



Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools

Providing students of all faiths an opportunity to receive an outstanding education.

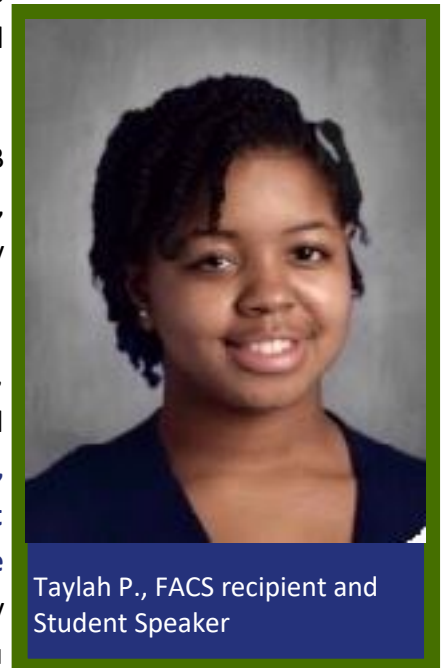
FACS HOSTS FIRST ARCHBISHOP'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY VIRTUAL BREAKFAST

On March 17, 2021, The Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools held the first *virtual* Archbishop's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast and raised over \$70,000 toward our mission to support Catholic School Students in the Archdiocese of Hartford. This year's highly spirited and thoughtfully delivered celebration was different, like so many other things were during the pandemic, but we feel so fortunate to have the loyal support from so many generous supporters and such an incredible community, including **FACS Partner, St. Francis Hospital/Trinity Health** and all of our Sponsors. The Archbishop's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast provides scholarship assistance to many students in need and this year was no different. More than ever, so many families need our help.



A special thank you to our Emcee award winning, WFSB News Anchor and Catholic School Parent, **Irene O'Connor**, The Mulcahy Academy of Irish Dance and all of our very special guests for their inspiration and entertainment.

We were proud to share the video of our student essayist and FACS recipient, Taylah P, who attends East Catholic High School. Taylah eloquently shared how meaningful this scholarship is to her. **"In so many more ways than one, this scholarship has blessed me with the resources to not only be the best student I can be but to live the life I've always wanted to live. I will be forever grateful for this charitable investment!"** Taylah certainly has a very bright future. You can read her entire essay on the FACS website. Thank you to all of the students that wrote essays this year showing their utmost appreciation for FACS scholarships.



Taylah P., FACS recipient and Student Speaker

We are planning a traditional, in person event next year, and we are thrilled that **General Joseph Dunford, Jr.** will be the speaker for our 2022 Breakfast. Please consider making an early reservation as you won't want to miss hearing General Dunford as we reunite for a festive celebration. We look forward to seeing you friends!

Archbishop's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

Save the Date

March 17, 2022

7:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.

Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford

Guest Speaker, General Joseph Dunford, Jr.



Ret., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Ret., US Marine Corps Four-Star General

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Contact Information

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cbhoward@facshartford.org

*Foundation for the
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467 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002
Tel.: 860-761-7499 Fax: 860 242-0361
Website: facshartford.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER *Brian A. Giantonio, Esq.*

Dear FACS Friends,

Christopher Reeve once said, "A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles." The Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools absolutely believes that our Catholic School administrators, teachers, support staff and most of all, our students are true heroes.

The past year has certainly provided an abundance of seemingly overwhelming obstacles, the pandemic being chief among them. The challenges created by Covid-19 has made our entire educational system completely re-think how to safely function as well as re-direct resources in completely new ways so that our students could continue to learn in the most effective ways possible. Students had to acclimate to methods of learning that they never experienced before, whether via remote learning or physically in school. We are so very proud of the staff and students who have risen up to the challenges thrown at them and persevered throughout the year. Their success is no accident.

