



Sports UPDATES

Cross Country

Both the boys and girls cross country teams have had three meets so far. At the Meriwether Classic last Friday in Hillsboro, the girls were led by seniors Jennifer Tsai and Emilie Nelson and junior Reeve Helvoigt. The boys were led by junior Kellen Cranmer and senior Aaron Pina.

Football

Varsity football is 3-0 on the season with wins against Sweet Home, Tillamook, and Gladstone. In the game against Gladstone at home last Friday, Lucas Tuski had two rushing touchdowns, and fellow senior Carter Greene threw for three touchdowns and one rushing touchdown. The JV football team has three wins so far.

Boys Soccer

The varsity boys soccer team is currently 2-3-1 with losses to Catlin Gabel, Hidden Valley and Churchill. They beat Siuslaw 8-0 and tied with North Eugene. The JV boys have played five games. Due to low numbers in both the boys and girls programs, the JV girls are joining the JV boys and will play other JV boys teams.

Girls Soccer

The varsity girls soccer team is 4-1-1 with wins against Catlin Gabel, Churchill, North Bend and Elmira. Their only loss is to North Eugene and their tie was with Hidden Valley. A fun fact is that sophomore Cloe Chase scored all three goals against Churchill with headers.

Volleyball

Varsity volleyball is 3-5 with wins against Hidden Valley, Newport and Junction City, and losses to Cascade, Crook County and Philomath and two losses to Siuslaw. Freshman Giana Elgarico is leading the team with 57 kills, 9 aces, 5 blocks and 39 digs. The JV team has played seven games, and the JV2 team has played four games.

Water Polo

Water polo is 0-2 with losses to 5A Ashland and 5A South Albany. In the South Albany game, senior Britt Dannen scored two goals and freshman Piper Van Buskirk scored one in a 12-3 loss.

KISSING OUR WAY BACK TO NORMAL



Senior Sam Mattox comes up for air after dunking her head in the fountain to kiss the M. Photo by: Alya Samy, '22.

After a year delay, the Kissing of the M tradition resumes

By Amelia Watts '22

Last Tuesday, the 14th, new members of the Marist community took part in the Kissing of the M ceremony for the first time in two years.

The ceremony, which began in 1968, evolving from a baptism-like dunking to a silly dress-up splash, has always been a prominent fall tradition at Marist.

"It's a great bonding experience. [Somewhat] cheesy, but we all have fun experiencing it together," said senior Isaac Tsung, an exchange student from Hong Kong. "I should've worn shorts though!"

It was the first time that Marist was

fully together as a school for this academic year in which students came together to commemorate the initiation of new Spartans.

"My favorite part was pulling my head out of the water with the mindset that now I'm finally an official member of the Marist family," freshman Jenna Sutter said.

Because of the pandemic, the ceremony was delayed a full year. As a result sophomores also participated in the ritual alongside those entirely new to the Marist campus.

In keeping with COVID safety measures, students wore masks and social distanced until they went into the fountain. Chlorine

was also added to the water for hygiene purposes.

Though this required more involvement and effort on the part of Student Council, the ceremony went smoothly.

"It went well, there weren't any mishaps," said Beth Wirth, Student Council moderator.

The event serves as a communal celebration, and as a representation of our motto, "We Are One."

"I think traditions and rituals have a powerful pull on communities. Kissing of the M is a long tradition with the Marist community, so it's symbolic of welcoming students and staff into our school." Wirth said.

OLD FACES, NEW BEGINNINGS



Andy Oldham takes the podium to speak at the Mass of the Holy Spirit. Photo by: Tomi Cooper

By Diego Montes '22 and Esha Reddy '24

There is a saying that goes, every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.

With the new school year upon us, two unique administration roles have been flipped and both represent a new beginning.

Last school year, Stacey Baker decided to step down from her role as principal and into the role of Assistant Principal of Student Life and Culture, while Andy Oldham, the former Assistant Principal of Academics and Learning, has temporarily stepped into the role of interim principal.

Baker said that she likes her new role because she will get to interact more with students and their experiences and that it will allow her more time to focus on her

own health.

Oldham, an English teacher for 23 of his 28 years at Marist, has spent the last seven in administration. The two have been working side by side and will continue to do so with their new roles. It's just that now Oldham has pivoted into a leadership position with great challenges. "I am excited and overwhelmed about this new position," Oldham said.

Oldham is stepping in as the interim principal for the year as the school continues to search for a new and permanent principal. "The hope and the goal is to have someone that will push us in the direction we want to go." Oldham will return to his previous position at year's end.

Now that students are back on campus, Oldham is happy and in his element helping students achieve their academic and overall well being. "The reason I am in administration is because I like teaching and learning," Oldham said.

A major component of Oldham's plan is to adjust the role of A-days to create balance in the schedule and to help create deeper learning experiences for students. "We are trying to rethink how teachers use A-days. In the middle of the week we are hoping that you don't just have all seven classes and seven assignments. How can we capture some of the positive elements of Spartan Days and apply those to A-days?" Oldham said.

WELCOME HOLY SPIRIT!

