



JPII TAKES STAND AT MARCH FOR LIFE

About 75 students from Pope John Paul II High School made the long trek to Washington, D.C., to stand up for their belief in the sanctity of all life at the March for Life, held Jan. 22.

They were part of the largest contingent ever from the Diocese of Nashville to participate in the march, which marks the anniversary of the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion.

The March for Life has become an event dominated by young people, with high schools and colleges from around the country sending groups of students to participate. Attending the march is important for young people, "because they get to be a voice for the voiceless," said Bill Staley, director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Nashville. "But also their hearts are impacted with the pro-life movement. It's popular with the teens, because it is their generation, their peers who are faced with the temptation or the pressure to get an abortion."

"The teens see themselves being activists in a peaceful way for something so important and so much bigger than themselves," Staley said.

"It's crazy to see all those people standing up for one central cause," said JPII junior Christopher Stinnett, who made his

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Photo courtesy of Rick Musacchio/Tennessee Register

Sophomore Charlsi Jayne Patterson uses her phone to take a selfie with a picture of Jesus that was being passed around the crowd at the March for Life in Washington. She was one of about 75 JPII students to attend the march.

GALA TO HONOR CAROLYN BAKER, FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER

Dr. Carolyn Baker, a member of the founding Board of Trustees for Pope John Paul II High School, will be the honoree at the 2015 Gala and Auction for the school – Masquerade Knight – to be held Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Bluegrass Yacht and Country Club in Hendersonville.

Dr. Baker's career in education spans more than 30 years during which she has devoted much time, talent and treasure to the enhancement of Catholic education throughout the Diocese of Nashville. She founded the Nashville Catholic Middle School Forensic League, coached forensics at Overbrook School, and taught as an adjunct instructor at Aquinas College.

In early 1999, Dr. Baker was invited by Nashville Bishop Edward Kmiec to serve on the Program Committee of the New High School Task Force, which eventually became the inaugural Board of Trustees of JPII. Dr. Baker's leadership as chair of the Headmaster Search was instrumental in bringing to JPII Mr. Hans Broekman, the school's founding headmaster, launching the trajectory of excellence for which our school is known.

Dr. Baker and her husband, Clark, have been great friends to JPII over the years and it is our pleasure to spotlight their commitment to excellence in Catholic education at

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A KNIGHT'S TALE



JPII ALUMNI PAGE



ATHLETICS



SCHOOL



@JPIIKNIGHTS

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GALA TO HONOR CAROLYN BAKER, FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER

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this year's gala.

The Gala will include a silent and live auction, dinner and dancing. The preview for the silent auction begins at 6 p.m. Dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by the recognition of the honoree, the live auction and dancing.

The Voice of the Knights, Eddie Vaughn, will serve as this year's auctioneer. The live auction items up for sale include: a suite for 16 at a Nashville Predators game; a beautiful Fairfield sideboard; front row seats for graduation this May; and a fiddle autographed by country music star and fiddle player extraordinaire Charlie Daniels, said Celeste Duzane, a former JPII parent who has come back to serve

as the gala coordinator. "I'm excited to be back, because I love the school. It was a great place for my kids," Mrs. Duzane said. "And anything I can do to help, I'm glad to be involved."

The music for the dancing will be provided by the band The Deacons. "They play it all," Mrs. Duzane said.

Also, there will be a contest for the best handcrafted masquerade mask. There will be prizes for the top three finishers, including \$100 for first place.

Proceeds from the gala will benefit the general operations of the school as well as the tuition assistance fund. Tickets for the gala are \$100. For more information, call the school at (615) 822-2375.

DON'T WAIT TO SIGN UP FOR CAMP JPII

Camp JPII will return to Pope John Paul II High School this summer with a choice of close to 40 camps, including favorites from past years and new options.

"This year the sky is the limit. We're hoping for 500-600 campers," said Paul Saboe, a history teacher at JPII and the summer camp director. "We have more camps and more capacity within those camps."

The camps will be held during the four weeks of June. Most camps are half day camps, some held in the morning and others in the afternoon.

