



Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends of St. Anthony,

In Spring, we celebrate Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Baptisms, First Communions, Pentecost, Confirmations, Graduations, and Weddings galore. There is something intuitively obvious about the placing of these celebrations in the season in which creation itself fairly shouts "New Birth!"

Here at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, in the heart of "Little Rome," the Feast of our Patron, St. Anthony of Padua, truly "the Saint of All the World," is celebrated on June 13th which is the very heart and soul of Spring. Graduation this year will be celebrated on Friday, June 8th, and our Graduation Speaker will be *Bishop*

From the Pastor

Mark Brennan H.S. '65, Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore. Just as the Lord has done great things for Bishop Brennan, and through his service great things for us, so we have great expectations of all our graduates, that they become servant leaders of generations as yet unborn.

The word of God proclaims, "As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all the nations!" (Is. 61:11-12). It is happening again here at St. Anthony Catholic School! The Lord God moved many of you to respond in justice for the gift of the Saint Anthony education you received, first with the infinite value of your prayers, then with your service, and finally with your generous financial support. Last year we were able to provide almost \$100,000 in scholarship assistance and almost \$100,000 in improvements to

our campus because of your sacrifices, and of the parish at large.

"The gift you have received, give as a gift," (Mt. 10:8). The true "prosperity Gospel," is the attitude of all our graduates and friends. As the Class of 2018 joins the ranks of hope, and the great chorus of praise of God which is this community of faith, we pray that God, who has begun this good work in our midst, will bring it to completion in our newest servant leaders, and in all of us. We believe, with Pope St. John Paul II: "The future for us remains an unknown quantity, which we now accept without anxiety. Love has overcome anxiety. The future depends on love."

Fr. Fred

P.S. You are always welcome to visit us via our website at www.stanthonysschooldc.org.



Congratulations to the "Class of 2018" for their 100% acceptance rate into Catholic high schools. Students will be attending Archbishop Carroll, Bishop McNamara, Dematha, Elizabeth Seton, Georgetown Visitation, Holy Cross, St. John's, and The Heights. Let us keep our keep our graduates in prayer as they continue on their educational journey.

From the Principal's Desk



Dear Alumni & Friends,
God is good all the time! The "Class of 2018" graduated and moved on to the top Catholic, private, and public high schools in the DMV, our 96th school year successfully concluded, our summer program and summer school opened, and summer plans to improve the facility are arranged. All the time, God is good!

Highlights of the year include increased enrollment, the launch of our African American Speaker Series, the inclusion of Hispanic Heritage Month and "Concurso de Deletreo," upgraded WiFi, the implementation of nearly sixty Chrome Books and new Smart Boards, and participation in weekly Mass and monthly service projects. Opportunities to gather and celebrate cannot be overlooked—Grandparents Morning, the Donor Appreciation Reception, Breakfast with Santa, The Christmas & Spring Concerts, Night of the Arts, awards assemblies, and The Feast Day of St. Anthony all contributed to a memorable year!

Our faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and parishioners make the magic happen. Your prayers, support, and financial contributions make the difference. Thank you for your faithfulness and for keeping St. Anthony alive and well in the heart of Brookland! I wish all of you a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer.

Peace,

Michael Thomasian
Michael Thomasian

Don't bury the lead: a career in journalism



Keith Harriston

Even though he spent a 23-year career at The Washington Post and grew up during the Watergate Era, Keith Harriston G.S. '72/H.S. '76 was influenced to becoming a journalist more by the late Jim Vance than Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein.

It was the ninth or tenth grade for young Harriston, in the St. Anthony High School gym, during a career day in 1972-1973, when WRC-4 anchorman Jim Vance appeared in the building. "It was like a rock star," Harriston said of the student reaction to Vance, a Philadelphia native. "The female students went crazy," dressed in their plaid skirts and knee high socks. *All the King's Men* never had such an effect.

Vance was not the only hipster among the big Afros in the St. Anthony gym that day. "He was one of the cool brothers," Michael Genet G.S. '72/H.S. '76 remembers of his good friend Keith. Genet, known then as Michael Hughes, is a Broadway actor in New York. It was the time of Ali-Frazier, Parliament Funkadelic and "high steppin'" with pretty girls from Notre Dame Academy, as Genet recalls.