FACS has likewise worked tirelessly during the past difficult year, staying true to our mission to assist as many students as possible as they seek to attain one of the best educational experiences that is available. We were inundated with requests for financial assistance due to Covid related hardships and gave out as much assistance directly to students as possible. Furthermore, thanks to our generous donors, we are proud to say that we were able to award Covid-19 Safety Initiative Grants to *every* Archdiocesan Catholic School. We invite you to read more about these grants on Page 5 of this report.

We thank you for your perseverance and enduring support and welcome you to the table of heroes. Your investment in our Foundation makes you heroes to those children who receive the assistance they need and deserve, and heroes to us at FACS for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Choose a gift that costs nothing in your lifetime!

Your support is invaluable to us because it enables us to continue providing students of all faiths an opportunity to receive an outstanding education, especially for the poor and underserved children and youth of the Archdiocese of Hartford. We want your gift to be rewarding for you, as well! That's why we made it easy to learn about the financial tools you can use to *wisely plan* your gift to us which will **return benefits** to you.

We are happy to share that we have thorough planned giving information on our website to make it simple for you to consider a legacy gift to the Foundation for the Advancement of Catholic Schools. Please visit www.facshartford/plannedgiving.org

You'll learn about simple methods and opportunities that help you...

- **make a gift using appreciated securities and realize *larger tax savings* than if you had used cash**
- **make a gift that costs *you nothing* during your lifetime**
- ***reduce taxes* for your children and deliver an extraordinary gift to us**
- **convert *surplus life* insurance coverage into the gift of a lifetime**

Take a look at our Planned Giving opportunities on our website and contact our **Executive Director, Cynthia Basil Howard**, to discuss these and other gift options at 860-761-7498. She is happy to answer your questions and help you leave your mark on the future.

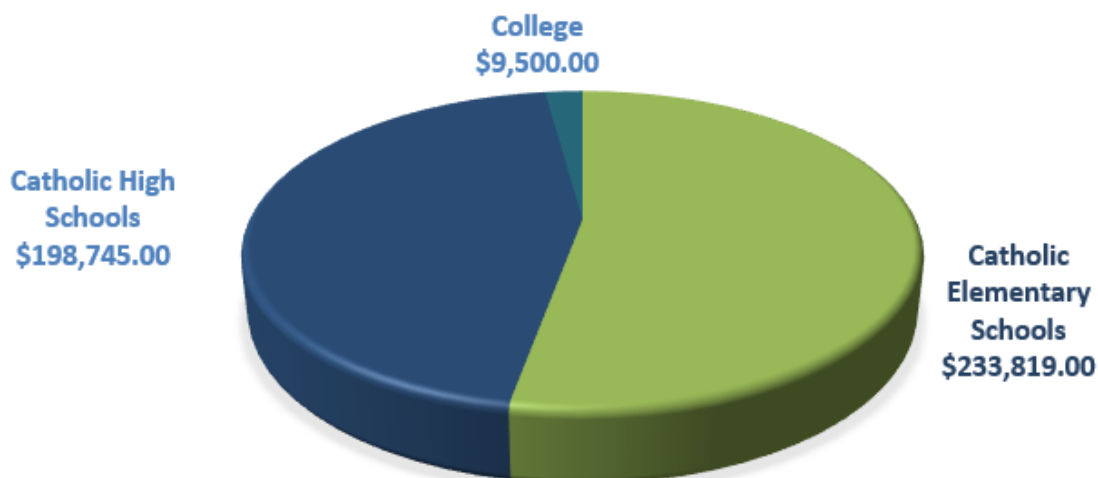
Your Legacy. Their Future.



