

# MERCY CATHOLIC



Annual Report

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

# Letter from the Principal

Dear friends,

The 2020 school year presented educational institutions across our nation with many challenges, but with the faithful support of our staff, students, and families, Our Lady of Mercy was able to quickly transition to virtual learning in the spring when the COVID-19 virus caused us to close our building to in-person learning. We are thankful to the Office of Catholic Schools for their leadership and to the many other people who continued to support us as we learned to deliver virtual instruction and navigate our way through the unprecedented impact of the virus on our community.

Before the virus commanded almost all of our attention, there were other notable achievements for the year. In April, the \$5.7 million bond that helped to fund the construction of the school was paid off by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, we replaced our twenty-year-old roof with a new one, and we were excited to learn about the movies as sources of revenue and excitement, especially when several of the stars came to our football games. And, finally, we offered congratulations to Math teacher Mrs. Sharon Shaw for her twenty years at OLM. Her retirement marked the close of a remarkable fifty-year career in education.

I look forward with confidence to next year at Our Lady of Mercy and to the opportunity to apply all that we learned this year about the quality of resilience through sustained faith. May God bless us all.

JoAnn McPherson  
Interim Principal

## National Recognition



Mercy junior, Danielle Garger, was selected as one of only 10 students in the nation to receive the National Catholic Education Association's Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award.



Ana De Mello, Mathematics Teacher, was the recipient of the National Catholic Education Association's 2020 LEAD. LEARN. PROCLAIM AWARD.

# 2019-20 Administrative Team

**BILL DOOLEY**

Principal

**JOANN MCPHERSON**

Assistant Principal

**BILL SCHMITZ**

Athletic Director

**MARK BENO**

Director of Finance

**CYNTHIA LAUNAY-FALLASSE**

Director of Advancement & Enrollment Management



The Annual Report is published by the Office of Advancement at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Our Lady of Mercy extends a very special thank you to all individuals and corporations who appear on these pages. Our purpose is to gratefully recognize the generous gifts that the school has received during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. We sincerely apologize for any mistakes.

If you should find an error, please bring it to our attention so we can make the proper corrections.

For additional information, please contact: Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School, Office of Advancement; 861 Hwy 279, Fayetteville, Georgia, 30214. Phone: (770) 461-2202; email: [clf@mercy catholic.org](mailto:clf@mercy catholic.org) Website: [www.mercycatholic.org](http://www.mercycatholic.org)

# Our Year in Review

Mercy Athletic Trainers helped organize a blood drive during Homecoming week with the Red Cross.

Mercy welcomed Ms. Lucia Baez Luzondo, the Director of Intercultural Ministry of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, to speak at our Latin American Heritage Month assembly.

Mercy seniors attended the Green Mass at the Catholic Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Atlanta to pray for our environment.

Mrs. Cawley won the Bright Ideas Grant from Coweta-Fayette EMC to bring technology to the Art classroom.

The Christian Outreach class continued their mission of serving both the Mercy community and reaching out to our global community. One special project was exchanging holiday letters with Kindergartners in Minnesota.

Ms. Schneider won a Target Field Trip Grant and was able to take her Anatomy Class to see the Bodies exhibit in downtown Atlanta.

Mr. Williams, English teacher, was honored as Mercy's Faculty of the Year. He has worked faithfully for Mercy for 16 years.

Our annual Black History Month celebration honored Father Augustus Tolton, our nation's first black Catholic priest.

Two new clubs were started this year, the Environmental Club and the Music Production Club.

On March 13th, Mercy students transitioned to Virtual learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though all extracurricular activities and graduation ceremonies were cancelled, our students still received a top-notch education using a virtual platform.



# Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mercy, a college preparatory school rooted in the Tradition of the Catholic Church, transforms students by providing opportunities to excel as Christian leaders through rigorous academics, inclusive extracurricular programs, and Christ-centered activities.



## 2019-2020 Principal Advisory Council

Dr. Diane Starkovich, ex officio

Father John Koziol, OFM Conv.

