



The Blue Jay



Back to School 2018

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Aymond: Be men of integrity



New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond delivers his homily during the annual Mass of the Holy Spirit.

Archbishop joins Blue Jays for Mass of Holy Spirit

The Chapel of the North American Martyrs was filled with prayer and song as New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond, joined by the priests of the school community, presided over the celebration of the annual Mass of the Holy Spirit on Aug. 31.

Jesuit High School once again joined with Jesuit institutions around the world in marking the time-honored tradition of seeking the blessing of the Holy Spirit as the community began the new school year.

In his homily, Archbishop Aymond noted that among the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may pray for is to discern our own special God-given gifts and talents that make a difference in our lives and lead us on a path to goodness.

"The Spirit comes to bless and to enlighten and to encourage, to lead us and to guides us," he said.

As we begin the new school year, the archbishop said we might think of this Mass as an opportunity for the "blessing of

the brains."

"The Holy Spirit blesses your brain but we have to use that brain," he emphasized. "When we cooperate with the Holy Spirit, we learn discipline."

"The guidance of the Holy Spirit is not just about academics. It is the same spirit that comes to you and me and enlightens the heart."

Archbishop Aymond also picked up

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Jays leap into new school year

By Peyton Toups

By the Labor break, even with the unexpectedly extra day off because of Tropical Storm Gordon, Blue Jays were already well into the new academic year completing two busy weeks of study, prayer and a week of lunchtime shenanigans.

The year kicked off in early August with the traditional Book Day preparations. Incoming eighth graders and freshmen received a warm welcome that week with orientation and the Jesuit Investiture ceremony, in

which their Big Brothers presented the new students with their J pins.

At that ceremony, Jacob Meariman, Class of '13, shared his memories of arriving at Carrollton and Banks as a pre-freshman. He encouraged the newest Blue Jays to overcome any anxieties and get involved quickly in their community.

During the first full week of school, those Little Brothers also joined their Big Brothers for the annual jambalaya lunch.

On the athletic side of

See NEW YEAR, Page 2

A bouncy beginning



Student Council President Downen Fife gets a helping hand from senior Langston Goldenberg onto the giant inflatable obstacle course. The lunchtime event was one of several Survivor-themed challenges students encountered during the annual Welcome Week. *More Back-to-School photos, page 3*

Jesuit remembers Fr. Nicholas Schiro

By Peyton Toups

After whispering the words along with his brother Jesuits in celebrating morning Mass, Fr. Nicholas T. Schiro, S.J., died peacefully in his bed on Aug. 4, bringing to close 73 years of service as a member of the Society of Jesus and 61 years as a priest. He was 90 years old.

Fr. Schiro died at the St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Pavilion, the Jesuit retirement home in Grand Coteau.

Beloved theology teacher dies; served as a Jesuit for 73 years

Most of his life as a Jesuit was spent teaching. A member of the Class of 1944, Fr. Schiro spent 40 years teaching at his alma mater. He also taught at Jesuit College Preparatory in Dallas for 14 years.

By the end of his teaching career, he had encountered a fourth generation of students, having taught in some cases their fathers, grandfathers, and even

great-grandfathers.

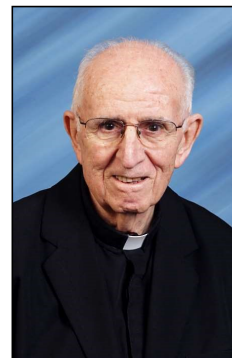
"He was one of those great Jesuits who entered very young and worked and worked until he was old," said Father John Brown, S.J., the Superior of the school's Jesuit community. "He never said, 'I can't wait until I retire.' Teaching was his passion and life's work."

Fr. Schiro was remembered at a memorial Mass in the Chapel

of the North American Martyrs on Aug. 20, attended by friends and colleagues, as well as generations of former students.

In his homily, Fr. Brown noted that "His age brought a wisdom that soothed." He also said that he remained young at heart. "Being around his students gave him a real energy."