Marist student body celebrates first Mass of the year



Senior student body president Ryan Cary reads a letter written to the freshman class from the class of 2021 at the end of the Mass of the Holy Spirit last Friday. Photo by: Tomi Cooper

By Talon Larson '22 and Amelia Watts '22

Last Friday, the Marist community celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit to cap off a week of welcoming all students and staff to a new year.

This was the first indoor all-school Mass since the Ash Wednesday Mass in February of 2020. While it was distanced and attendees had to wear masks, the Mass brought about a sense of normalcy after a year and a half without ever gathering as an entire student body in the Holy Dome.

To remain safe, students and staff were still not able to hold hands during the Our Father nor was the Sign of Peace done.

However, not all traditions were dropped. At the conclusion of the Mass, student body president Ryan Cary read a letter of guidance and support written by the class of 2021 to the class of 2025 -- the incoming freshmen. Last year's senior class encouraged the freshmen to try new things, stay true to themselves and warned them to never sit on history teacher Mr. Nelson's desks.

Proclaim!, the student liturgical choir, is also back. Proclaim! currently has three senior vocalists, and are looking for a percussionist, pianist and more singers. Anyone interested can contact choir directors Dr. Rick Martin or Ryan Moser for an audition.

FAN MADNESS



At last Friday's home football game on the Kevin Teller Field, students cheer on the Spartans during their first home game of the year. Photo by: Tomi Cooper

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

Five new staff grace Marist campus



SHEELA HADJIVASSILIOU

Q What name do you go by in the classroom? Any nicknames?
A "Hadjivassiliou is long, so I have the students just use Hadji if they want to. And in French it's madame, in Spanish it's profesora and in English I prefer Ms."
Q What do you do here at Marist?
A "I teach French I-IV. And then I teach Spanish I as well."
Q Where are you from?
A "I grew up in California. I have lived in Eugene though for many years. And professionally, I am from University of Oregon. I am finishing my PhD this year, and I taught there for the last eight years."
Q What do you like to do with your spare time?
A "I have a two-year-old, so a lot of my spare time involves playing with him. I like to read — that is my preferred activity when I have some alone time — and hiking and being outdoors."
Q How has your time here at Marist been so far?
A "It's been really great. I enjoy it very much. I love the students. It's a bit of an adjustment to be in high school versus college, but I like it a lot."
Q Cake or Pie? Why?
A "Oh, cake. Definitely. It's just richer and more exciting. Pie I think is boring, kind of like a breakfast food."



ALICE MEYER

Q What name do you go by in the classroom? Any nicknames?
A "Mrs. Meyer. I'm open to getting [a nickname]."
Q What do you do here at Marist?
A "I teach the junior theology, which is Sacraments, and the senior theology, which is Ecumenical Interreligious Studies."
Q Where are you from?
A "I'm from Santa Rosa, California, Sonoma County, and I've been there most of my life. This is my first move out of state."
Q What do you like to do with your spare time?
A "I hang out with my family, I have three children. I love movies, I love books and I swim a lot of laps."
Q How has your time here at Marist been so far?
A "So excellent!"
Q Cake or Pie? Why?
A "Well, I think now that I'm living in Eugene, I have to say pie, because berry pies are delicious, especially when you're around a lot of lovely berries."



JO MONTOYA

Q What do your students call you in the classroom?
A "They call me Ms. Montoya."
Q What do you do here at Marist?
A "I am the sophomore theology teacher and teach one period of health."
Q Where are you from?
A "I am from Torrance, California, which is in Los Angeles. I grew up and went to school there until high school. When I graduated I attended the University of California, Davis in northern California."
Q What do you like to do in your free time?
A "I run everyday. I like to read and I like to pray."
Q How has your time at Marist been so far?
A "Everybody's been incredibly welcoming and it's been wonderful." Cake or pie?



MACLAIN O'LEARY

Q What name do you go by on campus?
A "On campus I do prefer to go by Mr. O'Leary. As boring as that is."
Q What do you do here at Marist?
A "I am the campus and attendance monitor here. So it is my job to make sure students are in seats when the bell rings, in dress code, and safe."
Q Where are you from?
A "Originally from Boulder, Colorado, but I have been here in Eugene since I was six, so this feels more like where I am from."
Q What do you like to do with your spare time?
A "I am working on my masters degree, so most of my free time is dedicated to that. But if I do manage to find a free 7.5 seconds in my life, I am usually reading or playing some golf."
Q How has your time here at Marist been so far?
A "My time here has been great so far. I am still working on trying to meet all the students personally. But it has been really fun to be back at my old high school but learning on the other side of the school in administration."
Q Cake or Pie?
A "You know, I don't feel an allegiance to one or the other. Both make me happy, so I'm going to eat both, and then fall into a carb coma after, but it will have been worth it."



MCCALL SHERROD

Q What do your students call you in the classroom?
A "Right now, it's just Mrs. Sherrod or Mrs. S."
Q What do you do here at Marist?
A "I teach drawing, sculpture, studio painting and visual arts."
Q Where are you from?
A "I grew up in Roseville, California -- it's right around Sacramento, California."
Q What do you like to do with your spare time?
A "I am a reality TV junkie."
Q How has your time here at Marist been so far?
A "It's been very fun and welcoming ... people are respectful and they listen to you, and they're willing to work with you."
Q Cake or Pie?
A "Cake, a thousand percent."