Alisa Griffin, Chairperson

Kim Burgess

Sonia Fueredi

Heather Garger

Velma Gilstrap

Therese Lawlor

Cynthia Launay-Fallasse

Jill Mitchell



# Class of 2020: *By the Numbers*

Total number of Graduates: **56**

Total number in scholarships awarded:  
**\$8,919,696** (not including the HOPE)

Total number of college acceptances: **275**

Navy ROTC: **1**

Georgia’s STAR Student: **1**

Posse Finalist: **1**

Students Recruited for Fine Arts or Athletics: **9**



**Name:** Julian Ogbonna, Valedictorian  
**Parents' Name:** Ms. Francisca Ogbonna  
**Middle School:** St. Peter Claver  
**Parish:** Sts. Peter and Paul  
**College Plans:** Julian will attend the University of Georgia where she plans to double major in Psychology and Criminal Justice and minor in Spanish. She wants to pursue her degrees on a Pre-Med track.



**Name:** Brandone Vo, Salutatorian  
**Parents' Name:** Mr. Huynh Vo & Mrs. Kimberly Su  
**Middle School:** Saint John the Evangelist  
**Parish:** Our Lady of Viet Nam  
**College Plans:** Brandone will attend Georgia Tech where he plans on majoring in biomedical engineering.

# Class of 2020: *College Acceptances*

A selection of colleges where students were accepted:

Auburn University, Boston University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Fordham University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Howard University, Mercer University, Morehouse College, New York University, Northeastern University, Pace University, Rice University, Tulane University, University of Georgia, Vanderbilt University

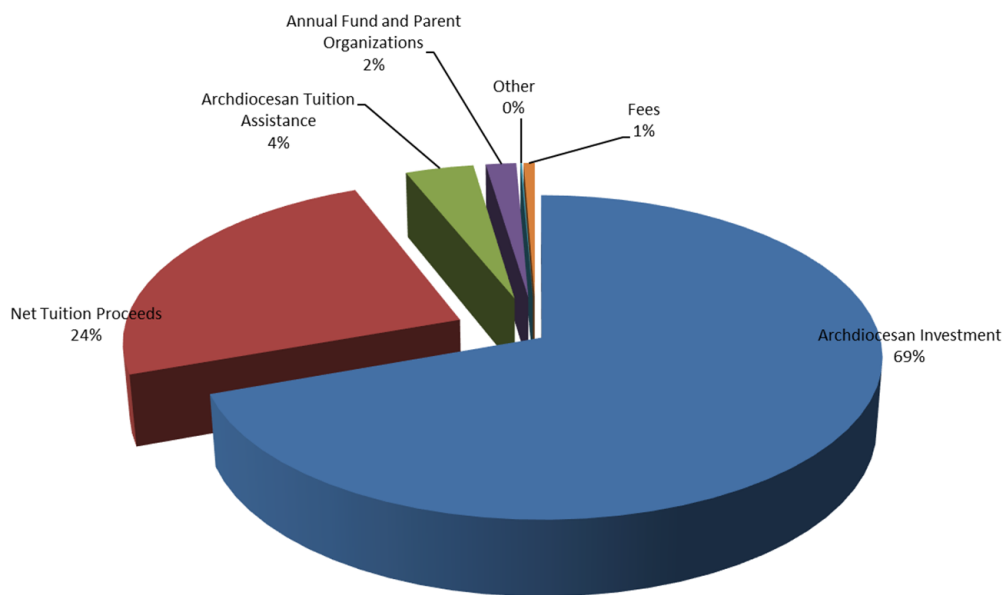
Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School  
Congratulates the Class of 2020!



Our Lady  
of Mercy,  
Pray for  
Us.

