THE 2011 SANCTAE CRUCIS AWARDS

Four stories of alumni distinction, service and outstanding achievement
A floating modern art sculpture called “Curalium” graced the center aisle of St. Joseph Memorial Chapel this spring. Learn more on Page 24.
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Venials and Mortals
I very much enjoyed reading “Jesuits in Baghdad” (Spring 2011, page 26), but the pleasure was greater when I gave the magazine to my colleague, Dr. Walten Baba, a graduate of Baghdad College. It was a real treat for him to see photos of the Jesuits he knew when he was in high school there. Thank you for that.

When I went to my first committee meeting 35 years ago at the Protestant hospital where I work, the chairman of the pharmacy committee was the same Dr. Walten Baba. He divided the medication errors into two piles, handed one to me and said, “Here, Michael, you take the venials and I’ll take the mortals.” No one else on the committee had a clue of what he was talking about, but I understood immediately. I had the minor mistakes, and he had the major medication errors. Later he told me he had seen on my application that I was from Holy Cross and told me he had had some of the same teachers in Baghdad. We’ve been close friends ever since.

Michael Plunkett, M.D., ’68
Glenview, Ill.

Stepping Up
“Strictly Ballroom” (Spring 2011, page 14) is such a refreshing article on the latest on-campus activity. Dancing is much more than fun. It is educational [through the] technical aspects, the idea of movement and its cultural implications. “Cocurricular” is a good term. On occasion, I visit nearby Amherst College, which has a weekly music and dance class on West African music. It is a wonderful experience for the students. Massachusetts also has a large number of groups devoted to morris dancing (a type of English folk dance). A final note: When the ladies joined us on Mount St. James, they brought civilization and joy.

Gordon A. Cronin ’55
Northampton, Mass.

Last Dance
This humble correspondent has trouble with Holy Cross Magazine giving ballroom dance such high profile on the cover and with eight pages. My first impression, and perhaps continuing, is “shades of the Great Gatsby,” and “what a fun, fun school,” when most of the country, and the world, is not dancing. The story, while interesting, belongs on the back pages. My wife, suggesting that I’m being too narrow, reminds me that our seventh son, Robert M. Oberlies ’96, did involve himself in dance lessons while at the Cross. While conversing with him a few days ago (he is practicing law in Shanghai) he couldn’t recall being in a ballroom dance club. Whatever.

I remain narrow. The magazine has a higher calling for its readers in these difficult times, on the cover and within.

Lawrence J. Oberlies ’57
Penfield, NY.

Yummy
I read with great enthusiasm “New Dishes Meet Vegans’ Wishes” (Spring 2011, page 12) about the new vegan and vegetarian dishes offered at Kimball Dining Hall. I have been vegan for ethical reasons for 13 years. While I remember with great fondness the dinners of chicken stuffed with broccoli and cheese and other mysterious foods from my time at the Cross, I might have come to realize the benefits of a plant-based lifestyle sooner had vegan options been more readily available at Kimball. I applaud Holy Cross Dining for making this important food change that provides students with the opportunity to experience new foods and a healthier lifestyle, and to discuss the ethical issues surrounding our food choices.

Rob Roy Smith ’97
Seattle, Wash.

Assessing Success
While I’m happy to see Holy Cross recently received its accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (Spring 2011, page 22), I was troubled to find the College was lacking in the area of tracking student learning. I propose Holy Cross borrow an idea from our peer Bates College and study the effect dropping SATs as a requirement has had on students’ academic success: by tracking the GPAs, graduate school test scores and graduate school admittance of submitters and non-submitters. ... Although early returns have been positive—a larger pool of applicants and greater diversity—the decision must ultimately be judged on whether or not Holy Cross is upholding its legacy of admitting well-rounded students, providing them with a world-class liberal arts education and producing graduates ready to contribute at the top of their chosen fields.

Patrick Rodenbush ’08
Washington, D.C.

Editor’s note: In fact, Holy Cross has conducted assessments of the impact of its standardized test-optional policy (implemented in 2006), and has plans to expand those studies this fall. Meanwhile, 75 to 80 percent of applicants continue to choose to submit standardized test scores; and the College maintains its commitment to a highly personalized admissions process, placing the greatest emphasis on students’ academic performance in high school.
A Grandmother’s Wisdom

S a way of checking in on my social life when I was in college, my sweet and sometimes sassy Nana used to ask me, “Suzanne, have you met anybody you like more than you like yourself?” (You have to imagine it in her thick-as-chowder South Boston accent to get the full effect. “More” was more like “mow-ah.”)

I always took Nana’s question to mean that she thought it was wise to surround oneself with people who made us want to be our best selves—people with sterling character as well as heart. I was reminded of this sentiment as our Sanctae Crucis cover feature took shape.

The Sanctae Crucis award, which is the highest non-degree recognition bestowed by the College on an alumnus or alumna, recognizes those who embrace lives of service and mission for causes far greater than themselves. Their passion for their work often takes them to high levels of professional achievement. And while they excel in their fields, many toil so far behind the scenes that they are stunned when they hear they’ve been nominated and selected for the honor. In short, they are members of our Holy Cross family who, having forged their own unique life paths, show sterling character and heart. I hope you’ll enjoy getting to know all four of the 2011 honorees (right) as much as we enjoyed working with them on the feature that starts on Page 14.

In this issue, you’ll also get to know the College’s eight newly tenured faculty members. They embody one of the pillars of the Holy Cross experience: faculty who are leaders in their academic fields and embrace the engaged teaching style the College is known for.

Returning to the subject of grandmothers, let me tell you about an exciting collaboration that’s been brewing for a few months here at the Magazine. Assistant Professor of history Cynthia Hooper asked her European history students to tackle a very personal assignment: Interview someone in your family, or a close friend, about the historic moments they’ve witnessed in their lives. The students then wrote essays describing the experience, and many found themselves captivated by the stark contrasts between their own lives and those of their relatives 60, 40, even just 20 years earlier.

The assignment led Dorisanne Ragon ’13 to describe her Nana as “Supergirl, Xena, Catherine the Great, Queen Elizabeth and Madonna all rolled into one.” Andrew Coury ’13 heard about the horse-and-buggy boyhood of his 91-year-old neighbor, and the two men had a deep conversation about medical and media advances of the last century. Tom Schmitt ’13 brilliantly sums up the Depression experience of his grandmother, writing she “went from having everything she could have ever wanted to having very little of what she needed.” Schmitt also tells the story of his grandmother’s post-World War II pen pal relationship with a little German girl, the genesis of which speaks to the heart of forgiveness and our universal humanity.

You’ll find these and the other student essays in this issue’s Web Exclusives at holycross.edu/magazine. But first, treat yourself to the piece by Karinna Alvarez ’13 on Page 72 (“Your Turn”), in which the political science major beautifully describes her grandmother’s childhood in Cuba and exile from her island home.

Suzanne Morrissey
hcmag@holycross.edu

P.S.: Help make history on Sept. 1 when Holy Cross takes on UMass in the Crusaders’ first-ever night football game at Fitton Field! Tickets are on sale now. Call (508) 793-2573, or visit goholycross.com/fan_central/Ticketing
Pulitzer prize-winning author Marilynne Robinson delivered the principal address and received an honorary degree at the College’s 165th Commencement, held May 27, on Fitton Field. A total of 691 men and women were awarded bachelor of arts degrees.

In her opening remarks, Robinson told the graduates, “You live at a wonderful time in a wonderful country” and noted that, “in terms of our national life, we have cultivated an ethic of civil peace which has allowed for the flourishing of a great many wonderful communities and institutions.”

Subsequently expressing concern that this ethic is currently under great stress and the American culture of education is under attack, she observed: “We have something wonderful, and we should value it and make the best possible use of it, because it very much needs protecting.” Further reflecting, “American colleges and universities are precincts meant to celebrate the life of thought,” she told the graduating class, “You have enjoyed a strong education here on this beautiful hill, and now you are ready and able to enrich other lives as yours have been enriched, and...
to make this interesting country better and wiser.”

During her address, Robinson invited her listeners to consider the possibility that the world looks to Americans “for ethical insight, or to assume responsibilities that are compelling to us because of our religious beliefs” and later remarked: “An institution like Holy Cross continues and exemplifies the unique historic importance of religion in the propagation of learning, and the love of learning, celebrated in the beauty and wealth of resources that typify American higher education.”

Advising graduates that a deepened sense of thoughtfulness and good conscience given to them at Holy Cross are the most important things they can bring to the world, she affirmed: “Who you are, what you do, what you make of yourself through learning, prayer, reflection and service, all this will matter. Your lives are the life of the civilization, your hopes are its great hope.”

Author of three highly acclaimed novels, *Housekeeping*, *Gilead* (winner of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize) and *Home*, Robinson explores the themes of faith, forgiveness, hope and relationships.
She is also the author of three books of nonfiction, recipient of numerous prestigious awards, and a faculty member of the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

In addition to Robinson, Holy Cross awarded honorary degrees to Rev. Francis X. Clooney, S.J., a leading scholar in the developing field of comparative theology at Harvard Divinity School and director of the Center for the Study of World Religions; and Henry I. Smith ’58, professor of electrical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has undertaken groundbreaking work in the fields of nanoscale science and engineering and the applications of nanostructures.