He remembers Keith's being a "level-headed" young man who decided to stay at St. Anthony High School, where he scored 50 points in a game, even after John Thompson II departed to become the Georgetown University men's basketball coach, despite the opportunity to enroll at Archbishop Carroll. "It's time to get serious," Genet recalls classmate Tyrone Wilson saying to Keith about school, and Michael remembers Keith as a student who consistently earned B+ and A marks.

Harriston remembers Vance counseling any students who wanted to become journalists that they should become managers, since that is where big decisions usually get made and reputations and careers get made or

lost. Vance's audience included young people with a variety of abilities, and they included the late Michael "Jimmy" Hughes H.S. '76, a jazz musician, Dr. Steve Nelson H.S. '76, a surgeon, and Jason Dickerson H.S. '76, an architect who has spent much of his career in Germany.

After graduating from Morehouse College in Atlanta with his bachelor's degree, in addition to a Master's degree from the University of Kansas, Harriston had worked for eight years as a beat reporter for his hometown paper, The Washington Post. Working with a top Metropolitan Police Department source, Harriston saw Vance in the restaurant one day in 1991 and decided not to introduce himself because he did not want to signal to another journalist that Harriston was working with a police source.

But during and after that lunch, Harriston remembered what Vance said at the career day. Although Harriston loved serving as a beat reporter in his hometown, he looked around the news room and realized that he had just as much – if not more – to offer than some others who had been promoted or were seeking promotions to editor's jobs. Harriston soon became a City Editor, and at the peak of his career, he had 216 people working for him as the Metro Editor, including reporters, editors, and support staff.

Harriston took the highest buyout that the Graham family offered Post employees in 2008, which enabled him to receive a pension. He thinks he left at the right time, since long-serving Post employees who have stayed on under Amazon chief Jeff Bezos' ownership will not receive pensions when they retire.

It was time to leave the hometown paper, where Harriston was able to prosper with sources from police officers to city employees and even the late Marion Barry's press officer in part through calling attention to his being a DC native in a field dominated by people who are not city natives.

The fifth of seven children, Harriston

St. Anthony Principal Wins National Award

spent his formative 12 years of education from Grades 1 to 12 at St. Anthony. All but the oldest of his siblings attended St. Anthony Grade School, St. Anthony High School, or both. The vast majority of friendships he has made came from St. Anthony.

It's hard for him to forget Sister Damien in the sixth grade and Ms. Lorraine Ferris in the eighth making students diagram sentences. He will also not forget Sister Christine and her Current Events class, where students read *The Washington Post* each day, nor will he forget Sister Dorothy or Mr. Michael Devereaux.

He remembers delivering newspapers in the seventh and eighth grades from his Michigan Park home on Crittendon Street, where his mother had moved the family in hopes of her children receiving a St. Anthony education, only to be told that the house was just within the parish boundaries of St. John the Baptist de la Salle Parish in Chillum. The family received an exemption to send their children to St. Anthony.

A longtime resident of Cheverly, Md., Harriston is the father of 22-year old and 16-year old sons.

After working for three years teaching journalism classes at Howard University, Harriston now manages George Washington University's news website and teaches a journalism class on the Foggy Bottom campus.

"The news doesn't take a day off," he likes to say, and he is working on a feature story for *The Washington Post Magazine*. One can discern at times Harriston's competitive nature, which led him to report the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) hiring hundreds of police officers in 1989 to meet a Congressional imperative after a crime wave during the crack epidemic. Through cutting corners in training and the hiring process, the MPD, according to Harriston's reporting, hired candidates with criminal backgrounds. Harriston's investigative reporting led to policy changes in the city.

"I've been lucky," in his career, he said, noting that the Metro section has shrunk in size since he left, a reflection of the steep decline in ad revenue at newspapers like *The Post*.



William Ryan, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Washington (ADW), and Kelly Branaman, Associate Superintendent, celebrate Mr. Thomasian's recent "Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award" at the annual NCEA Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, in April. In the NCEA award, Mr. Thomasian, the 2017 ADW Distinguished Principal of the Year, was selected from over 150,000 Catholic school leaders for his commitment to excellence and Catholic identity.



Field Day



May Crowning

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IN MEMORIAM

Inez Bradley,
Alumni Parent

Carolyn Coleman,
Alumni Parent

Helen Jean Barry H.S. '50
May the souls of the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

CORRECTION

We incorrectly listed Julian Dickerson G.S. '74 in the In Memoriam section of the Spring 2018 newsletter and regret our mistake.

Mission Statement

The mission of St. Anthony Catholic School is to prepare its students for lives of leadership and service rooted in an encounter with Jesus Christ.

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