Information about each of the camps and registration is available on the JPII website – www.jp2hs.org – under "Quicklinks."

Among the returning favorites, said Mr. Saboe, who has taught a summer camp since the program started at JPII, are: Science Sleuths, taught by JPII Science Department Chair Jennifer Dye; several cooking camps, led by Sharon Hager, including Dessert Wars; Mr. Saboe's own History of Warfare Through Dodgeball, and a variety of athletic camps.

The athletic camps are all led by JPII's coaches, Mr. Saboe said. "The focus is on basic development of skill sets. They try to target your skill level and give you one-on-one attention. ... I'm definitely impressed with our coaches and their focus on excellence and the development of excellence in our young people."

Several academic camps will once again be offered, including an essay writing camp and a study skills camp that benefit incoming freshmen to JPII," Mr. Saboe said. "We've had students from other schools and

upperclassmen attend and get something out of it."

JPII teachers Patrick Connolly and Amanda Pepper will once again offer an ACT prep camp the week before the ACT summer test date. The test is offered on the Saturday, after the Monday through Friday camp, when the preparation is still fresh in the students' minds, Mr. Saboe said. "We have had kids report an increase in scores ... which is exactly what we want."

Among the new camps offered this year will be: a Spanish language immersion camp and History of Warfare Through Star Wars. "An area that's been lacking in our summer camp program is a focus on music," Mr. Saboe said. So, this year, Jordan Tupper, JPII's instrumental music teacher, will teach four camps: The Music Experience; JPII Rock Camp, which will close with the students performing a concert; a guitar camp; and a middle school camp.

Also new this year will be a Catholic Chant Camp, in which JPII theology teacher Father Terry McGowan will teach Gregorian chant. "This is something you won't get anywhere else, just JPII," Mr. Saboe said.

The camps run Monday through Friday in two sessions: 9 a.m. to noon and 12:30-3:30 p.m. The cost of each camp is \$140. Those who sign up for four camps will be charged a discounted rate of \$515, Mr. Saboe said.

Again this year, for an additional fee, early drop off and afternoon care will be offered. "First Burst" allows parents to drop their camper off at 7:30 a.m., and "Last Blast" allows afternoon campers to stay until 5:30 p.m. Weekly lunch is also offered for a minimal fee.



JPII takes stand at March for Life

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second trip to the march. "It was an eye-opener. ... It's important that we try to get our message across to everyone."

Annette Whitaker, a junior at JPII, made her second trip to the march this year.

"When I came to JPII, I did not really know much about abortion and the sanctity of life and how sacred that is," said Annette, who is not Catholic. But she's learned a lot about the issue in theology classes, especially this year when the class is focused on social justice issues.

"I definitely think our generation is raising more awareness" of the issues surrounding respect for life, said Annette, "especially when you're at the march and look around and everybody else is our age."

JPPII ART STUDENTS EARN HONORS

Several students at Pope John Paul II High School recently have been honored for their art work. Senior Reygan Putman's painting "Infestation" was voted Best In Show at the Middle Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition. Her work was prominently displayed on the announcement for the exhibition and on billboards around the Nashville area. The painting was part of the exhibit on display at Belmont Mansion in January.

Twenty-one students were recognized in the regional Scholastic Art Competition, including five who had seven pieces receive Gold Key Awards, the highest honor.