This year’s valedictorian was Miriam Westin ’11, a studio art major with a self-designed minor in architectural studies from St. John’s, Newfoundland. Sharing highlights of the graduates’ experiences during their years at the College, Westin told her classmates: “Our education does not end here. There is so much for us to know; when we learn to humbly receive—to accept love, especially—we learn how to give. This is what I have
Using Our Jesuit Connections

In the spring semester, students in two upper-level Spanish courses at Holy Cross used Internet video conferencing software to chat with students at Jesuit universities in Latin America as part of the Virtual Dual Immersion Project, sponsored by the U.S. consortium Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) and its sister program in Latin America.

“The program is dual immersion,” Director of Educational Technology Mary Morrisard-Larkin explains. “Our students spend part of an hour speaking Spanish to the Latin American students and then, after 20 minutes or so, they switch to English so that the Latin American students can practice speaking English.” During the five-week program, Holy Cross students were paired with students attending la Universidad Rafael Landívar in Guatemala and la Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Columbia. Morrisard-Larkin teamed with Elizabeth O’Connell-Inman, director of the Directed Independent Spanish Curriculum, to organize the pilot program, which launched in March. Marquette University, Boston College, Creighton University, Gonzaga University and Fairfield University are also participating in the program.

—Daniel DeConinck ’13

Science Scholars Selected

Three Holy Cross science students earned top honors and scholarship dollars for their research ambitions. Kathryn Colelli ’13 of Jericho, Vt., (below) has been awarded a Beckman Scholarship to conduct high-level research on mechanistic enzymology. A biology major with biochemistry and prehealth concentrations, Colelli will study self-splicing proteins with Kenneth Mills, associate professor of chemistry.

Katharine Chamberlin ’12 of Wenham, Mass., and Kelly Gilmore ’12 of Colts Neck, N.J., have been named this year’s recipients of Clare Boothe Luce Scholarships, which are awarded to two women majoring in the physical sciences and entering their fourth year of study at the College.

A mathematics major with a minor in physics, Chamberlin is working with Rafe Jones, assistant professor of mathematics, on arithmetic dynamics, a combination of number theory and dynamical systems. Gilmore, a double major in chemistry and mathematics, is conducting research with Sarah Petty, assistant professor of chemistry, on the folding of tripeptides into beta-sheets, which is associated with diseases such as Huntington’s disease and the Prion diseases.

—Christine A. Gemme
Mrs. Mattingly’s Miracle
The Prince, the Widow, and The Cure that Shocked Washington City
By Nancy Lusignan Schultz ’78
Yale University Press
Interviewed by Christine Gemme

Nancy Lusignan Schultz ’78, author and lecturer, serves as chairperson of the English department at Salem (Mass.) State University, where she joined the faculty in 1983. She received a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and a Senior Fellowship at the Center for the Study of World Religions from Harvard University to research her most recent nonfiction book, Mrs. Mattingly’s Miracle. This piece of narrative history takes the reader to 1824 in Washington City (now Washington, D.C.), where one of the first accounts of miraculous healing in the United States was documented. The history begins with Ann Mattingly, widowed sister of the city’s mayor, who was mysteriously cured of a ravaging cancer just before her most certain death. The book also examines a German cleric, Prince Alexander Hohenlohe—credited for hundreds of cures across Europe and Great Britain—around whom a cult was arising. The story of how the prince and Mrs. Mattingly are connected is a must-read. With insights into 19th-century American culture, the book poses questions of faith versus reasoning.

Q What led you to the researching and writing of Mrs. Mattingly’s Miracle?
A While doing research for my earlier book, Fire and Roses: The Burning of the Charlestown Convent, 1834, in the archives of the Trois Rivières Ursulines Convent in Quebec City, Canada, I happened across a letter that mentioned Prince Hohenlohe, the charismatic miracle worker at the center of the story. In a nearly two-century-old letter about the illness and subsequent death of the Charlestown (Mass.) Convent’s Mother Assistant, dated September 1827, its author, Sister Marie-Jean, wrote, “We have made two novenas, together with the Prince Hohenlohe, but our prayers were not altogether favorably heard.” As I read on, my interest grew. Certainly this Prince Hohenlohe, whoever he was, must have some miracles to his credit if the Ursuline community was attempting to tap his abilities in a crisis.

Q In Mrs. Mattingly’s Miracle, we see a split in people’s views of “miracle vs. reasoning.” Do you think that these views are any different today?
A No. We are still greatly under the influence of centuries-old debates between faith and reason that date from the Renaissance. I mention in the book that Shakespeare explores this very question of belief in the supernatural in Hamlet, and it still intrigues us today.

Q Is it true that you helped bring the James Bowman portrait of Bishop Fenwick to the College’s attention?
A During a research trip to Quebec for Fire and Roses, I learned that the Quebec Ursulines had sent a portrait of Benedict Fenwick as a gift to the Dedham (Mass.) Ursulines in 1964. In 1831, Mary Anne Moffatt, the Ursuline Superior of the Charlestown Convent, and Bishop Fenwick sat for formal portraits by an American artist named James Bowman (1793-1842). That year, the [Fenwick portrait] was sent to the Dedham Ursulines as a gift from the Quebec Ursulines. It was stored in the attic of the Dedham convent for 35 years. My research helped the Ursulines rediscover and identify the Bowman Fenwick. I took the painting to a Newbury Street art dealer for appraisal, and contacted Holy Cross to tell them about the painting and suggest that they might like to acquire it. The portrait and frame have been restored, and it is now on display in the foyer of O’Kane Hall.

Q What message do you hope the readers take away from this book?
A I hope it gets readers to examine their beliefs about supernatural intervention in the world. I think the book has a positive message about the power of faith.

Visit this issue’s Web Exclusives at holycross.edu/magazine to read more of our interview with author Nancy Lusignan Schultz ’78.
“Dogs have evolved very rapidly into an incredibly morphologically diverse species with very little genetic variation. However, the genetic alterations to dog cranial development that have produced this vast range of phylogenetically novel skull shapes do not coincide with the expectations of the heterochronic model. Dogs are not paedomorphic wolves.”

— Holy Cross biology research assistant Abby G. Drake, from the article “Dispelling dog dogma: an investigation of heterochrony in dogs using 3-D geometric morphometric analysis of skull shape” in the journal Evolution & Development, March/April 2011 edition
Faculty Kudos

Todd Lewis, professor of religious studies, is one of 180 recipients selected from an international pool of nearly 3,000 to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship, which funds travel and research in the arts, humanities and science. A Buddhism scholar, Lewis won for his proposed project, titled “The Enculturation of Buddhist Teachings: Traditional and Modern Vernacular Literature for Children,” which will include the collection, translation and analysis of vernacular Buddhist literature in both traditional and modern Buddhist communities across Asia. The chief goal of the project is to document and analyze the enculturation of children into the Buddhist world view, a virtually unexplored field in Buddhist studies. Lewis’ research will take him to Sri Lanka, Thailand, China and Vietnam.

During his annual address to the faculty, Timothy Austin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, announced that eight professors had earned tenure (see story, page 26) and that five had been promoted to professor: Miles Cahill, Katherine Kiel and Kolleen Rask, all of the department of economics; Andrew Futterman, department of psychology; and Ward Thomas, department of political science.

Biology professor Robert Bellin received the 2010-2011 Mary Louise Marfuggi Faculty Award for Outstanding Scholarship, which is given to a faculty member with an exemplary record of scholarship and outstanding achievement in the creation of an original work in the arts and sciences. A biochemist who earned his Ph.D. at Iowa State University, Bellin focused his research on the role of syndecan proteins in both normal and diseased cells.

Bellin’s colleague in the history department, Associate Professor Stephanie Yuhl, received this year’s Marfuggi Faculty Award for Academic Advisement, which honors faculty who have demonstrated effective academic advisement and mentorship of students that was extraordinary in quality and sustained at least three years. Yuhl, who focuses on 20th-century U.S. cultural and social history, public history, the history of the South and American women, earned her Ph.D. from Duke University.

(Both annual Marfuggi awards are made possible by a gift from Richard A. Marfuggi, M.D., ’72, in honor of his mother.)

Holy Cross Breaks Fulbright Record

Ten recent graduates have been awarded Fulbright grants, setting a record high number of Fulbrights awarded in a single year for the College. Approximately 1,000 college students are awarded grants annually through the Fulbright Program, the U.S. government’s flagship program in international educational exchange. Based on academic merit and professional promise, the Fulbright is a “good fit” for Holy Cross, according to Anthony Cashman, director of Distinguished Fellowships and Graduate Studies at the College. “We have first-rate students,” he says, “excellent language instruction, full-year immersion study-abroad experiences and a mission-based global perspective that we inherited from the earliest Jesuits.”

