University

Edward Delatorre

Johnny Robinson

Northeastern University

Joshua Antony

Adam DeAngelo

Luke DeMarco

Nicolas Fernandez

Harrison Kim

Christopher Pocchia

Pennsylvania State University

Bernard Kramarchuk

Paul Sabini

Princeton University

Francis Barth

Cole Presten

Erik Roll

Purdue University

John Roberti

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Alexander Brush

Bryan Aviles Velasco

Rice University

Colin Freeman

Sophie Davis/CUNY School of Medicine

Felix Lam

St. Andrews University (UK)

Jake Lillis

Stanford University

Matias Ysidro Benitez

Stevens Institute of Technology

Jacob Agbata

SUNY Maritime

Brandon Balsamo

SUNY Stonybrook

An Nguyen

Swarthmore College

Shane Ross

Tufts University

Gordon Liao

United States Marine Merchant Academy

Keith DeStaebler

United States Military Academy

Eugene Lee

University of Alabama

Robert Mark

University of California, Berkeley

Spencer Eastep

University of California, Santa Barbara

Sean Haran

University of Cambridge (UK)

Liam McClain

University of Chicago

Noel McGrory

Thomas Rogers

University of Connecticut

Colman Tokar

University of Michigan

Ethan Graber

University of Notre Dame

John Berkery

Ryan Birney

William Kim

Nathan Kucinski

Jack McHenry

Peter Murray

Dylan O'Donoghue

University of Pennsylvania

Rafael Foncillas

University of Pittsburgh

Francis Talty

University of Southern California

Matthew Chen

University of Virginia

Jack Penney

Vanderbilt University

Jefferson Guaman

Justin Luckner

Timothy Schachner

Villanova University

Christian Khoury

Craig Newton

Conor O'Malley

Virginia Military Institute

Maximillian Bradley

Williams College

Chan Lee

Obi Nwako

Justin Piccininni

Yale University

Cameron Greene



Top: Carly Porath and Ryan Glassman '09 celebrated their wedding alongside a large contingent of Regians, including: Paul Gorynski '09, Conor Dwyer '09, Tom McKenna '09, Joe Lumley '09, Mike Agresti '09, Nick Thomas '09, Pat Fasano '09, Brendan Graham '09, Rob Betz '09, Chris Insana '09, James Sayer '09, Joe Schade '09, Tim Steinmetz '09, Chris Schaller '09, and John Wynne '09.

Bottom: The January 3, 2020 marriage of TC Weinlandt '10 and Kendall Post in the Regis Chapel performed by Fr. Andreassi. Left to Right: Jeff Weinlandt '64, Kendall Post, TC Weinlandt '10, Lynne Weinlandt, Will Weinlandt '10.

Milestones

BIRTHS

- Thomas Charles on June 18, 2020 to Sandy and **Anthony Canale '90**
- Lucia Indira on June 14, 2020 to Neha and **Karl Lugo '99**
- Theresa Halleran on July 6, 2020 to Maureen and **Owen Reidy '99**
- Cassia Kavatsiuk-Perez on July 13, 2020 to Maria Kavatsiuk and **Ariel Perez '00**
- Lucas Ignacio in April 2020 to Jessica and **Phil Klay '01**
- Katherine Cesira on June 7, 2020 to Paula and **Anthony DeFrancesco '02**
- August Michael on June 2, 2020 to Jillian and **Rick Fasano '02**
- Sage Frances on October 14, 2019 to Maria and **Jonathan Barsa '03**
- William Michael on June 30, 2020 to Elizabeth Foley and **Jean-Claude Desrosiers '03**
- Maxime Dean on July 10, 2020 to Erin and **William Marra '03**
- Seamus Enrico on July 22, 2019 to Kalene DeHaut and **Matthew Murtagh '04**
- Samuel Edward on May 28, 2020 to Sara and **Rob Brochin '07**
- James Jeffrey on July 20, 2020 to Mary Alaina and **Jimmy Burbage '07**
- Theo Jesse on July 28, 2020 to Genelle Diaz-Silveira and **Tim De Santa '07**
- Iain Fortunato on July 15, 2020 to Andrea and **Jay Jay Loftus '07**
- John Mario on May 15, 2020 to Emily and **Alex Pisano '12**

WEDDINGS

- Peter Rivera '75** to Lynn Behrendt in August 2019
- TC Weinlandt '10** to Kendall Post on January 3, 2020
- Ryan Glassman '09** to Carly Porath on November 9, 2019

DEATHS

- John P. McCall '45** on May 22, 2020
- Peter J. Masella '47** on May 28, 2020
- Joseph J. Griffin '49** on October 22, 2019
- Jacob J. Hiel '49** on June 27, 2020
- William J. Kearney '49** on January 12, 2020
- Peter Hamill '53** on August 5, 2020
- John McDonnell, Jr. '55** on March 1, 2020
- Angelo J. Lopano, M.D. '57** on May 18, 2020
- Rev. Robert Astorino '61** on June 25, 2020
- George Konikowski '63** on April 23, 2019
- Douglas J. Grady '68** on May 9, 2020
- Charles S. Detrizio '84** on June 27, 2020

In our previous issue, we incorrectly reported the date on which William J. Kearney '49 passed away. We regret the error.

Events Calendar

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

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many Regis events have been reimagined or rescheduled. Please visit regis.org/events for the most up-to-date information.

OCTOBER

14 Virtual Freshman Parent Reception
Virtual cocktail reception with Fr. Lahart

16 Virtual JUG Night
Annual alumni reception held digitally this year

17 Virtual Grandparents Day 2020
Mass and program with Fr. Lahart

NOVEMBER

11 Virtual Deo et Patriae Reception
Honoring all who gave at the Order of the Owl level.



REGIS HIGH SCHOOL

DEO ET PATRIAE PIETAS CHRISTIANA EREXIT

55 EAST 84TH STREET | NEW YORK, NY 10028

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