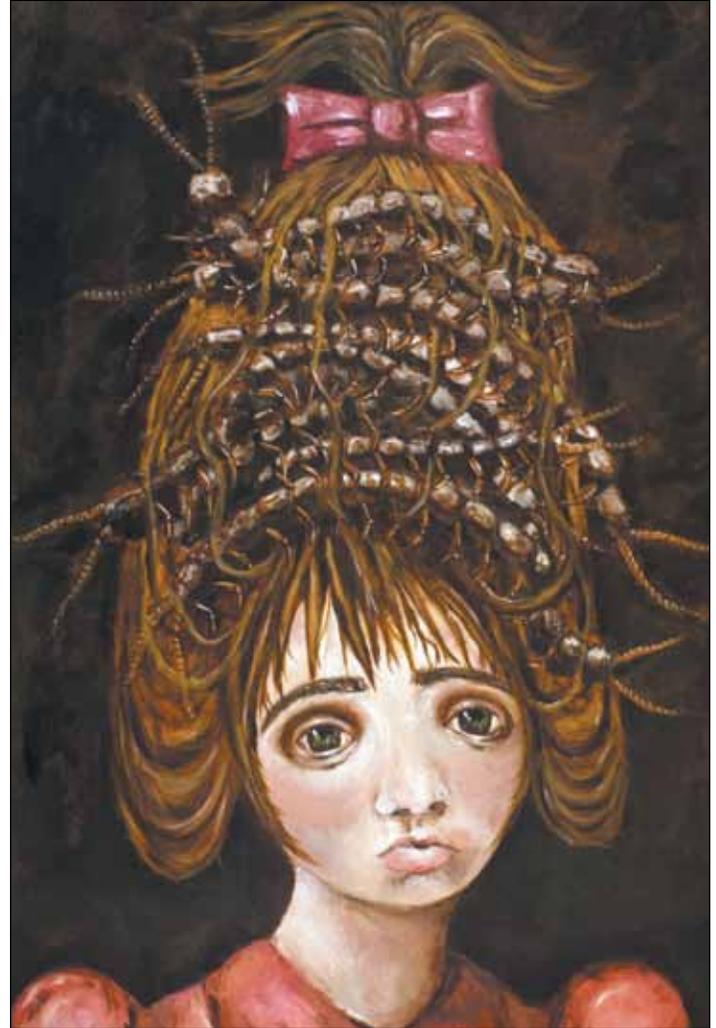
Gold Key winners were: Savannah Brown, Photography; Greg Cannella, Photography; Libby Reese, Sculpture; Rachel Richardson, Photography; and Christina Yi who had three Gold Key winners in Photography.

Silver Key winners included: Anna Fox, Photography; Brianna Groves, Photography; Alley McDonald, Photography; and Anna Marie Narey, Portfolio.

Those receiving Honorable Mention awards were: Maddie Angell, Sculpture; Ben Carter, Photography; Rob Dedman, Sculpture; Baylie Fadool, Drawing; Madison Farris, Drawing; Alyssa Fogolin, Photography; Allison Fowler, two honorable mentions, Sculpture; Cathleen Humm, Painting; Remilia Li, Painting; Andrew Neely, two honorable mentions, Sculpture; James Peyton, Drawing; Libby Reese, Sculpture; Max Swearingen, Photography; Christina Yi, Photography.

The Gold Key winners in the regional Scholastic Art Competition will be on view at Cheekwood in the Museum of Art from Jan. 31 to April 19. The Silver Key winners will be shown on a looped video in the Courtyard Gallery of the Frist Learning Center during the same timeframe. Gold Key winners will be submitted to the national Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition.

Four JPPII art students – Christina Yi, Alley McDonald, Baylie Fadool and Elise Ruttenbur – were featured in the January issue of Nashville Arts Magazine. In the article "On the Horizon," the four students talked about their interest in art, their pieces and their inspiration. To read the article online, visit <http://nashvillearts.com/2015/01/02/horizon-pope-john-paul-ii-high-school/>.



"Infestation" by JPPII senior Reygan Putman was voted Best In Show at the Middle Tennessee Regional Student Art Exhibition.

JPPII HOSTS SCIENCE OLYMPIAD INVITATIONAL

About 300 budding scientists swarmed the campus of Pope John Paul II High School on Saturday, Jan. 10, for the JPPII Invitational Science Olympiad competition. Students from 20 high schools participated in the competition. "They came from all over the place," said JPPII science teacher Shara Bellamy, who with Abby Drumright is an advisor to JPPII's Science Olympiad team. There were teams from Memphis and Kentucky as well as a group of homeschooled students who competed, Ms. Bellamy said. One of the homeschooled students drove up from Georgia to compete, she added.