Since 2002, Holy Cross has received a total of 44 Fulbrights, and has consistently been among the nation's top producers of Fulbright students at the undergraduate level. The 10 most recent award recipients and their fields of study are

- Francesca Bruzesse ’11, of East Greenwich, R.I., English Teaching Assistantship to Italy
- Jennifer Caffrey ’11, of Mount Airy, Md., English Teaching Assistantship to Peru
- Kerry Drury ’11, of Wyckoff, N.J., research grant to study colon cancer at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in Melbourne, Australia
- Kristen Dunlap ’08, of Bridgewater, Conn., English Teaching Assistantship to Brazil
- Herma Gjinko ’11, of Worcester, Mass., English Teaching Assistantship to Germany
- William Grebe ’11, of Clifton Park, N.Y., English Teaching Assistantship to Turkey
- Jamie McCarthy ’11, of Stonemham, Mass., English Teaching Assistantship to Peru
- Thomas McGlynn ’11, of Philadelphia, English Teaching Assistantship to Germany
- Abigail Chorlton Riskind ’11, of Wellesley, Mass., English Teaching Assistantship to Taiwan
- Kathryn Simison ’11, of West Suffield, Conn., English Teaching Assistantship to Spain
Course: American Film

Professor: Steve Vineberg (right)

Description: An introductory course offered annually by the theatre department, designed to teach students how to read a movie, an approach similar to literary analysis. Students examine films in pairs by genre, considering a movie that adheres to the conventions of a particular category and another that undercuts or expands them. The films date from 1930 to the present.

Overview: Beginning with the study of film-making basics in a popular movie—Spider-Man 2 (Sam Raimi, 2004) in the spring semester—students next consider the director’s role and the visual aspects of film through Orson Welles’ Citizen Kane (1941) and The Magnificent Ambersons (1942) and the cinematography documentary, Visions of Light (Arnold Glassman, Todd McCarthy and Stuart Samuels, 1992), before undertaking the study of film by genre. The course concludes with an analysis of stylistically complex films, including M*A*S*H (Robert Altman, 1970), Taxi Driver (Martin Scorsese, 1976) and The Night of the Hunter (Charles Laughton, 1955).

Requirements: Four, two-to-three-page papers of textual analysis about selected films; one, four-to-six-page paper about an American film not covered in class; and a final examination, based on the films, lectures and readings.


On the day HCM visited class: Lecture on the Alfred Hitchcock film Shadow of a Doubt (1943), starring Teresa Wright and Joseph Cotten: Overview of Hitchcock’s filmmaking career; analysis of Shadow of a Doubt as mystery film in the “psycho killer” subgenre (traditional murder mystery/film noir). Presentation focused on the significance of town/city settings, as well as the role of the supporting cast and use of the elements of violence, irrationality, foreboding and comedy to advance the plot. Consideration given to the psychological complexity of “Uncle Charlie,” his juxtaposition to his niece, young “Charlie,” and their emergence as alter egos.

Professor bio: Joining the Holy Cross theatre department in 1985, Professor Vineberg received his Ph.D. in drama from Stanford (Calif.) University. In addition to teaching theatre history and dramatic literature at the College, he has served as director of numerous theatrical productions—most recently, William Saroyan’s The Time of Your Life, in the spring semester. Author of three books, including High Comedy in American Movies: Class and Humor from the 1920s to the Present (2005), Vineberg writes regularly about movies and theatre for The Boston Phoenix, The Christian Century, and The Threepenny Review—and has been published in The New York Times and American Film, among other publications. Named the inaugural Monsignor Edward G. Murray Professor in the Arts and Humanities at the College in 2005, he served a term of four years in this capacity.

Professor quote: “My primary goal is to teach students how to read movies and acquire a vocabulary to do so,” says Vineberg. “But I also want to broaden their ideas about what movies can be, to expose them to kinds of movies that are beyond their usual experience—and, in some cases, beyond their comfort zone. What is most satisfying to me about teaching the course is the chance to turn my students on to good movies that are brand-new to them.”

Student quote: “This course has taught me to view films like works of art, but also, to read them like visual literature,” says Kevin O’Connor ’12, of Milton, Mass. “While we watch a film, we are invited to see the internal vision of a director, and this vision has a direct purpose. Professor Vineberg has pushed us to unpack and analyze every aspect of films in light of each specific vision and purpose.”
Holy Cross Hosts Regional Town-Gown Conference

Administrators from 21 New England colleges and universities attended a town-gown conference at Holy Cross in early June to share and discuss promising practices in building relationships among neighbors, city and college officials, students, parents and property owners.

Paul Irish, assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs at Holy Cross, spearheaded the gathering, the first of its kind in central New England and co-sponsored by the Colleges of Worcester Consortium. Irish is a key liaison between Holy Cross students living off-campus and the College's closest neighbors. He convenes regular meetings of the Holy Cross Community Alliance and also participates in the work of the College Hill Civic Association. He hopes the event becomes an annual gathering of institutions in the central and western parts of the state and beyond.

“One of the great things about working in higher education is the willingness of colleagues to share their challenges and successes,” he says. Presenters and panelists included representatives from Boston College, Clark University, Providence College, Suffolk University, the University of Massachusetts and the University of Rhode Island.

Summer Reading

Each spring, the class deans for the incoming first-year and rising sophomore classes select summer readings for their students, giving them a common starting point for reflection and discussion when they return to campus in the fall.

Mathematics and Computer Science Professor John Anderson, Dean of the Class of 2015, announced that Tattoos on the Heart, The Power of Boundless Compassion (Free Press, 2010) by 1998 honorary degree recipient Rev. Gregory Boyle, S.J., is the common reading for the incoming first-year students. Fr. Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang intervention program in the country. Through myriad services, including tattoo removal, counseling, job placement and job training, Fr. Boyle helps gang-involved youth redirect their lives. The organization has grown to encompass businesses including Homeboy Bakery, Homegirl Cafe & Catering, the Homeboy Diner and Homeboy Farmer's Markets. Fr. Boyle's hopeful but raw memoir covers his 20+ years working with the gangs of Los Angeles County; he will speak at Holy Cross on Sept. 6.

Spanish Professor Esther Levine, Dean of the Class of 2014, invites members of the extended Holy Cross family to join her 2014 students in reading Learning to Die in Miami: Confessions of a Refugee Boy (Free Press, 2010). Written by National Book Award winner and Yale professor Carlos Eire, the intricate memoir recounts Eire's early youth and his adjustment to life in the United States as a refugee from Cuba.

“At Holy Cross, we stress that everyone has a story to tell and we have always encouraged our students to share their stories,” Levine says, adding that Eire's book may give students the opportunity to reflect on their own “challenges, growth and 'rebirth.'” Learning to Die in Miami is Eire's follow up to his first novel, Waiting for Snow in Havana, which details his childhood in Cuba and his tragic departure from his home and his family. Eire will deliver the Second-Year Opportunities (2YO) Keynote Address on Sept. 22.

Roald Hoffmann, an applied theoretical chemist at Cornell University who received the 1981 Nobel Prize in chemistry, spent three days in April visiting with Holy Cross students and faculty. The visit included a lunch with student chemists, a keynote address on chemistry's cultural and psychological dimensions and a poetry reading from the accomplished writer, poet and playwright. Learn more about Hoffmann's visit to The Hill online at holycross.edu/hcm/hoffman
Following is a sample of events taking place on the Hill this summer and fall. For a full listing with more details, visit the online Holy Cross Events Calendar at events.holycross.edu

**JULY**

14 Holy Cross Club of Greater Chicago: 13th annual Chicago Cubs Outing—Chicago Cubs vs. Florida Marlins at Wrigley Field, with pregame reception at the Irish Oak in Chicago

31 Feast Day of St. Ignatius of Loyola

31–Aug 20 Ninth annual Summer Passport Program: An intensive academic program for members of the Class of 2015. Funded by a grant from The Goizueta Foundation

**AUGUST**

21 Opening of “Odyssey 2015: A Preview of your Holy Cross Journey” and a celebration of the 15th anniversary of Odyssey, an optional orientation program for ALANA (African-American, Latin American, Asian-American and Native American) and international students, being held this year from Aug. 21 to 26. Former alumni participants of the program are invited to contact class dean, Esther Levine, for more information about the celebration, at 508-793-2209 or elevine@holycross.edu

27 Arrival of first-year students and Mass of the Holy Spirit (below). The HCAA invites alumni interested in volunteering on move-in day to call 508-793-2418 or email hcaa@holycross.edu for more information.

29 First-year Student Convocation
This ceremony marks the threshold of full matriculation into the College community and features the dean’s welcome, presidential address and a senior address, as well as music, prayer, reflection and affirmation of the covenant pledge. St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, 5:15 PM

**SEPTEMBER**

8 Thomas More Lecture on Faith, Work and Civic Life: Talk by Maria Eugenia Ferré Rangel ’89, (below) president of Puerto Rico’s daily newspaper El Nuevo Día, about her path and belief that “anything we choose to do in life has to be done with passion, compassion and commitment to the society around us.” Rehm Library, 7:30 PM

17 Fall Homecoming, featuring the Holy Cross football team vs. Harvard

**OCTOBER**

15 Holy Cross Alumni Travel presents: Trip to Barcelona, Spain, Oct. 15-22
For more information, contact the Alumni Office at 508-793-2418 or alumni@holycross.edu

15–16 President’s Council Weekend

28–29 Family Weekend

**NOVEMBER**

3–5, 10–12 Department of Theatre presents: The Changeling, by Thomas Middleton and William Rowley, with Professor Edward Isser as director. Fenwick Theatre, 8 pm

23–27 Thanksgiving Recess

**DECEMBER**

1–4 Alternate College Theatre presents: Baby with the Bathwater, by Christopher Durang, with Katy Hannigan ’12 as director. Fenwick Theatre, Dec. 1-3, 8 pm; Dec. 3 & 4, 2 pm
The College honors four extraordinary alumni who have chosen paths of distinction that illuminate the Holy Cross mission.

by christine hofmann-bourque

THE 2011 SANCTAE CRUCIS AWARDS
THE 2011 SANCTAE CRUCIS AWARDS

The College honors four extraordinary alumni who have chosen paths of distinction that illuminate the Holy Cross mission.