2020-2021

FACS SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

\$442,064.00



FACS Scholarships and Grants were awarded from the following funds:

Archbishop's Fund Elementary and High School	Joe Freebairn Fund	Lyon's Fund
Bank of America Fund	Greater Hartford Elementary Schools Fund	Leslie Jayne Meoni Fund
Minnie F. Bartolucci Fund	Hartford Endowed Fund	Pope John Paul II Fund
Jo and Gus Berkes Fund	Hartford Hope Fund	Albert Prill, Jr. and Mary R. Prill Fund
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Most Reverend Daniel A. Cronin Fund	Elementary and High School	Bruce Torrell Fund
Michele and Donald D'Amour Fund Elementary and High School	Kalat Family	Salvatore Robert Verrillo Fund
Dynia Endowed Fund	Knights of Columbus Building Association of Hartford, Inc. Fund	Waterbury Fund
	Patrick Latina Fund	Roberta and Bruce Wilson Fund

Scholarships awarded to Catholic Elementary School Students - 251

Scholarships awarded to High School Students - 79

Scholarships awarded to College - Bound Seniors - 2

Scholarships - 332 Grants - on-going, to be finalized

Grand Total of Scholarship and Grant Awards: \$442,064.00

FACS DISTRIBUTES EXTRAORDINARY GIFT

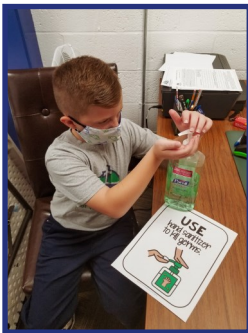
This has been an unprecedented year in the life of our Catholic schools, our communities, and the world at large. Our pastors and educators rose to the challenge when our schools were directed to provide remote learning at the end of the 2019-20 academic year, and they excelled!

In support of students and schools, FACS made a gift in the form of a grant of \$7,500 to every Archdiocesan Catholic elementary and high school to help defray costs associated with implementing COVID 19 safety initiatives.

FACS was most happy to provide this strong and concrete assistance for our Catholic school communities through the COVID 19 restricted grants. We appreciate the extraordinary efforts of our pastors, school administrators and teachers in living the mission of Catholic education within our broader communities.

Your support is essential to our ability to continue helping our Catholic school students and schools. Thank you!

Here are excerpts from letters we have received:



“Your generous gift has already been met with an overwhelming positive response from our schools, providing a welcome surprise to administrators who are dealing with the stress of smoothly initiating a very different school year. Their happiness welcoming students back to campus, and their confidence in the safety of those students, both have been enhanced by your generosity.” said Father Michael Whyte, Vicar for Education, Evangelization and Catechesis

“Please know your affirmation of our school means everything to us! In the name of all in our school community—we remain ever-grateful for your faith in us as we work to provide the very best Catholic education for our students in a safe and nurturing environment! Know that your contribution is an investment in the future of our students, as well as in the future of our church and world.” said Patricia O’Neil Tiezzi, Principal, St. Rita School



Maria Maynard, Interim President Northwest Catholic High School shared, *“We are grateful every day for benefactors like you, who hold each student in the highest esteem. Your support helps to ensure that we have the resources to form students who are intellectually curious, spiritually aware, community-focused, and imaginatively inspired, compassionate leaders who serve others and promote mercy and justice in our world. It is your help that makes this possible for so many young adults.”*



Stellar Student Spotlight

Meet some of our current FACS high school scholars and discover their stories



McKenzie graduated from East Catholic High School in June of 2021. She was a recipient of a FACS scholarship. While at East Catholic, McKenzie volunteered at the South Park Inn in Hartford.

As a volunteer she assisted with preparing and serving meals. She also volunteered for MARC. As a MARC volunteer McKenzie used her creative talents to help decorate the East Catholic cafeteria for the MARC prom. Beginning in October 2018, McKenzie was a member of the East Catholic Latin Club. She will be attending SUNY New Paltz to double major in education and art. Congratulations and best wishes to McKenzie!



Michael graduated from Sacred Heart High School in June of 2021. Michael shared, "The FACS scholarship has been very beneficial to my family and me this school year. I am so thankful for your support. I have used the skills acquired

from Sacred Heart to earn the FACS scholarship, and it has helped my family and me tremendously for the past year. My FACS scholarship proves to me that one could be rewarded for working hard and putting others first, as my parents did for my sisters and me for the past couple of years."



Richard recently graduated from St. Paul Catholic High School and is a genuine, kind, and determined young man. He transformed from a shy incoming freshman to a confident senior comfortably exhibiting his warm personality and genuine concern for others.