In his four decades as a member of the Theology Department, Fr. Schiro often said he didn't want his boys to graduate only knowing about God, but



Fr. Nicholas T. Schiro, S.J. Taught generations for 40 years

See FR. SCHIRO, Page 4

13 educators join Jesuit's faculty

The new academic year brings a baker's dozen of new faculty members to the campus of Carrollton and Banks. Collectively they bring about a century of teaching experience to Jesuit.

Two of our new teachers were on the other side of the desk not too long ago. Now members of the Alumni Service Corps, **Thomas Nimmo** and **Kevin Yokum** are graduates from the Class of '14.

Nimmo recently graduated from Franciscan University, where he studied Theology and Philosophy. He will be teaching classes in Sacred Scripture to freshmen. In addition, he will be involved with the Sodality groups and will work with Campus Ministry. Nimmo said his hobbies include reading and being out on the waters of southeast Louisiana crabbing and just enjoying the outdoors.

Yokum graduated from the University of Notre Dame (also the alma mater of his three siblings and his mother) with a degree in Electrical Engineering and also majored in Classics. Joining the English department to teach English II to sophomores, Yokum also will be a co-moderator of Quiz Bowl, Academic Games, Mu Alpha Theta, the Robotics Club, and the Ultimate Frisbee Club. In his free time, he enjoys playing piano (mostly classical music), traveling and eating his way through the city's many wonderful restaurants.

Three other new teachers also will join the English department.

Florida native **Angela Balkcom** comes to Jesuit following years of experience teaching English at both St. Andrew's Episcopal School and at Ursuline Academy of Dallas. She will be teaching classes in English I and IV. While at St. Andrew's, she developed the school's English curriculum while serving as the department chair.

Before moving to New Orleans, Balkcom lived throughout the world, from Los Angeles to Japan. She began her teaching career in Kentucky and Texas. In her free time, Balkcom said that she is an avid reader (favorite writer: Gabriel Garcia Marquez), who also supports animal and



The 13 new faculty members joining Jesuit High School for the 2018-19 school year include, from left, Christopher Woods '06, Kevin Yokum '14, Fr. Frank Reale, S.J., Thomas Nimmo '14, Bryan Bairnsfather, Angela Balkcom, Kelly Lulich, Alicia Kokemor, Paul Hatty, Meg Anderson, Sam Ferguson, Stephen Maffei '08, and Michael Killeen.

human rights, running, yoga, and most of all being with her family.

Sam Ferguson will be teaching eighth-grade English and English IV. A native of Memphis, he moved to New Orleans eight years ago to attend Tulane University, where he earned both his undergraduate and master's degrees in English. After graduation, he worked as a musician – he plays both electric and upright bass – and as the business manager for a legal consulting firm.

While at Jesuit, Ferguson also plans to finish his teaching certification program at Tulane. When not teaching, in addition to his musical pursuits, he writes short stories. He'll bring that talent to assisting to moderate the Creative Writing Club and Callopie, Jesuit's literary magazine.

Christopher Woods, from the Class of '06, returns to Jesuit after teaching at Grace King High School. He also spent two years in Japan teaching English as a second language there. At Jesuit, he will be teaching English I and IV.

The Modern Foreign Languages Department also welcomes a trio of new teachers.

Meg Anderson, another native of Memphis, will be teaching eighth-grade Spanish. She is a graduate of Mississippi College ("Go Choctaws!") where she

received her degree in Spanish and certification in teaching English as a second language. She studied abroad in both Mexico and Spain, teaching English to eighth and ninth graders in Seville.

She said she loves travel and learning about new cultures, a passion that she'll bring to helping to lead the Spanish Club. In addition, she enjoys playing tennis, painting and riding horses.

Michael Killeen, a native of St. Louis, comes to Jesuit to teach Spanish II this year. He first came to know Jesuit education while studying at the novitiate in Grand Coteau in 2012. He then continued his college studies of Spanish and Studio Art at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Upon graduation, he taught Spanish at a Jesuit high school and art at an all-girls high school, both in St. Louis. He moved to New Orleans in 2017 and taught Spanish at Archbishop Hannan High School in Covington. In addition to spending time with his fiancée, he enjoys cycling, painting and building furniture.