BY CHRISTINE HOFMANN-BOURQUE

W I T H I T S N A M E T A K E N from the Latin for “Holy Cross,” the Sanctae Crucis Award is the highest non-degree honor the College bestows on alumni who live by rigorous intellectual and ethical standards and who are devoted to the service of faith and promotion of justice. Each of the four honorees for the 14th annual Sanctae Crucis Awards stands as a shining example of what it means to live the Holy Cross mission. “They’ve found the magis in being excellent in their fields, and, in being excellent, they’re giving back to others,” says Frank Vellaccio, senior vice president of the College and head of the award committee.

This year’s Sanctae Crucis recipients represent the diverse ways Holy Cross graduates discern their paths. Erin Boyd ’99 is an emergency nutritionist who works and lives in the world’s neediest countries. Patrick C.W. Tam ’81 left his familiar life behind to serve as a lay minister in Alaska’s most remote villages. As a researcher and physician, John Zaia, M.D., ’64 has made numerous important medical breakthroughs and discoveries for 40 years and counting. Kathleen Curran ’89 founded a mission in Bolivia that helps young people get a university education and break out of the cycle of poverty.

“Who our graduates become is very important to us,” says Marybeth Kearns-Barrett ’84, newly named director of the Office of the College Chaplains and Sanctae Crucis committee member. “To be able to hold up graduates of this caliber matters because we’re in the business of transformation. It’s not just the experience our students have here that’s important, but who they become and what they do with it.

“Even if the path they’ve taken is very different from your own, there’s pride that from our community come these extraordinary people,” she continues. “We all are lifted up in some way. And it invites us to think about our own lives.”

“By honoring these few, we recognize the whole,” Vellaccio adds. “These are just a few examples of our exceptional graduates. Holy Cross people are doing incredible things all over the world.”

Holy Cross Magazine is pleased to present the 2011 Sanctae Crucis Award recipients.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUSSO

Summer 2011 15
It was a group of young students in Nepal who schooled then-new Holy Cross graduate and Peace Corps volunteer Erin Boyd ’99 on the devastating impact of poor nutrition. “The children I was teaching were very spirited, but I’d see that partway through the day they were incapable of paying attention,” says Boyd, who began supplementing the kids’ two meager daily meals with snacks she paid for out of her own anemic salary. “I started making associations between the kids’ ability to perform and what and when they’d eaten.”

Basic nutrition has always interested Boyd, an athlete who runs marathons, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, and competed with the Holy Cross crew team at the prestigious Henley Royal Regatta in England. But her experiences in Nepal ramped up that interest to new levels. “I became interested in larger-scale disasters,” says Boyd, who enrolled, in 2004, in the master’s program in food policy and applied nutrition at the Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy in Boston. “You link how different disasters affect children. In the end, they’re the ones who ultimately suffer the most.”

For the past six years, this emergency nutritionist has headed directly into the eye of the storm, sometimes figuratively, sometimes literally. Working with UNICEF, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Oxfam America and GOAL, Boyd headed to feeding centers in Ethiopia and refugee communities in Sudan. She was on the ground in Pakistan following massive flooding, in Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake and in Darfur amidst conflict and droughts. Her main focus is those least able to help themselves. “The people we target are the most
vulnerable: children under 5 years old and pregnant and lactating women,” she says.

Boyd helps coordinate humanitarian responses to disasters both natural and man-made. She is involved in treating malnourished children and also key issues like infant and young child feeding and food security. (Boyd brought samples of nut pastes (below) to the Holy Cross Magazine photo shoot—they are used to get high-protein nutrition to malnourished clients.) Boyd’s expertise is necessary to help ensure that during a crisis good intentions don’t lead to further harm. For example, she keeps watch to be sure infant formula is not distributed in violation of international aid codes; not only is breast milk healthier, but it doesn’t increase a child’s risk of diarrheal disease. Boyd also goes beyond just reacting to disasters: She has planned and implemented clinical research in the prevention of malnutrition in children.

Her successes are what keep her going in a job where kidnapping, robbery and muggings are very real, daily risks. “Especially with nutrition, you see these emaciated kids come to a feeding center and six weeks later they’re healthy,” she observes.

At the same time, Boyd says she doesn’t always find her happy endings within the bureaucracy. “We deal officially with public health and macro decisions,” explains Boyd, who is currently based out of New York City with UNICEF. “We can’t go to our bosses and say, ‘I have this one kid I want to help.’ That’s when I’m always trying to figure out ways around the system.”

Case in point: One 5-year-old Sudanese girl burned her esophagus when she accidentally drank a household chemical, then became malnourished because she couldn’t eat. “She was just the sweetest girl,” shares Boyd, who tried unsuccessfully for months to rehabilitate her. “We all just loved her, and we wanted her to get better.” So Boyd tapped into the generosity of friends from the United States and Europe, raising enough money to fly the youngster and her mother to the capital of Sudan and pay for life-saving surgery. “That’s what keeps me going,” she says.

Embracing this life was not always easy. Boyd vividly remembers a conversation she had with her roommate at Tufts, who was also a Holy Cross graduate. “I said to her, ‘OK, if I’m really going to do this career, my life is going to look completely different than many of my classmates at Holy Cross,’” recalls Boyd, who had many friends at the time settling down, buying homes and having babies.

She finally opted to follow her own road. “I decided, I need to go with it completely,” she says. That meant committing herself not just to visiting countries in need for a week or two, but living overseas for extended periods. “I really enjoy getting to know aspects of other cultures,” notes Boyd, who spent three years in Nepal, two years in Ethiopia, two years in Darfur and six months in Haiti. “I value the individual relationships and getting to know the culture, which you can’t do if you only go for two weeks.”

Boyd’s path is still evolving. “I don’t know if I’ll do nutrition for the next decade,” she explains. “But I do like looking at a global world to see how can we have more equity in terms of how people have access to resources. The main challenge is it is really heartbreaking,” she says of her job. “There are so many roadblocks and barriers to giving children and mothers what they deserve—basic rights. We try to figure out ways to ... speed up the processes, but sometimes we might have the funding and the supplies, and we just can’t do it. You have to accept that sometimes things are beyond your control logistically, politically. “The other challenge is constantly saying goodbye to people,” says Boyd. “These people take you in their families and you really get attached. But you’re the one with the passport when things go wrong, and you can leave. The unfairness of it is tough.”

“THERE ARE SO MANY ... BARRIERS TO GIVE CHILDREN AND MOTHERS ... BASIC RIGHTS.”
Patrick C. W. Tam ’81

What might have been an interesting post-grad adventure for a few months turned into a lifetime vocation for Patrick Tam ’81, who lives with Alaska’s Yup’ik people. “I know God is working in the lives of these people,” says Tam, photographed during an early spring visit to the Catholic church in Bethel, Alaska.

“By listening to what the Yup’ik people asked him—and not simply to what they told him—when he arrived in 1981 in a remote Alaskan village, Patrick Tam ’81 heard something he wasn’t expecting; God was calling him to embrace his position with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) as something more than just a temporary way station after graduation. “In the first few months I was in Alaska, I’d meet people who usually had two questions,” recalls Tam, whose JVC assignment was to run a youth center at Sacred Heart parish in Emmonak. “The first was, ‘Who are you?’ And the second was, ‘When are you leaving?’ When you hear that a few dozen times, it dawns on you: The Yup’ik people are used to people from the outside coming for a little bit, and then they’re gone. I became more open to the option of being here long term.”

Tam’s decision to make a home in a tiny 800-person Alaskan village far from his family in Rhode Island surprised even himself. This lay minister confesses with a chuckle, “Even I don’t think I could have said it would be 30 years at that point.”

Although Tam’s official job descriptions may have changed over the years, they all boil down to one goal: “How do you make the faith come alive?” Tam’s approach was often out of the ordinary. While hosting one retreat for the Diocese of Fairbanks’ Rural Youth Ministry Program, Tam had the young participants climb a mountain behind the village, all the better to understand the dramatic story of creation in Genesis. During World Youth Day with Pope John Paul II in 1993, he took a group of young adults to Denver, the very first time many had travelled outside of Alaska. Back at home, Tam remembers one of the young women said to him,
“I never realized how big the Catholic Church is,” Tam left Alaska in 2000 for two years to complete a master’s degree in theological studies at the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley, Calif. Although he was living near his parents, who had relocated to San Francisco, Tam ultimately felt Alaska beckoning him home. In 2003, he became the diocesan director of the Adult Faith Formation Program, a position he still holds today. “A lot of what we do in terms of being a church staff is walking with the people,” explains Tam. “It’s not doing ‘churchy’ things. It’s trying to find ways to support social justice.”