Students competed in a variety of events, including anatomy and physiology, cell biology, Disease Detectives, GeoLogic Mapping, Compound Machines, Forensics, Bridge Building and Technical Problem

Solving among others. Participating in Science Olympiad "opens you up to so many different areas of science you don't talk about in the classroom because we don't have time," Ms. Bellamy said.

JPPII students Nisha Monteiro and Elena Baker placed second in GeoLogic Mapping at the competition. Other members of the JPPII team are: Grace Adcox, K.C. Doman, Angelina Hare, Alex Harness, Alex He, Remilia Li, Grace Lascara, Melissa Maros, Michael Musacchio, Haoming Ning, Ashley Phillips and Kayla Trovillion. The JPPII team will participate in the regional competition on Saturday, Feb. 28, at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin. The state competition will be held April 11 at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

JPII SENIORS GIVE SICK GIRL HER DREAM BEDROOM

Glendi Sajqui and her daughter Cindy Itzep stepped into their newly decorated bedroom and could only cry. "It's beautiful," said Cindy, a 13-year-old eighth grader at Wright Middle School in Nashville who has been diagnosed with nymphoblastic leukemia. "It's better than before."

A group of seniors from Pope John Paul II High School, working with the Special Spaces organization, had redecorated the bedroom for the mother and daughter as part of their senior service project.

"The experience was awesome," said JPII senior Christina Yi, who lent her artistic talent to help decorate Cindy's bedroom. "It's awesome to know you can help others by doing something you love."

Each year, the JPII seniors take on a service project, explained Jackie Beals, the former foreign languages department chair and senior service project coordinator who oversaw the work on Cindy's bedroom before she moved out of state in December. This year, senior Grace Wood suggested working with Special Spaces after helping her great-aunt, Anne Strunk, who is a coordinator for Special Spaces in Chattanooga.

Special Spaces is a non-profit organization that creates dream bedrooms for children with life threatening illnesses. "Our premise is these children spend an enormous amount of time in their bedrooms" and they need a space of peace and comfort, said Mrs. Strunk, who helped the group from JPII organize their project. The JPII students asked Vanderbilt Children's Hospital to refer a patient that they could help, Mrs. Beals said. Cindy had first been diagnosed with leukemia in 2010. It had gone into remission, but returned last year, Mrs. Beals said.

After interviewing Cindy to find out what she wanted in her dream bedroom, the JPII team found out she liked violets, pinks and purples and Hello Kitty. She and her mother also said they needed two beds and would like a desk, chair, a dresser and a mirror.

The challenge was how to fit everything in the 11-foot-by-13-foot bedroom mother and daughter share, Mrs. Beals said. "Together we started brainstorming. ... We repurposed the room," Mrs. Beals said. The group decided to replace the bunk beds Cindy and her mother were using with an L-shaped platform bed. Mary Nell Veazey, the mother of senior Anna Veazey, found a desk online that the students sanded and repainted. "It turned out as an amazing find for \$100 on Craig's List," Mrs. Beals said.

"There was no way a desk was going to fit in that room," said Mrs. Beals. She found a solution online with a desk that hangs on the wall. You fold it down when you need to use it and fold it back up when you are done, she explained.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, Mrs. Sajqui and her daughter spent the day visiting friends while a group of about 20 JPII students and adults went to work remaking the bedroom, top to bottom. Mrs. Beals turned the responsibility for painting and decorating the room to some of JPII's art students, including Christina Yi. "We had agreed on doing a paisley design," said Christina, which matched the blankets and comforters the group had purchased for the room. The students used a stencil to paint



Seniors Cathleen Humm and Alyssa Wyman paint paisley designs to decorate the bedroom of Cindy Itzep, a girl suffering with leukemia. The senior class worked with the organization Special Spaces as its Senior Service Project.

the paisley outlines and then painted by hand the designs inside, "so each one was different."

