

The

# SPARTAN SPEAR

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MARIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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## SAYING GOODBYE TO THE CLASS OF 2019



Father Ken Olsen leads the staff and the underclassmen in a blessing for the Class of 2019. Photo by Sailor O'Hara

### Marist community gathers for a bittersweet Senior Farewell Mass to send-off its seniors

By Carsyn Oxenreider and Billy Christiansen

Last Friday, to send the seniors off with the community's blessings, the class of 2019 along with the staff, the rest of the student body and families gathered in the Holy Dome for one last time as a family to celebrate The Senior Farewell Mass. It was the seniors last day of classes at Marist before a week of finals and their graduation tomorrow.

Fr. Ken Olsen said the Mass the many seniors describe as bittersweet. Whereas most are happy to be graduating, at the same time many are sad to be leaving their home of four years.

Fr. Ken's homily was directed towards the graduating class of 2019 as they prepare

to move on to next chapter of their life. He advised them to keep the relationships that they have built, because relationships are always more important than is often learned in textbooks.

"I felt like it was pertinent and directed at us but it also felt like a lot of the stuff he was talking to us about seemed really relevant to our lives at the moment," senior Jason DePaoli said. "It felt like one of the most influential homilies over the four years."

At the end of Mass, Marist principal Stacey Baker took a moment to recognize the staff members who will be leaving us next year--English teacher Sarah Reed, Registrar

Christine Deffenbacher and IT Support and ARC overseer Brent West (who was unable to be there due to travels). In addition to those three, this week it was announced that Spanish teacher Beth Keech and Admissions Director Rodrigo Hernandez will also be leaving.

Also recognized were the senior Encounter rectors, who were presented with their class' Encounter banners for safekeeping until future reunions. And Julie Ferrari, the Assistant Campus Minister, announced the Class of 2019's choice for Most Courageous: senior Connor Eklund was honored with the privilege of placing the 'D' in front of "We Are One" on the East wall of the gym

to create the long-awaited "We Are Done" for his perseverance through adversity.

Seniors Sarah Barker, Jane Barker and Courtney Weixelman then took the stage to read the traditional "letter to the underclassmen" written by the class of 2019. The senior class then held their hands in blessing over the underclassman before they were in turn blessed by the entire community surrounding them.

As the underclassmen hurried off to break with Senior Edition of Spartan Spear in hand, the seniors and parents stayed behind for more hugging and taking of pictures under the "We Are Done."

### FINAL DAYS FUN Marist Bands showcase their talents



Celebrating the end of the year, the Marist Rock Band including senior Skylar Coy, junior Sam Morehouse and senior Joseph Hardt on bass, fill the courtyard during lunchtime with the sounds of the Grateful Dead and many other cover tunes to the delight of the crowds of students and staff. Photo by Toni Cooper

### HOMEGOING DANCE A HIT

By Billy Christiansen

To wrap up the Homegoing Week festivities, students danced the night away last Friday at the annual Homegoing Dance in the cafeteria. It was the seniors' last event at Marist prior to graduation. "I wanted to end senior year on a high note," senior Andrew Hyslop said.

While the underclassmen were dressed in black, the seniors stood out in their neon attire. "We are meant to stand out," Hyslop jokingly added.

The dance raised \$200, and was the last fundraiser of the year for Project Starfish. Other events throughout the school year that also helped raise

money were the Irish Echo Dance and a Carl's Jr. lunch.

The music provided by DJ Caleb Coulombe '16 was received well by the attendees. "Ella's brother, Caleb. He's good," senior Kailey Garrett said. When "Footloose" was played, the senior class took the opportunity to reproduce part of their winning senior class dance.

Underclassmen went to the dance as well. Sophomore Sam Svingen enjoyed spending time with his friends. "I thought that it was small and hot," Svingen said. "There could have been more country music."



Seniors Trinity Iglesias, Maddy Primrose and Grace Haga get ready to dance the night away at the Homegoing Dance last Friday. Photo by Skylar Coy