Lay ministers like Tam are especially important to congregations in the Diocese of Fairbanks, which is one of the poorest U.S. dioceses and which suffers such a severe shortage of priests that some villages can only celebrate full Mass every four to six weeks. Spiritual life is further complicated by the fact that this missionary diocese—the last one remaining in the United States—serves 48 parishes, half of which are not connected by roads. “Travel is by bush plane or, if the village is nearby, snow machines,” says Tam, who tends to 24 parishes. “And sometimes in summer, it’s by boat.”

As a Hong Kong-born son of parents who immigrated to New England when he was 7 years old, Tam is particularly sensitive to honoring the customs of the Yup’ik people while introducing a Catholic tradition. “There’s the whole question of how we work with a native culture,” says Tam, who has learned to hold his own while chopping wood, trapping beaver, setting fishing nets under ice and hunting seals and moose. “The way people do things in the Lower 48 or even in Anchorage won’t work here. We learn to adapt.” Take the challenge of explaining the Eucharist. “How do you describe Christ as food?” asks Tam. “Instead of big, heavy theology, we look at the Yup’ik experience and find connections. Their culture here is rooted in hunting and gathering, subsistence, living off the land. So what do we mean when we say Christ offers himself as food in the Eucharist? We make the analogy that when the Yup’ik go out hunting for seal or moose, the animal offers himself as food for the community. It’s the creature that offers itself to you. When you catch something in this culture, it’s not an occasion for boasting. It’s an occasion for gratitude and sharing. Likewise, it’s Christ who offers himself to us. Those are the ways to talk about the Eucharist up here.” Despite speaking different languages figuratively and, quite often, literally, Tam finds common understanding with the Yup’ik people. “It’s a very deep culture in many ways,” he says. “If they have heard the Gospel from me, well, I’ve also heard it from them.”

“I think the biggest challenge with this work is it’s like sowing seeds—or maybe even just turning the soil,” Tam explains. “It’s a long-range project, and it’s hard to measure. If you gather people together for a retreat, how do you measure the result of that retreat? People go home to their families and villages and you hope something happens. That’s why when I heard about my Sanctae Crucis award from Holy Cross, it struck me as kind of funny. It’s meant to honor achievement, but what can I point to? It’s not like I can pull out a stack of statistics and show ‘This is the before and after.’ I just have to say I hope something happened. I know God is working in the lives of these people and if I’ve had some hand in the process, then thanks be to God. It’s been a humbling experience up here. I have to trust that my being here has been worthwhile.”
Over the course of four decades, infectious disease researcher John Zaia, M.D., ’64 has built a career of scholarship in the highest ranks of his field. The author of 180 papers, Zaia has earned 10 patents relating to human cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection and HIV therapy using ribozyme cleavage of HIV’s RNA. He was at the forefront of studies of immunoglobulin (Ig) antibodies for control of varicella-zoster virus (chickenpox), and helped establish acyclovir and ganciclovir (two important antiviral drugs) once the Ig products became less important.

Zaia is currently testing whether AIDS can be treated with genetically modified blood stem cells that might inhibit or slow the progression of HIV. His accomplishments mean that for the sickest of the sick, he is quite literally a lifesaver.

“Being involved in new discoveries that have clinical application and, if successful, could have a major impact on treating disease, that’s what gets me up in the morning,” Zaia says. “These are very exciting experiments. When you’re modifying bone marrow cells and transplanting them into a patient, and it works, that’s exciting.”

Zaia is currently the chairman of the department of virology at the Beckman Research Institute at California’s world-famous City of Hope, which is a cancer hospital, research institute and the third-largest bone marrow transplant center in the United States. He also serves as deputy director of the Cancer Center for Clinical Research and professor and director of the infectious diseases section in the department of pediatrics at City of Hope.

The doctor embarked on a medical career as a pre-med student at Holy Cross, following a brother and a cousin to the

“For his dedication to healing; for his intellectual rigor and groundbreaking research into the development of gene therapies to treat HIV, cancer and other serious illnesses; and for pointing the way to future enhancements in curing the sick.”

—from 2011 Sanctae Crucis Award citation
Hill. “My father was a physician, and I had an aunt who was a physician,” says Zaia, who always had a career in health in mind. “It was not an unusual choice.” He arrived on campus in September 1960, the same day that Hurricane Donna famously blew through Massachusetts.

After Holy Cross, Zaia continued his studies at Dartmouth College, where he earned a bachelor of medicine in science degree in 1966, and Harvard University, where he earned his medical degree in 1968. He completed his pediatric residency training at St. Louis (Mo.) Children’s Hospital, and the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston. It was then that he decided he wanted to pursue a path that would take him into the laboratory instead of the operating room.

“I learned during the clinical years of medical school that I preferred lab activities,” he recalls. “I was intrigued by clinical problems, but I always wanted to look at the lab side of things that might explain them.” In the early 1970s, he took a job at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the virology division. “When I got to the CDC, that’s what set the stage for everything else,” he says.

One of his first major contributions came while studying the varicella-zoster virus, which causes chickenpox. “In those days—1972 or 1973—chemotherapy for childhood leukemia was a very new treatment,” he explains. “But the problem we found was that kids with leukemia were dying of chickenpox because the chemotherapy suppressed their immune systems.” Zaia developed an antibody that prevented or minimized chickenpox in children with cancer, saving lives and leading to his interest in developing anti-viral agents.

That exceptional work brought him to the attention of City of Hope, where he has worked since 1980. One of the first issues Zaia tackled dealt with bone marrow transplant patients. When he arrived, many of these patients were dying not due to their transplants, but due to CMV infection, contracted because their immune systems were suppressed. Zaia pioneered the use of the anti-viral medication ganciclovir to help prevent severe CMV infections in post-transplant patients. “This made it safer to perform organ transplants,” says Zaia, who then became increasingly interested in methods for prevention of virus infections in the immunosuppressed person.

As a top researcher working on the front lines of medicine's biggest problems, Zaia was in the labs in the early 1990s when he and his colleagues all over the country were looking into an odd new infection that was killing gay men on the West Coast. He has been involved in AIDS research ever since, including the first gene therapy experiments. “We're developing methods to prove the point that if you were to genetically modify stem cells, and if they could be grafted into a person, they could be protected from HIV,” he says. “We're not there yet, however.”

The ethics surrounding this field are significant, particularly when research is ready to advance to human testing. “You can't do these experiments willy-nilly because the method you propose is totally unknown in a human,” warns Zaia, who is currently the chair of the National Institutes of Health Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, which was established due to public concerns about the safety of manipulating genetic material.

Zaia knows there is much more work to be done in his laboratories, as one small discovery leads to the next big one. And patience just may be the biggest element of his success. “It's slow work,” Zaia states.

“I LEARNED DURING THE CLINICAL YEARS OF MEDICAL SCHOOL THAT I PREFERRED LAB ACTIVITIES.”
Kathleen Curran ’89 named her mission, “Keep the Faith,” after one of her father’s favorite expressions: “When things got tough, he’d say, ‘Keep the faith, kid.’ And that’s kind of what I’ve done. We’ve worked hard, kept our trust in God, and He has blessed us more than I could have ever imagined.”

“For following in the footsteps of Jesuit-trained educators who for centuries have provided educational opportunities where they were most needed, and for building up God’s presence in our world by fighting the cycle of poverty.”

—from 2011 Sanctae Crucis Award citation

“Sé persona para los demás” are painted on a colorful mural at the boarding home lay missionary Kathleen Curran ’89 founded in Bolivia. It translates “be a person for others,” a sentiment she freely admits she stole from the Jesuits. “I don’t think they mind,” she says. “It is the cornerstone of our education program at Mission Keep the Faith Bolivia.”

The simplest description of Mission Keep the Faith Bolivia (keepthefaithinbolivia.org) is that it works to bring top high school graduates from desperately poor rural areas and orphanages to Santa Cruz, Bolivia’s fastest growing city, to attend a university or technical school. But that’s a little like saying the Sistine Chapel is just an old church.

Keep the Faith provides free tuition, books and meals—plus a safe home at the mission—during the years it takes these young adults to complete their university level studies in law, psychology, education and more. Curran then takes it further: She tutors the students in everything from PowerPoint and Catholic saints to Bolivian history and nutrition. When the students in the home couldn’t locate an Irish visitor’s country on a map, geography was added. When a graphic designer friend suggested art as a topic, impressionism, modernism and prehistoric art became a yearlong study topic. These young adults also do at least 10 hours of community service each month.

“It’s like my own mini Holy Cross,” observes Curran, whom the children regard as their comadre or “second mother.”

“We are not just giving these students an economic break with their education,” she adds. “We truly want them to develop their God-given potential so that they in turn can best use their time, talent and treasure to make the world a better place.”
It’s hard to imagine that Curran’s decade-long stay in Bolivia started on a whim. Worn down from 80-hour work weeks as an attorney at a big Chicago firm, she quit her job in 2001 and embarked on a six-week vacation to Bolivia to recharge, learn Spanish and volunteer at an orphanage run by the Salesian Missions. “Something happened at that orphanage,” Curran recalls. “It would come to the end of the month, and I’d say, ‘But I can’t leave now!’ It was chaotic but thrilling.”