A native of Caracas, Venezuela, **Alicia Kokemor** brings 26 years teaching experience to Jesuit, having previously taught at Archbishop Chapelle High School. Though raised in Venezuela, she attended an American school there before finishing high school in Texas.

She then attended Loyola University here in New Orleans. Kokemor will be teaching Spanish I and II. When not teaching, she said her interests include traveling, reading, watching thrillers and suspense movies, and attending estate sales.

The Social Studies Department, which just moved into its newly renovated offices, gains a pair of new teachers.

Bryan Bairnsfather brings 28 years of teaching experience to Jesuit, having previously taught at Brother Martin and Holy Cross high schools, and most recently at Archbishop Shaw High School. Bairnsfather will teach AP U.S. History and World Geography.

Paul Hatty also comes to us from Archbishop Shaw, having spent seven years teaching and coaching both football and wrestling. He taught World History, American History, Geography, Speech and Literature. Here at Jesuit, Hatty will be teaching Western Civilization and American History. He also joins the football program as assistant coach for the offensive line, and will be assistant wrestling coach.

Joining the Mathematics Department, **Kelly Lulich** begins her 10th year of teaching. She grew up in Lakeview and graduated from Mt. Carmel Academy in 2002. From there, she earned her undergraduate degree in General Studies: Mathematics, Psychology and Theatre. She is currently working toward her master's in math and teaching certification.

After working as an office manager for a telecommunications company, Lulich returned to her alma mater and began her teaching career at Mt. Carmel in 2009, spending five years there. She also has since taught at JCFA, an alternative education charter school in Harvey; and at St. Martin's Episcopal School. At Jesuit, she will be teaching Introduction to Algebra and Geometry. Lulich is married and has a 10-year-old son. She said she enjoys travel food and the arts, as well as completing puzzles and other brain games.

Fr. Frank Reale, S.J., returns to Carrollton and Banks having previously taught here part-time in 2012. He will be

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Vince te ipsum

This Ignatian motto, "Conquer yourself," has been declared to be the spiritual theme of this year. One of the surest paths to spiritual growth is regular reception of the sacraments. To that end, Campus Ministry will celebrate daily Masses in the second-floor chapel following this schedule:
Monday-Friday: 7:15 a.m. and Tuesday-Thursday at 12:15 p.m. (the start of lunchtime). Confessions also will be heard daily in the chapel during the second half of lunch.

Archbishop

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on what Fr. Kevin Dyer, S.J., declared at the inaugural Morning Assembly to be the spiritual theme of this year: "Conquer yourself."

"In order to truly become the people, the young men, that God has called you to be, in order for us to be the disciples of the Lord Jesus, we have to conquer ourselves and die to some of the things within us so that we can truly live for God and follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

"We are called to be men of

integrity; men who know what God is calling you to be, now and in the future."

The archbishop also addressed the current crisis causing so much turmoil in the Church, noting that some fellow bishops have fallen short of that goal.

"Unfortunately and sadly, as we see today, there are and were some leaders of the Church who did not follow the Spirit," he said. "They were unfaithful to their commitments. They were unfaithful to the promises they made to God and to others. And we as a Church, and I, as a Church leader, we ask forgiveness for them."

New year

Continued from Page 1

things, the football season kicked off with the Hahnville Jamboree, in which the Blue Jays defeated the Tigers 10-7.

The Student Council wrapped up the opening week of school with the annual Back-To-School Dance in the Birdcage. A large crowd turned out to celebrate with a Hawaiian-themed Luau.

The Student Council also helmed another successful Welcome Week, offering zany lunchtime activities with the theme, "Jays Survive Outside."

On Monday of Welcome Week, Blue Jays scrambled up and down a huge inflatable obstacle course in the Traditions Courtyard.

The following day, students were challenged to a bug-eating contest, in which they could win doughnuts, a much sweeter treat, as their prize.

On Wednesday, there was an extreme game of "Simon Says," and on Thursday, Jays climbed a rock wall in the courtyard and sang karaoke in the Student Commons.

Welcome Week concluded with one of Jesuit's most beloved traditions, the annual Mass of the Holy Spirit.