Richard embraced the characteristics of the five core values at St. Paul and lived them consistently. He is a person of integrity and emerged as one of the best role models within his class. He understood contributing back to the life of the greater community and often utilized his leadership qualities to involve others.

He performed at a high level academically and was very active in Student Government and served as a Blue Key Club ambassador. He was involved in the school band, an officer in both our Math and Data Analytics teams, the St. Paul Social Media Task Force and revitalized the Chess club. He served as a representative to the United Way of West Central Connecticut Youth Board.

Richard will be a freshman at Providence College this fall.



Fazal, a student at Northwest Catholic High School is in the class of 2024. Fazal said, "My first year at Northwest Catholic was truly amazing. I made many friends. Everyone is genuinely nice and caring and not what I was used to in a

school. Northwest was a huge environmental change from not having fights and people disrupting the learning I was used to in my old school. Northwest has helped with me to stop fearing those type of things. Throughout Covid, the teachers were strong, making sure we understood everything, which again, it was something new to me. I was not used to this, so it helped me feel better knowing I will be learning for once the right way and not like how it was before. Overall, my experience at Northwest has been fantastic and I for sure would stay all 4 years and make sure I will take the wonderful opportunity I have coming to this amazing school."



See where the Archdiocesan high school graduates are headed!

Alvernia University
American International College
American University
Anna Maria College
Assumption College
Auburn University
Bay Path University



Bay State College
Bentley University
Bethune-Cookman University
Boston College
Boston University
Bryant University
California Polytechnic State University
Catholic University of America
Central Connecticut State University
Clark University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
College of the Holy Cross
College of our Lady of the Elms
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Curry College
Drexel University
East Carolina University
Eastern Connecticut State University
Elon University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Flagler College
Florida Gulf Coast University
Fordham University
Framingham State University
Franciscan University of Steubenville
George Mason University
Gettysburg College
Gonzaga University
Gordon College
Grove City College
Hartwick College
Howard University
Indiana University, Bloomington

Iona College
Jacksonville University
Thomas Jefferson University
Johnson & Wales University
Landmark College
Liberty University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University, Chicago
Loyola University, Maryland
Lynn University
Macau University of Science and Technology



Manchester Community College
Manhattan College
Marist College
Merrimack College
National Guard
Niagara University
Nichols College
Northeastern University
Norwich University
Ohio University
PACE University
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Providence College
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rivier University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Roger Williams University
Rollins College
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St. Joseph's University
St. Michael's College
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Salve Regina University
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Siena College
St. Thomas Moore
Southern CT State University
Southern New Hampshire University

Springfield College
State University of New York at New Paltz
Stonehill College
Syracuse University
The University of Alabama
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Investing in Futures - FACS Fund 2021!





FACS Trustees - In Memoriam



Peter Grant Carey passed away on May 8, 2021. Peter was a respected FACS Trustee for many years. His longstanding dedication to FACS included serving a number of terms as President of the Board.

He led by action and example. We have Peter to thank for the most well-known event FACS holds, our annual Archbishop's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast. Through his unwavering dedication to Catholic school students and his tenacity, he received the support of then Archbishop Daniel Cronin to hold the inaugural St. Patrick's Day Breakfast in 2000. He continued to be an integral part of the success of this fundraiser throughout his tenure at FACS, reaching out to his circle of business associates and friends, encouraging their participation, many of whom remain loyal supporters of the event. He became an Emeritus Trustee in 2017. May God bless Peter and his family.