Special Spaces requires that a licensed contractor be on hand during the project to oversee any construction work. John and Jeff Cook, employees of Botsko Builders, owned by Mark and Jennifer Botsko, the parents of a JPII senior, Mark. "The kids did the bulk of the work but (the Cooks) were great at mentoring and doing some of the more complicated work," Mrs. Beals said.

The project cost about \$2,500 and the JPII students have raised enough money to do two more bedrooms. They are planning to do them this spring, Beals said.

When Mrs. Sajqui and Cindy returned to their apartment and got their first look at their new bedroom, they were speechless, Mrs. Sajqui said. "It's beautiful. We love the room."

"Cindy immediately went to Anne and gave her a big hug and then came to me and gave me a big hug," Mrs. Beals said. "It was precious."

Cindy "was super happy," Christina Yi said. "Everybody was tearing up and smiling. Her mom was really emotional. ... It made me feel very good about how I was able to use my artistic abilities to help someone else and help her face her illness in a comfortable space."

"My favorite part was spending my last few weeks with students who want to make a difference and give back," Mrs. Beals said. "It was a humbling experience. ... Not once did the kids say, 'Man this was hard work.' Not once did they complain. I think they represented our school extremely well."

"It was the epitome of what service and giving back is really about," Mrs. Beals said.

SENIOR ANNA VEAZEY REACHES BEYOND JPPII

Senior Anna Veazey went to Uganda with thousands of pairs of eyeglasses and other supplies, but came back with so much more. This past summer she traveled with her father and a group of people from Brentwood Methodist Church to Uganda. Her father, Butch, had been working on a project collecting eyeglasses for people whose eyesight had been effected by malaria.

One of the first stops they made was to a school called Raise the Roof, which was started by the youth director at Brentwood Methodist. He had grown up there and wanted to give back to his hometown.

“Hundreds of kids swarmed our buses when we got there,” Anna said. “The entire town was there at the school, including their mayor and chief of police. It was like they knew us already. Everyone just wanted to touch us. They set up big tents with chairs for us and had several concerts prepared. Their hospitality was amazing!”

The second school they visited was Divine Grace School in Uganda. It was there that Anna met 6-year old Eriya and ultimately saved his life.

“He was the only little boy at the school that didn’t have a uniform, that’s how I noticed him. There was something sad about him, so I decided to dance with him and we ended up hanging out all day,” Anna said. “I later found out he had no mom and has to walk very far for school every day without shoes. A few days later I realized he looked sick. I took him to the clinic and they diagnosed him with malaria. They said that he was lucky I noticed and brought him in to get the treatment he needed.”

After spending some time with Eriya, Anna decided to sponsor him. She sends money monthly to cover his medication, school, meals, uniform, books and anything else he needs. She also decided to pay for him to board at the school since his home life was bad. They write letters back and forth and Anna often sends clothes to him.

GET A GLIMPSE OF THE WORLD BY HOSTING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

JPPII is looking for families willing to take in international students for the next school year. “We just need a lot more volunteer families to help these kids,” said John Cooper of JPPII’s Admissions Office. “These kids are eager to get here. They are great kids, well behaved, excellent students.”

The school has partnered with Cambridge Institute of International Education to find students from China and South Korea who want to come to the United States to study. Cambridge helped place four students from China this year, and JPPII has already accepted a fifth student for next year, Mr. Cooper said. “The students we have here, they’re having a blast with their host families,” Mr. Cooper said. And the rest of the student body benefits from their presence, he added. “We’re trying to build the program,” Mr. Cooper said. “We would like to have as many as 10 new international students every year.”

Cambridge has a company – GPHomestay – that helps find host families and provides support through the process, Mr. Cooper said. The international students will be enrolled at JPPII for the entire school year, so host families are asked to make a 10-month commitment, Mr. Cooper said. They must be able to provide the students their own bedroom and



Anna Veazey is surrounded by the children at the Raise the Roof School in Uganda during a trip there last summer. Anna is sponsor a young boy she met on her trip, raising money to cover his medications, school, meals, uniform, books and anything else he needs.