The community was honored by the presence of New Orleans Archbishop Gregory Aymond, who was the principal celebrant of the Mass. In his homily, the archbishop imparted a "blessing of the brains" as he prayed that the Holy Spirit would guide all in our community to best use their talents for the new academic year.

Traditions, fun kick off 2018-19



Thurifer Michael Owers leads the procession into the Chapel of the North American Martyrs for the annual Mass of the Holy Spirit on Aug. 31.



New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond was the principal celebrant of the Mass of the Holy Spirit. Following the Mass, he greeted a number of Blue Jays as they left the chapel.



Jesuit President Fr. Christopher S. Fronk, S.J., welcomed the entire community back for the new year on the first day of school. He urged the students to use this year as a time for spiritual, as well as academic, growth.



The orientation day for new students concluded with a pep rally in the auditorium, where Jayson made some new friends among the incoming Blue Jays.



The year's incoming students were officially welcomed into the school community at the annual Jesuit Investiture Ceremony, at which their Big Brothers presented the new students with their 'J' Pin.



Former Jay dons LSU's honored 18

By Reed Darcey

Four years ago, Foster Moreau was a three-star tight end prospect, a member of the Class 5A All-State team, and a leader on Jesuit football's first state title team in more than 50 years.

Today, he dons No. 18 for LSU football, an honor bestowed upon the team's most influential leader who, according to Louisiana State University, is "synonymous with success both on and off the field."

"I was not at all surprised that Foster received the number 18," said Jesuit head Coach Mark Songy, "I'm extremely proud of him."

Moreau's work ethic has always been "above question," and he contributed exceptional "character, performance, practice habits, and leadership" to the Blue Jay locker room during his time at Carrollton and Banks, Songy said.

In his first year as a Tiger, Moreau was one of only seven true freshmen to see the field in the season opener.

He earned playing time in the team's ensuing 11 games, including starts against rivals Alabama and Ole Miss.

Moreau added a few more starts to his resume in his sophomore year and caught his first touchdown.

But it wasn't until his junior year that he became an integral part of the Tiger offense.

Last fall, Moreau, who Pro Football Focus graded as the FBS' best run-blocking tight end, started all 13 games, finishing fourth on the team in receptions and yards and tied for the most touchdown grabs.

He became the first LSU tight end in almost a decade to score two touchdowns in a single game.

This year, Moreau is the team's leading incumbent receiver and is set to become a featured weapon in LSU's new offensive scheme.

But Moreau almost never made it to LSU.

Before 2015's National Signing Day, he was ready to commit to Tulane University.

It wasn't until he received a last-minute phone call from LSU that Moreau decided to commit to playing football in Baton Rouge.

"I'm in the shower and I hear my phone ring," he told *The Advocate* last year. "I have soap in my hair, I jump out the shower and bolt to my phone."

"I pick up and Coach (Les) Miles is on the line. He goes, 'Hey, Foster, how ya doing?'"

Later that day, a future No. 18 signed with LSU, and both Moreau and the Tiger football program are better because of it.

A winning start!



The Blue Jay football team kicked off the fall season facing off against the Hahnville Tigers at the annual pre-season Hahnville Jamboree. The Jays won the game by a score of 10-7, showcasing an outstanding defense. The offense, led by a Max Scheurich field goal and a Willie Robinson touchdown run, was good enough to escape the Tigers. The performance by the Blue Jay defense, though, which allowed the Tigers just 13 yards.

Faculty Continued from Page 2

teaching two sections of the pre-freshman Christianity course. Fr. Reale was raised in St. Louis, and graduated from the Jesuit St. Louis University High School. He entered the Society of Jesus after two years in college. He studied at St. Louis University, the University of Minnesota and Heythrop College of the University of London in England. His teaching experience includes time at Rockhurst

High School and SLUH. He also has served in a variety of administrative positions at St. Louis University, including a three-year stint as president of the university's campus in Madrid.

Fr. Reale's primary duties will be serving in the President's Office, assisting Fr. Christopher Fronk, S.J., in the areas of mission and planning. He brings a wealth of experience in administrative duties from the Jesuit Missouri Province, where he was previously director of vocations, formation, secondary education assistant, and as provincial. He also recently served as pastor of Immaculate Conception Church on Baronne Street.

