



VERITAS: October 2025

Dear Bethlehem Academy Alumni and Friends,

As the seasons change and the beauty of fall surrounds our Bethlehem Academy community, we are reminded daily of God's abundant blessings and the call to live out our faith through prayer, study, community, and service. This year, our students have embraced that call wholeheartedly—growing in spirit, intellect, and compassion.

Faith remains at the heart of all we do. Each week, our classes spend time in our Adoration Chapel, deepening their relationship with Christ through quiet reflection and prayer. We were also blessed to welcome Fr. Alex this fall, who shared with our theology students the beauty of living a faith-filled life rooted in service. Our students continue to put that faith into action through projects that touch lives both near and far—from collecting socks for those served by

St. Vincent de Paul in Faribault, to raising over \$3,000 through our Tackle Cancer and Dig Pink events for cancer research.

As we look ahead, we invite you to join us in three important ways in continuing this mission of forming young people in faith and excellence. Thanks to generous benefactors, all gifts to the Annual Fund will be **matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 through December 31**. Your support—no matter the size—will go twice as far in strengthening our programs, supporting tuition assistance, and ensuring that our students continue to grow as leaders who serve with joy.

Additionally, over the next few months, we will begin shaping the next seven years of Dominican Catholic education at BA through **strategic planning and accreditation**. Your voice matters—please take a few moments to share your thoughts through a short two- to three-minute survey at the link below.

With Advent and Christmas approaching, we also welcome your participation in our **Christmas Raffle**, a tradition that celebrates community while benefiting our students.

Thank you for your continued prayers, generosity, and love for Bethlehem Academy. Together, we carry forward our mission of seeking Truth—Veritas—and forming hearts and minds for Christ.

With gratitude and blessings,

Paula Leider

Head of School

paula_leider@bacards.org

507-334-3948

Kris Sauer

Director of Advancement

ksauer@bacards.org

507-334-3948

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." - Proverbs 3:5-6 (*Campus Ministry-selected Bible verse for 2025-2026*)

Take the Strategic Planning Survey

Update from the Advancement Office

We are excited to be sending this second edition of our *Veritas* newsletter via our new platform. Your feedback to our initial mailing was extremely helpful as we streamline our communications to ensure we are reaching as many of our families, alumni, and supporters as possible. Do please share your input or suggestions as we move ahead!

Annual Fund - Double Your Donation!

**Great news: a \$50,000
match has just been
announced!**

**Your generosity goes
twice as far!**

mail check to:
Bethlehem Academy
105 Third Av SW
Faribault, MN 55021



Scan to reach the
BA donation page.



Donate to the Annual Fund Here

2025 BA Christmas Raffle
'Tis the season for giving – and winning!

Limited tickets printed Multiple chances to win

First Prize - \$2025
Second Prize - \$1025
Third Prize - \$525

Funds raised help keep tuition low, support devoted staff, provide scholarships, and much more!

Order your tickets today!

- Drawing held Tuesday, December 16.
- Ticket orders must be received by Monday, December 15.
- 105 3rd Ave SW, Faribault, MN 55021
- \$25
- Need not be present to win. Participants must be at least 18 years old.

Catholic United Financial
 This raffle is made possible by the St. Lawrence & Avina Councils and Rev. Bill Mahoney, Administrator@bethlehemacademy.org, 763.666.8072

Bethlehem ACADEMY
INSPIRING TALENT SINCE 1967

2025 BA Christmas Raffle Form

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM BETHLEHEM ACADEMY



NHS Induction Ceremony

Last week we inducted 11 new members into the Bethlehem Academy National Honor Society following our weekly morning Mass. NHS is a club for high school students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, and character. BA's chapter was founded in 1957. Were you a member of NHS? Today's students are signing their names into the very same NHS book that you did - that's a lot of Cardinal history!

Student Artwork Featured

Bethlehem Academy students Sylvia Velishek '28 and Isabella Quittem '28 created a beautiful collaborative painting of St. Pier Giorgio Frassati, commemorating his canonization on September 7. Created under the direction of BA art teacher Jason Hillesheim, the artwork was featured in the October newsletter of Dominican Veritas Ministries, BA's canonical sponsor.

BA student artwork was also featured this month in the Corey Lyn Creger Memorial Gallery at the Paradise Center for the Arts. See photo at the header of some of the artwork displayed.