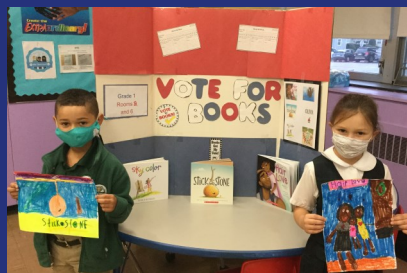
Andrew M. Sullivan, Jr. passed away on January 28, 2021. Andy was the longest serving FACS Trustee, serving over 30 years. He took on many leadership roles, holding the positions of FACS Board Treasurer and

Secretary, as well as sitting on the Executive Committee. Andy was committed to our Foundation and was valued and appreciated for his intelligence, integrity, generous and gracious heart, and commitment to Catholic education. He was a devoted man who could be counted upon to help others; he leaves a long list of people who were touched by his assistance in their life's journey, whether family or strangers. FACS has been enormously blessed to have had Andy as a friend. He will be sorely missed. His family intends to create a scholarship in his name. Our deepest condolences to Andy's family.

Please consider FACS in your charitable giving.

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Bloomfield, CT 06002



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Facshartford.org

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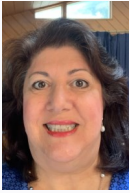
Call our office 860-761-7499

Join our monthly donors at facshartford.org/donate-now/ to provide on-going help for our students!

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Donors who are at least 70.5 years old can make a qualified charitable distribution directly to FACS from a qualified IRA. The gift can be counted towards a minimum distribution, though it is not tax-deductible and cannot be counted as income.

Reach out to Cynthia Basil Howard, Executive Director, at 860-761-7498 for more information. Consult your financial advisor for advice.



FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Cynthia Basil Howard

Some time ago and before my years at our Foundation, I was a participant in a Women's Giving Circle. Our group was created one evening when a number of women at a dinner decided to begin an initiative to help those less fortunate. Even though it was not a huge financial commitment, we thought we could do something in our small way to change the world for the better.

I would estimate by observing the passion of several of these women for this endeavor, that there was a time in their lives during which they were less fortunate; a time when their families struggled to make ends meet. I for one was included in that category. During my formative years, there was no question in my mind that education was of paramount importance both to my parents and grandparents. Subsequently, it was instilled in our family that this road would open opportunities for us. Even though it was a huge sacrifice, my parents ensured that my siblings and I all received a Catholic education.

Therefore, later in life when the opportunity arose for me to give back, I jumped at the chance. As I sat around the table with the Giving Circle members to hear those applying for assistance speak, secretly inside I was saying: *I hear you, I understand you, I know what you are going through and I am here to help.*

As Executive Director of our Foundation, I meet many people, some of which I sense are thinking those same words: *I hear you, I understand you, I know what you are going through and I am here to help.*

One example occurred this past year when I spoke with a person who came to me seeking to create a scholarship for students of a particular heritage. This donor empathized with students of her own nationality and wanted to do something unique to help. She understood firsthand what they are going through. Often our donors specifically request where their generous donations are directed. And we at FACS can help.

I have learned too that these scholarships provide much more than financial assistance. Students receive not only a strong, faith-filled foundation, but also one which will teach them valuable life lessons about self-less giving and making a true difference.

Our Board President spoke of heroes in his remarks for this newsletter. I believe that there are in fact more heroes reading this newsletter today who want to help. As you may know, FACS is a place where education is valued.

YOUR support is very important to us and we stand ready to assist you. You will be helping students and their parents in their quest for a highly acclaimed education. I welcome you to contact me, join others and let us know how you can *make an impact, give back, pay it forward.* In doing so, you will be setting an example for a child who may grow up and gratefully do the same thing someday. Your gifts would be multiplied many times over. Wouldn't that be a remarkable legacy for you to leave?

Yours truly,

Cynthia Basil Howard

Because of You and Your Donation . . .

Dear FACS Scholarship Donors,

I am most honored to be one of the recipients of the FACS Foundation Scholarship. Thanks to your generous support, the cost of high school won't be so bad for my mother. Growing up in a less privileged community, has not only offered financial challenges, but has helped me realize the value of a good education. I feel so blessed for the opportunities that I am receiving. Thank you again for your generosity. I try to work beyond my expectations to achieve my goals, and to make my mother proud. May God bless you!

Sincerely, Guadalupe

So grateful for our Partnership!



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