[www.mercycatholic.org](http://www.mercycatholic.org) / 861 Hwy 279 Fayetteville, GA 30214 / 770-461-2202

# Our Financial Accountability



## REVENUES & OTHER SUPPORT (audited)

Gross Tuition	\$2,854,265
Less Financial Aid	(885,457)
Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance	345,000
Scholarships	150,000
GRACE Awards	<u>124,200</u>
Net Tuition Proceeds	2,588,008
Fees	56,106
Archdiocesan Operational Subsidy	485,000
Archdiocesan Investment for Building (mortgage)	5,909,000
Annual Fund and Parent Organizations	153,400
Other	<u>8,320</u>
Total Revenues	\$9,199,834

## The Importance of Advancement to Our Lady of Mercy

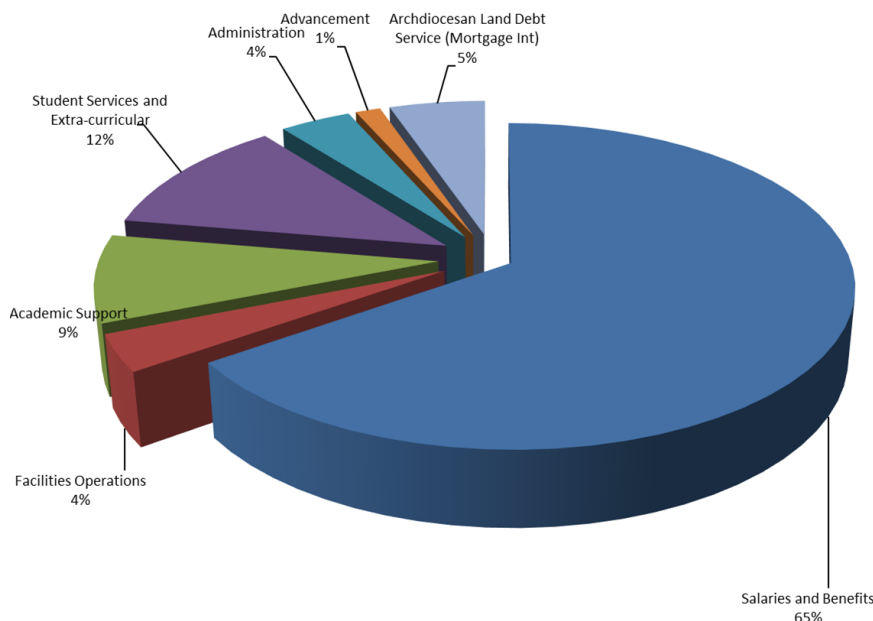
Cost to educate one student at OLM	\$21,629
Tuition per student (2019-2020)	\$12,600

Percent of families that received tuition assistance	73%
Average amount of assistance	\$5,209

Continued commitments to the Annual Fund and participation in fundraising events help us **bridge the gap** between the cost to educate a student at Mercy and what is charged in tuition.



# School Operating Budget



<b>EXPENSES</b> (audited)	
Salaries and Benefits	\$2,712,717
Academic support	361,548
Student Services and Extra-curricular	487,895
Administration	163,074
Advancement & Fundraising	57,226
Facilities Operations	152,639
Archdiocesan Land Debt Service (Mortgage)	<u>219,000</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,154,099</b>
<b>Increase in Net Assets*</b>	<b>\$5,045,735</b>

\*Excluding Depreciation Expense

Successful advancement initiatives such as the Annual Fund and fundraisers are vital in helping us reach **3 main goals**:

- 1) To keep tuition increases minimal.
- 2) To improve and to increase academic and extracurricular programming for students and professional development for staff and faculty.
- 3) To create and to strengthen relationships in the community that can advance the mission of Our Lady of Mercy.

Advancement Revenues - Gifts by Purpose  
(net proceeds):

- 1. **Annual Fund:** \$46,816
- 2. **Movie Rentals:** \$43,395

# Mercy Annual Fund

The Annual Fund is Our Lady of Mercy’s annual giving program. The Annual Fund is integral to advancing the mission of our school. It allows families and friends to connect to our cause and sustains and propels the life of the school through the enrichment of our academic, spiritual, and extracurricular programs. It provides revenues that have an immediate impact on the diverse student programs that are the hallmark of the Mercy experience.



## Annual Fund Honor Roll: July 1, 2019- June 30, 2020

The names listed on the following pages recognize those who have partnered with us to strengthen Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School. Through their generosity, we are able to provide continued excellence in our classrooms and beyond. Donors whose gifts were received between July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 are included in this honor roll. We are truly grateful and blessed by all those who made a gift to the Annual Fund. Thank you!