From MN to the National FFA Stage!

BA senior Luke McCrea represented Minnesota in Extemporaneous Speaking at this week's National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. Competing against 47 other state champions, Luke advanced to the round of 16 and earned the silver award!

As the first BA FFA member ever to qualify for nationals, Luke is now a national semifinalist. An incredible accomplishment and great reflection on the work of our FFA Advisor Max Johnson.



The Class of 2026 went on an overnight retreat to Camp Victory in late September.



BA's football and volleyball teams held Tackle Cancer/Dig Pink events in early

Rooted in faith and friendship, the seniors spent time in pray, play, and growing together as a class. From quiet reflection to shared laughter, our seniors built memories that will carry them far this year and beyond.

October. Through t-shirt sales, game activities, and a "pass the hat" challenge at the games, teams raised over \$3000 for the Randy Shaver Cancer Research Fund.

Upcoming BA Events

- **November 13:** Fall Admissions Open House, 5-7pm
- **November 25:** Grandparents Day, 1pm
- **November 26-28:** Thanksgiving Break

ALUMNI NEWS



BA Athletics Accolades

2025 Faribault Sports Hall of Fame inductees Drew Glenzinski '14, Lauren Mathews Hanson '15 and Payton Schultz Kalil '15. Inducted into the Faribault Sports Hall of Fame in a ceremony October 17th, **Drew** played football and ran track for the Cardinals, earning all-

state, all-conference, and team captain accolades. He led the state in tackles as a junior on BA's State Runner-Up football team, then played football for four years at St. John's, starting on the defensive line for three years and serving as a captain his senior year. **Lauren** lettered in volleyball for four years and basketball for two years. Was 4 year-starter on volleyball teams that won three state championships and four conference championships, earning all-state twice and honorable mention accolades once. A 2-year volleyball team captain and team MVP, she played volleyball at St. Ben's for four years, where she was all-conference and a team captain. **Payton** starred in volleyball and softball for six years each and lettered in basketball as an 8th and 9th grader. She started all six years in volleyball and played on four state championship teams. Accolades include multiple year all-conference, 2-time all-state tournament team, all-state, 2-year captain and MVP and over 1,000 career digs. Kalil went on to played volleyball collegiately at both UW-Stout and Minnesota State Mankato.

Just three days earlier, longtime Bethlehem Academy volleyball and boys basketball coach Franz Boelter was inducted into the Minnesota State High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame this week.

Congratulations to all!

Class of 2015 Ten Year Reunion

In early October, members of the Class of 2015 gathered at Corks and Pints in Faribault to celebrate their ten-year reunion. The class extended invitations to several of their former teachers, who joined them for the evening, including Brent Zabel, Jonathan Kopplin, Jeremy Wagner, Jason Hillesheim, Dan Hickel, Celeste Donlon, and (not pictured) Ed Friesen.



2025 Class Reunions

Class of 1980 (45th): November 15 at the Elks, 5:00pm; Contact Jann Pettipiece-Zabel at jannzabel@gmail.com



BA Alumni: We want to hear from you!

Recently married, added to your family, promoted, moved, retired? We want to share your news and your stories! Email your updates to advancement@bacards.org or click [HERE](#) to fill out the alumni update form on our website.

REST IN PEACE

Notices received since July 1, 2025

Prayers for the following BA family members who have gone home to their heavenly rewards:

JoAnn Adams Mandell - Class of 1948
Sara Perron Irrthum - Class of 1952
Thomas Deneen - Class of 1954
Carl Speikers - Class of 1956
Lucille "Luci" (Jewett) Nelson - Class of 1958
Bruce Shaffer - Class of 1958
Donald Thibault - Class of 1959
Dennis Meillier - Class of 1967
Maureen Pobanz McCusker - Class of 1974
Patricia A. Hickey Drawert - Class of 1976

Special Friends

Joseph Edel

Consider creating a memorial with a scholarship fund set up in a loved one's name!
Call the school to learn more at 507-334-3948.





Bethlehem Academy, a Catholic school in the Sinsinawa Dominican tradition, strives to empower its students and staff to achieve personal, spiritual and academic excellence. We challenge ourselves to love as Jesus Christ loved, to lead, to serve, to inspire and to seek the truth:
VERITAS.

[Unsubscribe](#)

Bethlehem Academy
105 3rd Ave SW Faribault, MN 55021