Anna will be going to Haiti in February with Kore Foundation, a sustainable economy program. She has been raising money to provide chickens to farmers, who in return give chickens to the orphanage. It only costs \$6.25 for a child to have chicken for a month. Anna sold Hatch Hope t-shirts last semester to help the cause.

access to a bathroom. A stipend for hosting a student is available, he said.

Typically, the students come to the United States in their freshman or sophomore year of high school and study here for three or four years, Mr. Cooper explained. “We want these kids to have the full experience of what it means to live with a U.S. family,” Mr. Cooper said. JPPII prefers to place the international students with families that already have a student at JPPII, he said.

Rob and Monica Barnett became host families in the program for the first time this year, inviting Kira Niu from Beijing into their home. “It’s a good growing experience for families,” said Monica Barnett. The Barnetts’ daughters Indigo and Izabelle are juniors at JPPII.

“She’s enjoying it here and she really likes JPPII,” Mrs. Barnett said of Kira. “It’s been beneficial to all of our kids. ... She’s a sweet girl and we will consider her a part of our family forever.”

For more information about becoming a host family, contact Mr. Cooper at (615) 822-2375 or Robert Rosario, coordinator of GPHomestay in Nashville, at (850) 509-9690 or rrosario@gphomestay.com.

MRS. EATMAN 'POUNCED' AT CHANCE TO LEAD HAND IN HAND

When Pam Eatman found out last year that the position as director of the Hand in Hand program at JPII was opening, "I pounced," she said. "You can't beat JPII as an institution and the faculty is top notch. ... I've never seen faculty receive kids with special education needs so openly. Hand in Hand is so embraced in this school it's part of its mission. They live it."

Mrs. Eatman directs the Hand in Hand program, which has five students with intellectual disabilities. The program is unique, not only in Tennessee but across the country. Typically, students with intellectual disabilities are taught job skills in high school, rather than academic skills. "Here, we're going to push you as far as you can go," Mrs. Eatman said.

Mrs. Eatman teaches the Hand in Hand students math, English, science and study skills, and they take all other courses, including history, theology, physical education, art classes and electives, with the rest of the student body. "The parents get that this is a unique opportunity for their kids," Mrs. Eatman said. "They know they're loved and appreciated and taken care of for who they are. And pushed. We can push them to their fullest."

Mrs. Eatman first came to Nashville to study special education at Peabody College at Vanderbilt University as a graduate student. She returned to her



Pam Eatman

native California, where she directed a daycare program for children with autism.

In 2007, she and her husband Dean, whom she met when they were graduate students at Vanderbilt, moved back to Nashville where he had been called as the pastor of Memorial Lutheran Church in East Nashville. She ran a reading clinic at the Kennedy Center at Vanderbilt, helping children struggling with reading and training graduate and undergraduate students how to teach reading. She also worked as a resource teacher at St. Joseph School in Madison, and as a special education teacher for Sumner County schools.

That's when she heard about the opening for the Hand in Hand program. She was familiar with it because while working at St. Joseph, she had worked with the founding director Adrienne Parks, about starting a similar program for the younger grades.

Mrs. Eatman hopes to raise the profile of the program among the public. "One of the struggles is we're only known by word of mouth. One of my goals for next year is to get the word out ... that we are here," she said. "I don't think a lot of parents know it's an option."

Besides being a faculty member, Mrs. Eatman also appreciates JPII as a parent. Her daughter Grace is a sophomore at JPII and she hopes to send her two younger children to JPII as well. "I think that there's such a huge buy-in from everybody who works here," Mrs. Eatman said of her colleagues on the faculty and staff. "People at the top of their field who could probably be working for two, three times the money ... but they're choosing to be here. ... They're very passionate about their work."

MASQUERADE KNIGHT

Pope John Paul II High School
2015 Gala & Auction

Saturday, February 7, 2015

Honoring
Dr. Carolyn Baker

6:00 P.M. Preview

7:30 P.M. Dinner

Live Auction ~ Dancing

Bluegrass Yacht & Country Club
550 Johnny Cash Parkway
Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075