# Honor Roll 2019-2020

## Our Lady's Circle

\$5,000-\$14,999

Catholic Foundation of North Georgia  
Jill and Mike Mitchell

## Archbishop's Circle

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Anonymous

## Principal's Roundtable

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Ana DeMello  
Christopher Donnay  
Jill and Ray Giornelli  
JoAnn McPherson  
Comcast Corporation  
Jim and Betsy Slattery  
Rheda and Robert Wanstreet

## Father Burke Society

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous (United Way)  
Mark Beno  
Scholarship America-Target  
Jon and Lisa Shupenus  
Brian Williams  
Jeffrey Woolums

## Mercy Founders Club

\$250 - \$499

Refugio and Cindy Campos  
Thomas and Jenifer Faulkner

Zenaida Goins

Tim and Mary Hennie-Roed

Sean and Rebecca Miller

Jason and Chanda Moran

Andrew Nemchik

Christopher and Jennifer Oldenburg

John Threlkeld Jr.

## Red and White Society

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous

Lynette Batiste

Father Llano Briese

Alex Brown

Deanna Carlson

Charities Aid Fund America

Herb and Anne Dillon

Bill Dooley

Julie Gagnier

Ron and Judy Godwin

Franck and Cynthia Launay-Fallasse

Lawrence Dalton

Peter McCormick

George Miret

Jae Parker

Ryan and Brittany Schilling

Bill Schmitz

Sharon Shaw

Matthew and Jelinda Spotorno

Megan Trocquet

Lori Wright



**Bobcat Benefactors**

**\$1 - \$99**

- Allen Acejas  
Candis Alston-Davis  
Amazon Smile  
Rhonda Anderson  
Sarah Athearn  
Alison Baker  
Vivian Banks  
Chris and Sharon Belcher  
Bob and Melissa Bryant  
Shawn and Norma Buckley  
Hanh Bui  
Editha Campomanes  
Reynaldo and Sheila Carreon  
Jennifer Cawley  
John and Kara Chiumento  
Pete and Beverly Conley  
Maureen Cully  
Arlene Dechant  
Anonymous Donor  
Anonymous Donor  
Beverly Ellis  
Arnice Foster  
John and Sonia Fueredi  
Marichel Gaité-Lumapas  
Heather Garger  
Wendell and Velma Gilstrap  
Matthew Hofkes  
Kroger
- Jason and Katherine LoMonaco  
Jorge and Paola Londono  
Robert and Catherine Malally  
Tracie McCoy  
Paul Oddo  
Steve Oldenburg  
Marpessa Oliver  
John Phillips  
Katy Schneider  
Amanda Smith  
David and Lola Smith  
Steve Szabo  
Ignae Thomas  
Debra Thompson  
Maria Thompson  
Amy Veurink  
Angela Wall  
Kimberly Wheelock
- Matching Gift Companies**  
Google  
Delta  
UHG  
Wells Fargo





# GRACE Scholars



Formed in 2008, GRACE Scholars is a Georgia Student Scholarship Organization (SSO) with a mission to provide children from families with financial need with greater opportunities to secure a Catholic education. Scholarships are funded by Georgia residents who redirect their state tax payment to GRACE. The program gives contributors a dollar-for-dollar tax credit and provides eligible students scholarship funds set aside for the entirety of their career in Georgia Catholic schools. Donors whose gifts were received between July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 are included in this honor roll.