She knew she’d found a special place in Bolivia, the poorest country in South America. “There were a lot of questions,” she says. “But for the first time I really felt that my soul was in my work, and that’s a priceless blessing.”

At first, the extreme poverty overwhelmed her. “My first reaction was despair and Catholic guilt,” Curran admits. “But then my proactive side kicked in, and I thought, ‘What can I do to make a difference?’” She decided to focus on education. “I firmly believed and still believe that education is the surest way to get these kids out of poverty forever,” she says.

She became a teacher in a rural school and soon came to a disturbing realization: The quality of rural education is so deficient that even a school’s best high school graduates floundered when they got to university, if they even got that far. The statistics are sobering: Approximately 14 percent of kids from rural areas finish high school; only 3 percent go on to university.

“The biggest challenge is preparing these kids for the rigors of university education,” says Curran, who founded Keep the Faith in 2004 to do just that. “Many of my kids—who are top students in their classes—they’ve never read a book in their lives when they come to us. They all have such great potential, but it has just barely been developed. But given a chance, these kids work 200 percent, double time.

“The biggest surprise has been that it’s not just a matter of money,” she says. “These kids need tons of information. These are kids who didn’t eat breakfast because they never had it. We have to teach them basic things like the importance of three meals a day, which we’re lucky enough to provide.”

One of her successes is a young woman named Zulma Condori—now Dr. Condori—who practices medicine near the small town where she grew up and now serves as the director of a hospital. Condori’s younger brother is also on track to become a doctor. “That to me is mission accomplished,” Curran says. “I hope there are more Zulmas. The ripple effect of that would be fantastic.”

More than 60 young people have been given the opportunity to attend university or a technical school thanks to Keep the Faith, and the Mission now boasts graduates in areas ranging from medicine to agriculture. The group also organizes medical missions and provides financial support to keep younger children in schools until the 12th grade. Most of its operating money—including $85,000 a year just for the higher education programs—has been donated from Curran’s friends and family or from Curran’s personal funds. “We’re struggling like all nonprofits,” she explains.

The Sanctae Crucis Award was a total surprise to Curran. “To be honest, I feel like I should be giving an award to Holy Cross,” says the former political science major, who will enter Northwestern University in Chicago for a master’s degree in education this September.

“Not a day goes by that I don’t thank God for my parents and for the Jesuits and for the extraordinary education I received, that in so many parts of the world doesn’t exist.”

Although Mission Keep the Faith Bolivia faces some tremendous challenges, Curran emphasizes that she is committed: “It’s like throwing a stone into an ocean, but you do it one person at a time.”

Nominations for the 2012 Sanctae Crucis Awards are welcomed from any member of the Holy Cross community. For details, visit http://offices.holycross.edu/svp

Christine Hofmann-Bourque wrote about the College’s military alumni in the Summer 2010 issue. She is the daughter of James Hofmann, M.D., ‘62.
FROM MARCH 25 through May 16, a contemporary art sculpture called “Curalium,” a series of shorn, white fiberglass fabric panels, floated above the center aisle of St. Joseph Memorial Chapel. Created by German artist Angela Glajcar (inset), the piece was modeled after her work in the Kunst-Station Sankt Peter in Cologne, Germany, a parish that also serves as a center for contemporary art and music. Kunst-Station founder, Rev. Friedhelm Mennekes, S.J., a visiting art critic in the department of visual arts, helped shepherd the project, Glajcar’s first in the United States. The multi-layer sculpture responded in curving waves to the slightest breath of air in the Chapel, and visitors walking underneath enjoyed its mixture of shapes, light and shadow.

The purpose of the installation was to push viewers to experience sacred space in a new way. “We want to begin a conversation about what is sacred, what the Holy means and where we find it,” says Thomas M. Landy, director of the Center for Religion, Ethics and Culture, which sponsored the installation. “There’s a danger that such a great, classically designed space can become a museum, not fully able to respond to anything contemporary,” Landy explains.

When Glajcar first stepped into the chapel, which was built in 1924 and inspired by an Italian Renaissance basilica, she was captivated by the symmetry of the octagonal coffers of the vaulted ceiling. Her modern work echoes this architecture in its parallel forms but also embodies the organic, suggesting coral (cularium), a primeval, yet threatened sea life.

Response to “Curalium” was strong. In a journal placed at the back of the Chapel, visitors wrote comments that ranged from the entranced (“this ethereal sculpture makes me feel closer to God,” “it reminds me of the Resurrection”) to the sarcastic (“nice bedsheets”). Others noted the way the colors of the Chapel’s stained glass images of early Christian and Jesuit saints played across the sculpture’s white panels as the sun shifted through the day. Most expressed gratitude for having such an ambitious project brought to Holy Cross.

See more images of “Curalium” and a time lapse video of its installation online at http://academics.holycross.edu/crec/events/sculpture.

PHOTOS BY PAT O’CONNOR
Meet the College’s most recently tenured professors. High achievers in their fields of study, they inspire students to reach new heights in their own scholarly pursuits. How? A fundamental love of teaching. They are eight more reasons the academic experience at Holy Cross stands out.

Photographs by Matthew Atanian
The reputation Holy Cross has earned as a place where faculty-student relationships thrive is rooted in deliberate decisions College leaders have made for the institution: Holy Cross is exclusively undergraduate and employs no graduate assistants to help teach courses or run labs. Class sizes are kept small, and opportunities for independent research abound.

This groundwork creates an atmosphere that encourages meaningful one-on-one contact between professors and students, and makes a comfortable home for the kind of faculty Holy Cross attracts: those who embrace a dedication to effective teaching and professional scholarship.

“Good teaching grows out of a lively life of the mind—someone who is engaged with his or her peers and interested in the generation and publication of knowledge,” says Timothy R. Austin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, noting the many distinguished professional achievements of the 315 faculty members. Just as quickly, he shares, “I am amazed by the amount of time the faculty put into each individual student. It is a gift that Holy Cross faculty offer that students probably don’t appreciate until several years after they’ve left.”

Holy Cross Magazine spent time with the eight most recently tenured faculty as they transition from assistant to associate professor. As each explains his or her professional passion in and out of the classroom, each reveals why a Holy Cross education is a rare and precious experience.
Rosa Elena Carrasquillo

“We are forming leaders in every aspect of life.”

Department of History
Faculty member since 2006
Ph.D., University of Connecticut

That’s my passion: learning,” declares Rosa Elena Carrasquillo, associate professor of history. “I love learning, and, in my opinion, you cannot teach if you don’t love learning.”

And, at Holy Cross, she finds that she’s not alone. A member of the faculty since 2006 and a specialist in Latin American and Caribbean history, Carrasquillo sees herself working daily with like-minded educators.

“My colleagues have very high standards. But, at the same time, it’s a collaborative environment, where we share our teaching experiences as a group,” explains Carrasquillo, a native of Puerto Rico who earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Puerto Rico and her graduate degrees at the University of Connecticut.

In her classroom, Carrasquillo fosters a similar sense of camaraderie among her students, encouraging them to share their ideas openly and without judgment. “We are a community of equal learners,” she says.

Carrasquillo also acknowledges the value of Holy Cross’ small college setting because here she can work closely with students, as a teacher, a mentor and a researcher. “One of the things I really enjoy [at Holy Cross] is one-to-one teaching because you have more opportunities to have a bigger effect on student growth,” she observes.

Beyond the classroom, Carrasquillo works diligently to help students translate theory—the focus of which reflects her research interests in social inequality and racism in Puerto Rico, the Caribbean and the United States—into practice. Through their participation in community-based learning projects, students have unique opportunities to interact with residents in the local Worcester community, conduct research, and—in some cases—have their research published.

Community-based learning is an integral part of Carrasquillo’s curriculum as well as the College’s liberal arts tradition and its commitment to producing graduates who are men and women for and with others. “We are preparing the whole person. We are forming leaders in every aspect of life,” she explains.

“It’s the reason I came to Holy Cross, and, in my opinion, it’s a great way to put into practice all the ideals of a liberal arts education,” adds Carrasquillo, who finds that working in the real world with real people truly resonates with her students, whether they intended it to or not.

In fact, she points to one such experience as one of her most memorable moments as a teacher at Holy Cross: Students in her Afro-Latin American History class conducted hands-on research on botánicas—stores that provide items used in Afro-Caribbean religions, including herbs and medicinal products, religious statuary and amulets—and explored their cultural significance within Worcester’s Latino community. Their article, “The CVS of Afro-Caribbean Religions: Botánicas in Worcester, Misconceptions and Realities,” which details their findings, was presented at a campus-wide conference and published in the campus journal Fósforo: revista de inspiración hispánica.

“It was a transformative experience [for the students]—one that they were unsure of at first, but that opened the opportunity for learning in a new way,” recalls Carrasquillo, who has remained in touch with some of the students and Worcester residents who were involved in the project.

And, she admits that it’s not just her students who have been transformed—she has, too.

“I’ve developed a lot as a teacher by working at Holy Cross. They’re always offering us new opportunities to improve our teaching,” observes Carrasquillo, who published Our Landless Patria: Marginal Citizenship and Race in Caguas, Puerto Rico, 1880-1910 (University of Nebraska Press, 2006) and is currently writing a biography of Puerto Rican singer Ismael Rivera, titled Ismael Rivera, The People’s Poet: Life and Myth of an Afro-Caribbean Icon.