And finally, in the Guidance Department, **Stephen Maffei**, Class of '08, will serve as the new coordinator of the Student

Assessment Program. Upon graduation from Jesuit, Maffei earned his undergraduate degree in Psychology from Louisiana State University, followed by his master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from the University of Holy Cross. He has completed internships in the Psychology Department at University Medical Center and at the Thomas E. Chambers Counseling and Training Center.

The former football player is a diehard Saints fan who also enjoys surfing, cycling and rock climbing. A natural New Orleanian, he also enjoys funk music and spicy food. A primary word of advice that he imparts to students: Tell your parents and grandparents that you love them. You never know how long you have with them.

Fr. Schiro

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to truly *know* God. To that end, he created a course in prayer, a senior elective that changed many lives. English teacher Michael Prados, Class of '83, recalled taking that class.

"He brought me closer to God," Prados said. He said that Fr. Schiro took students outside the classroom often as they formed small, close-knit prayer groups. They would make their own retreats on weekends together, forming a unique bond under his spiritual direction. Those friendships have often lasted long after graduation, Prados said.

"He cared deeply about his students, and he accepted us for who we were," he said.

Prados delivered the eulogy at the end of the memorial Mass, reflecting on the depth of Fr. Schiro's vocation as a teacher.

"We all know that Fr. Schiro brought us closer to God. But it's taken me over 30 years as a teacher to begin to understand how we, as his students, also brought him closer to God," Prados said. "He saw Christ in our energy, enthusiasm, and innate goodness. We all seek meaning in life – to understand why we are here and what purpose we are meant to fulfill. In dedicating his life to us, his students, Fr. Schiro lived as the man God made him to be. As

teachers at Jesuit, we continue to be inspired by his example to also see Christ in each of our students."

A more recent alumnus, Jason Britsch, Class of '12, also recalled a pleasant memory of how surprised he was that this elderly priest, even in his late 80s, was so in touch with what was going on with millennial teen-age boys. He could cut to the heart of an issue in a kind but direct and plain spoken manner, Britsch said.

Fr. Brown said that he knew Fr. Schiro for 20 years, first meeting him when he was a novice living in the same community with him. He recalled a story that illustrates just how "patient, kind and very generous" he was.

Fr. Schiro was known as a fine Italian cook. His homemade pizzas were always a hot item at the annual Mission Drive auction. In addition, he baked pastries. To save time, Fr. Schiro kept perfectly measured bags of blueberries in the freezer. Fr. Brown, however, liked to put blueberries in his morning cereal. Upon realizing why the berries kept disappearing, Fr. Brown remembered the gentle rejoinder he received from the baker. "He told me, 'Well, I'm glad you liked them, but please don't do that again.' He was a man of immeasurable grace."

Nicholas T. Schiro was born in New Orleans on Nov. 17,

1927, to Theodore A. Schiro and Josephine Manale Schiro.

Soon after his graduation, he entered the Society of Jesus at St. Charles College in Grand Coteau on Aug. 14, 1944. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 12, 1957, and professed his final vows on Aug. 15, 1961.

Fr. Schiro studied English and philosophy at Spring Hill College in Mobile, and went on to earn his licentiate in Sacred Theology at St. Mary's College in St. Mary's, Kan. He also earned a master's degree in religious education at Loyola University in Chicago.

He was a leader in forming the theology curriculum at Jesuit high schools through his work with the Jesuit Secondary Educational Association.

As an only child, Fr. Schiro leaves no direct survivors, but his family of fellow Jesuits. In both New Orleans and Dallas, he served as a superior in his communities and sought to create a home-like environment.

Fr. Schiro's funeral Mass was celebrated on Aug. 18 in the St. Charles College Chapel in Grand Coteau. Burial was in the Jesuit Cemetery there.

As Prados said in his eulogy, "We are better teachers, parents, coaches, priests, friends, etc., for having known him. ... Thank you, Fr. Schiro, for your friendship, your love, and your inspiration."

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