Mr and Mrs Mark R Aasen	Mr and Mrs Robert J Hauser Jr	Drs Vincent and Suzanna Obsitnik
Mr and Mrs Willie Alexander	Mr and Mrs Tim Hennie-Roed	Mr and Mrs Jonathan A Pedersen
Mr and Mrs Salvador L Arias	Mr and Mrs Joseph M Hudkins	Mr and Mrs Charles R Powers II
Mr and Mrs Kenneth V Athaide	Mr and Ms Charles E Knight III	Mr and Mrs Thomas E Reddy
Mr and Mrs Kyle M Bartels	Mr and Mrs Scott A Kriscovich	Mr and Mrs Walter B Reed
Mr and Mrs Thomas V Baudry	Ms Eileen Land	Mr and Mrs John P Roche
Mr and Mrs Edwin W Bonnell	Mr and Mrs Barry M Levin	Mr and Mrs Randall L Sage
Mr and Mrs Bert W Close	Mr and Mrs Steve Lozuk	Mr and Ms Keith D Satterwhite
Mr and Mrs Robert L Conover	Mr and Mrs Michael Luciano	Mr Mathew J Schaub
Mr and Mrs William T Cowan Jr	Mr and Mrs Rizal E Luna	Ms Virginia B Schilling
Dr and Ms Manuel A Davila	Mr and Mrs Robert P McKeough	Mr and Mrs Robert H Schurke
Mr and Mrs Donald L De Mello	Mr and Mrs Benjamin G McMillan	Mr and Mrs Paul A Schwahn
Mr and Mrs Lee A DeHihns III	Mr and Mrs Mark W Metzger	Mr and Mrs James M Slattery
Mr and Mrs Frank J Destadio	The Reverend Mr and Mrs Tilton C Meuninck	Mrs Holly C Smith
Mr and Mrs Joseph A DiBiase	Mr and Mrs Mark S Michel	Mr and Mrs William R Stroud
Mr and Mrs Patrick M Doyle	Mr and Mrs Ken C Millspaugh	Mr and Mrs John Super
Mr and Mrs Gerald P Elder	Mrs George Ann Miret	Mr and Mrs George M Uhrin
Mr Justino Lumapas Jr and Mrs Marichel Gaite-Lumapas	Mr and Mrs Michael R Mitchell	Mr and Mrs Michael J Vanairsdale
Mr and Ms Perry W Gard IV	Mr and Mrs Brendan F Murphy	Ms Mary Ann M Vicari
Mr and Ms John G Gorrell	The Reverend Mr and Ms Thomas M Nemchik	Mr and Mrs Russell M Walter
Mr and Mrs John B Graham		Mr Jeffrey W Woolums
Mr and Mrs Joseph C Harrison		Mr and Mrs Theodore A Zitelli

# Mercy Arts

Ms. Sanders and her chorus class traveled to St. Peter Claver to perform at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration.

Thespian Society had a great showing at the annual ThesCon Convention. John Lumapas auditioned for scholarships and was called back by 15 schools. Maia Eaton and Nathan Haydel scored “Excellent” in the Solo Musical Theater Individual Event. Luke Carlson and Joseph Banks scored “Excellent” in the Lighting Design and Stage Management Individual Events. In the Group Musical Individual Event, our students scored “Overall Superior” which is the highest rating ThesCon award! This means the judges gave them the highest score possible in all five different categories. Only a handful of high schools receive this rating and this is the first time in OLM’s history that anyone has scored “Overall Superior!”



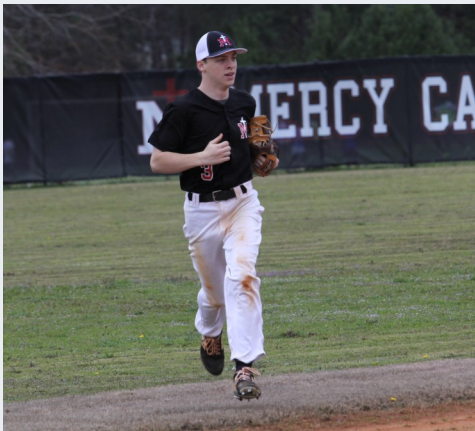
The fall play this year was *Peter and the Starcatcher*, a play based on a novel with the same name, and serves as a sequel to Peter Pan.

At the first annual *Encounter: Celebrating Art, Spirituality, and Community* fundraiser for the Ignatius House Retreat Center, senior Brain Tafanji qualified as a finalist for his beautiful art work.

# Mercy Athletics

## Athletics Accomplishments 2019-2020

Mercy has 25 teams and nearly 89% of our students participate in athletics.



### College Athletic Scholarship

Liam Malally  
Baseball  
Milligan University



Mercy is thankful to the Mike Fitzpatrick Ford dealership who continues to sponsor the “Mike Fitzpatrick Student Athlete of the Week.”





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