Carrasquillo adds: “At Holy Cross, teaching seems much more significant than any other place I’ve been. And it’s not just the professors and administrators but also the students who value teaching very highly.”

—Kimberly Staley ’99 and Rebecca Smith ’99
In Caroline Johnson Hodge’s classroom, the first test given is one that the associate professor of religious studies takes herself. Greeting her students at the start of each semester, she pledges to learn each person’s name, right then and there, on the first day. “If a professor knew my name when I was in college, it made such a big difference,” she says. For about the first 15 minutes, Johnson Hodge listens intently as students introduce themselves. If there are two Patricks, one is dubbed Saint Patrick. If there are two Marys, one becomes the Blessed Virgin; the other, Mary Magdalene. “We have fun with it,” Johnson Hodge says. “I challenge any student to remember the names faster than me.” Though partially an icebreaker, that name-learning exercise reflects Johnson Hodge’s philosophy that teaching involves more than hitting the books.

“It sounds sappy, but I really love getting to know my students,” she shares. The reward, she says, is students who feel more connected and confident in the classroom and out. “It fits in with the Jesuit mission of developing the whole person,” she explains.

In her eight years at the College, Johnson Hodge has become known not just for her caring nature, but her passion for the subject matter—everything from analyzing the New Testament and exploring the role of women in early Christianity to writing a book on the letters of Paul the Apostle. She takes pride in the fact that classes in the department of religious studies are nearly full every semester. “For the most part, students are fascinated that some of the theologies and doctrines they’ve been taught in church are actually shaped by a historical moment and are a little more complicated than they thought,” she says. “It gets them to think more critically about their own religious experiences.”

To expand the learning process, Johnson Hodge has been known to take classes on field trips to the Worcester Art Museum to view Roman floor mosaics and the Houghton Library at Harvard University to peruse ancient manuscripts. Visiting a Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition, she returned with materials that became part of her classroom instruction. “I’ve learned to let go a bit of the outline in my head of what I think they need to learn, and use things I’ve found interesting as points of departure,” she says. “Part of being a good teacher is being excited yourself.”

These days, religious studies can seem like a current events class. “If you think about it, almost every conflict going on in the world right now has religion at its center—not to mention the times the Bible gets raised during presidential elections,” Johnson Hodge says.

That intertwining of religion in so many facets of life is what inspired the English major to pursue her advanced degrees in religious studies—a master of theology from Harvard University’s Divinity School and a Ph.D. from Brown University. Aspiring to work at a small liberal arts college, she found Holy Cross was a perfect fit. “I love the fact that the Jesuits are staunch defenders of academic freedom, and also see intellectual life and moral theological life as being compatible,” she says.

Johnson Hodge only has to think back on her own college experience to grasp the impact she can have on students—even if it’s something seemingly as simple as learning their names. She points to a New Testament passage as proof. In the Gospel of John, Mary Magdalene mistakes the resurrected Jesus for a gardener, but when he calls her by name, she recognizes him. “I love the idea that it’s the moment that your name is called that you clearly see the truth,” she says. “I knew as a student how important it was that I felt known.

“As a professor, I get energized by the students sitting in those chairs in the classroom,” she continues. “I try to be a loving presence for them, but at the same time push them to be better thinkers.”

—Jody Garlock

A statuette of the goddess Artemis reminds religious studies Associate Professor Caroline Johnson Hodge of her archaeological dig in Ephesus (modern-day Turkey). "I like to think that some of the characters in the New Testament saw statuettes like this," she says. "This piece, alas, is not an artifact, but a tchotchke I got in a tourist store there."
Gwenn Miller
“*I try to challenge [students’] deeply embedded stereotypes.*"
Department of History
Faculty member since 2004
Ph.D., Duke University

Imagine an eight-year-old girl standing in front of her mother (a Sanskrit scholar, no less), chin in the air, arms akimbo, declaring: “I’m never going to have a job where I have to write grants!” So with a nod and a wink, Fate decided that young Gwenn would eventually become a tenured faculty member at a liberal arts college—for whom writing grants is a vital part of the job description.

Today, Associate Professor Gwenn Miller teaches Native American and Early American history with a global perspective. It’s all about challenging long-held stereotypes, she says. “I really like asking students to think about how American society is connected to the rest of the world from Columbus forward,” she says. “In one class, for example, I ask students to think about how commodities such as gold, silver, fur, sugar, coffee and cotton shaped American society, and to understand that the global age began long before the 20th century.”

Although she grew up in the Northeast, with an idea of New England’s role in colonial America, she eventually discovered American history is much more complicated and interesting than she had originally imagined.

As a result, Miller loves the challenges of piecing together early American history. She has a particular interest in understanding what happens when people from different cultures collide. Why, she’s not sure, but it might be because she lived in India with her family as a child. And it might be because one of her grandmothers was Russian.

In fact, this latter familial relationship inspired Miller’s fascination with the Russian expansion into Alaska in the late 18th century. This story of cross-cultural encounter had all the elements of colonization as it had unfolded on the Atlantic Coast centuries earlier, she says, but from a completely different perspective. Her research into the subject led to a dissertation, then a book, *Kodiak Kreol* (Cornell University Press, 2010). (The term “kreol” refers to the mixed-race children of Russian men and Alaska’s indigenous Alutiiq women.)

In doing her research, Miller explored fragments of evidence in a range of primary documents, including artifacts, and Russian language sources, gradually piecing together insights into Russia’s Alaskan enterprise. It’s this love of solving puzzles that she strives to impart to her students by helping them think about ideas and events they are familiar with in new ways. “I try to challenge their deeply embedded stereotypes through work on critical interpretive skills,” she says. “I also try to make sure they enjoy the process.”

Miller also strives to create a comfortable classroom environment that fosters student engagement. She takes everyone’s perspective seriously and gives short weekly writing assignments that push students to pose questions before coming to class. “Although I always have five to 10 key points I want to make, their questions shape the class,” she says. “My discussions in one section versus another on the same day can be wildly different based on the questions students pose.”

And Miller pushes students to work out interpretive problems with each other by talking, asking questions and even arguing a little—always with respect, however. She notes that Holy Cross students are really good at that, adding that she she guides them, but never tells them what to think. That’s because her classroom is a community of collective learning. “It’s very important to me that they come up with their own interpretations using the evidence at hand,” she says.

Miller’s current sabbatical will give her the time to finish writing some scholarly essays, read *Hop on Pop* with her 2-year-old twins and delve into her next research project, for which she will look at the broad connections between the East Coast and the Pacific World in the Colonial era. She’ll also resume playing the violin, something she hasn’t had much time to do since joining the faculty at Holy Cross.

Miller, who began taking lessons at four via the Suzuki method, adores chamber music. “I’m not really a soloist, though,” she shares. “I like the unspoken connections of playing music with other people.”

—Debra Steilen

Associate Professor of history Gwenn Miller, who lived in India as a child, is intrigued by the results of melding different cultures. In her classroom, collective learning is key. “It’s very important to me that [students] come up with their own interpretations using the evidence at hand,” she says.
Associate Professor of political science Daniel Klinghard keeps a picture of his grandfather, Curtis Mills, on his office desk. “He died when I was in eighth grade, so I didn’t get to know him very well,” he says of the man who grew up in Alabama in the Depression years. “They didn’t have a lot, and I like to remind myself of what life was like for him and what he was like. It’s inspiring.”

Even Klinghard’s own research bridges the centuries. To consider the potential impact of 21st-century social media technology on today’s political landscape, he is examining the effects of 19th-century technological advancements on the day’s politics. In particular, he’s investigating how politicians took advantage of the United States’ brand-new networks of train tracks, roads and canals. “Transportation technology made it more possible for politicians to communicate with constituents,” says Klinghard. “We often hear that social media is transforming the way we do politics. We may get over-excited. If we can learn how technology has shaped politics in the past, maybe we can moderate our expectations that ‘Everything’s going to be different, or worse, or changed.’”

Klinghard has made his mark at Holy Cross. He received a National Endowment for the Humanities “We the People Grant,” which funded his research trip to the Library of Congress in 2006. He has received nine grants and awards, including a $100,000 grant, with Professor Donald Brand, to establish a postdoctoral fellowship and the Charles Carroll Grant,” which funded his research trip to the Library of Congress in 2006. He has received nine grants and awards, including a $100,000 grant, with Professor Donald Brand, to establish a postdoctoral fellowship and the Charles Carroll

For all his professional accolades, Klinghard’s most rewarding moments happen when his students make connections between the material he teaches and their own lives. “I really like seeing when students can start figuring the big ideas out and applying to their own context,” says Klinghard, who has three young children with his wife, Cheri. “It’s very exciting to see a student bring up the Federalist Papers in the appropriate way. Or to have someone say, ‘Hey, I was at the grocery store and I saw a collective action problem.’ Not just see them repeat something on a test, but apply it in real life.”

— Christine Hofmann-Bourque

Daniel Klinghard
“There are great people at Holy Cross.”
Department of Political Science
Faculty member since 2004
Ph.D., Brandeis University

O nly a true fan of political history like Associate Professor Daniel Klinghard would equate political science research at the Library of Congress with a sightseeing adventure. “It’s this advanced form of tourism,” says Klinghard of the year he spent in Washington, D.C., pouring over original 19th-century manuscripts, letters and personal papers to finish work on his book, The Nationalization of American Political Parties, 1880-1896 (Cambridge University Press, 2010). “There’s the Washington Monument nearby, but here’s a letter signed by Theodore Roosevelt or Grover Cleveland.”

Klinghard brings his passion for learning and teaching into the classroom, where he teaches five classes, including Race and Ethnic Politics in America. “Political science is about how we help people accomplish the biggest goals in human experience,” he says. “It’s about the community. It’s about important ideas. I like that it’s universalistic. You can’t talk about political science without talking about religion ... history ... science and medicine. There’s always a new thing to talk about.”

He knew early on in his own undergraduate years at Tennessee’s Rhodes College that he wanted to be a political science professor. “I loved the materials, I loved the Federalist Papers and I loved thinking about these ideas,” he recalls. “But more so I was impressed by my professors. They sat around reading and talking and thinking. They were real models of the life I wanted to live.”

Klinghard joined Holy Cross seven years ago. “I was aware of the great reputation of the political science faculty here,” says Klinghard, who prized a tenure-track job at a small, liberal arts college over one at a large, more impersonal university. “There are great people at Holy Cross I wanted to work with.”

Klinghard’s primary specialty is American politics with a particular interest in political parties. “My methodological approach, the subfield, is American Political Development,” he explains. “We take a historical approach to political science. We look at trends over time, a long view of politics.”

Klinghard teaches with one foot in the 21st century and the other in the 18th and 19th centuries. To encourage concise writing about the Federalist Papers, written in 1787 and 1788, he has students summarize texts in 140 characters or less—the maximum length of a Twitter entry. To accommodate last-minute questions from students cramming the night before final exams, he conducts virtual office hours using the College’s online chat rooms.

For all his professional accolades, Klinghard’s most rewarding moments happen when his students make connections between the material he teaches and their own lives. “I really like seeing when students can start figuring the big ideas out and applying to their own context,” says Klinghard, who has three young children with his wife, Cheri. “It’s very exciting to see a student bring up the Federalist Papers in the appropriate way. Or to have someone say, ‘Hey, I was at the grocery store and I saw a collective action problem.’ Not just see them repeat something on a test, but apply it in real life.”

— Christine Hofmann-Bourque
When you use the term “digital dodo” around Associate Professor Leon Claessens, he doesn’t take offense. Quite the opposite. Claessens is justifiably proud of his research into the basic morphology of birds, which includes using lasers to create detailed three-dimensional models of bird skeletons—including the now extinct dodo. It’s all part of a National Science Foundation-funded project called “Aves 3D.”

A joint effort overseen by Claessens and Harvard professor Scott Edwards, Aves 3D draws upon the collections of Harvard’s Museum of Comparative Zoology, Yale’s Peabody Museum of Natural History and other institutes around the world. Claessens, as the project director, oversees the scanning efforts and supervises a small army of Holy Cross students in his lab.

“We’re trying to make materials that are hidden away in drawers in natural history museums as accessible as possible,” Claessens says. “Rare specimens might be found at only one location in the world. So by generating digital scans for Aves 3D, anyone with Internet access can interact with them.” And not just scientists, he says: “Anyone can Google their way into the database.” Claessens sees this project as a way of helping Holy Cross students get directly involved in cutting-edge research. “Plus, people can do things with the data you didn’t dream of when you first made it available,” he explains. “It’s nice to have Holy Cross students be part of that.”

The really important bones are across the hall in museum-quality cabinets so they’re safe, he says. Claessens also loves to be surrounded with his collection of antique books about fossils and science, including George Cuvier’s 1812 seminal study of fossil bones—considered the foundation of vertebrate paleontology.

The books are also a reminder that the anatomical sciences are an ancient field. “Our knowledge of the human upper leg bone and its muscles is not fundamentally different today compared to a century ago,” he explains. So much of the material he teaches is very straightforward, but no less daunting for students who have to learn this new language of anatomy.

“Anatomy is very visual and very hands on,” says Claessens, who uses modern technology to make his lectures as visual as possible. PowerPoint graphics embellish the discussion of how anatomical structures work, and 30-second video clips show animal morphology and function in motion. Long laboratory hours provide students with indispensable practical experience with bones, muscles and organs, he says.

“I expect my students to work tremendously hard, and I’ll do my best to help them progress,” Claessens shares. “Their intellectual growth is the enjoyable part of teaching. You know when students understand information by the questions they ask. I like those moments; it’s not just a one-way transfer of information. And if you have students who want to continue with future projects, you know their interest truly has been piqued.”

—Debra Steilen
Karen A. Ober
“*The freedom of the academic research program [at Holy Cross] is really a pleasure.*”

Department of Biology
Faculty member since 2004
Ph.D., University of Arizona

When Associate Professor Karen Ober was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, she did an independent research project on some unassuming little creatures: snails. Her experience working in a lab with professional scientists inspired her to earn a Ph.D. at the University of Arizona and pursue a career in the sciences.

Now an evolutionary biologist with a focus on how species and organisms change over time, Ober is motivating a new class of undergraduates with her passion for research and teaching—but now her focus is on beetles.

“They’re my favorite,” she exclaims. “There are more species of beetles on earth than anything else; they’re the most successful evolutionary group ever. Plus, they’re beautiful. I could look at them all day—and I really do!”

Ober’s enthusiasm for these insects is contagious, and she uses it to motivate students in her lab. “Getting students excited and invested in the work is really critical,” she explains. “They need to feel ownership over the project, and then it will become successful and their work will be fruitful.”

Being able to integrate students in her research is one of the many advantages Ober cites of teaching at Holy Cross. She especially enjoys the opportunities to interact with students outside of the classroom. Really getting to know students, she explains, allows her to help them make connections between course material and their lives—which enables her to teach more effectively. And she’s glad to be educating students in the context of the College’s broad-based liberal arts tradition, which she believes provides students with a bigger picture of the world and their role in it.

“I like the focus on teaching excellence at Holy Cross,” she says. “The collegiality that exists between students and teachers and the freedom of the academic research program are really a pleasure.”

The College community recognized Ober’s teaching efforts by choosing her to give the 2009 “Last Lecture,” the pretext of which was that she was about to retire and has been asked to sum up in a final lecture to students what she believes has made the work she has dedicated herself to meaningful and worthwhile.

“I was really honored to be asked to give a ‘Last Lecture’ so early in my career,” Ober admits. “Most of the time, I still feel like a new kid here.”

Since joining the Holy Cross faculty in 2004, Ober has received the Ardizzone Prize for Junior Faculty Research and represented the biology department on the Academic Affairs Council and Integrated Science Complex Construction Group. She has served as chair of the biology department curriculum committee, and she has published articles in several academic journals, including the *Journal of Insect Science, Journal of Heredity* and *Zoologica Scripta*.

This coming academic year, Ober will take a sabbatical to conduct research in Southeast Arizona. There, she will collect beetles from the tops of mountains that are isolated from each other by desert. In this unique region, each mountaintop has its own population of beetles, since the insects cannot fly or walk from one mountain to another due to the extreme climate. In fact, they are becoming different species, because they cannot mate with each other.

Starting in August, Ober will collect these beetle specimens and examine their DNA sequences to find out how populations are related to each other and how long they have been separated from each other.

It’s the kind of pioneering research, coupled with engaging teaching, that defines a Holy Cross professor—and it’s what makes the undergraduate educational experience here so special.

—Rebecca Smith ’99

Associate Professor of biology Karen Ober collected this flashy fellow, a Ghost Walker beetle, in the jungle of Borneo. After searching for days, she paused to examine a tiger print in the mud; when she turned her head, she found five Ghost Walkers under a log. She immediately grabbed one in her hands, and the insect squirted a chemical in her eye. “I was crying from both pain and happiness!” she recalls.
Paul Oxley
“*I like to have students involved in something active.*”
Department of Physics
Faculty member since 2005
Ph.D., Harvard University

FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE, physics doesn’t have much meaning beyond general recollections that Isaac Newton discovered the law of gravity or Albert Einstein developed the theory of relativity. To Associate Professor Paul Oxley, physics is a chance to dig deep to explain the rules and forces that make the universe run. Atoms, electrons and quantum electrodynamics are second nature to him.

With such heady subject matter, it’s a bit ironic that one of his students found such a simple way to sum up his thoughts on the professor. Writing in a class evaluation, the student noted, “Professor Oxley is to physics as syrup is to a waffle.”

That pithy analogy fits in with Oxley’s teaching goal of making complex theories understandable. You never know when the British professor will pull out a string and get it vibrating to demonstrate the principle of resonance that determines everything from the pitch of string instruments to the structural integrity of suspension bridges. Or he may ask students to take off their eyeglasses so classmates can look at the lenses and assess whether the person is near- or far-sighted. “I like to have students involved with something active,” he explains in describing his teaching philosophy. “Active learning solidifies students’ recollection of things.”

Nowhere is that hands-on learning more prevalent than his research lab, a room stocked with lasers, lenses, big steel vacuum chambers and electronic boxes laden with knobs and dials. In a pitch-black environment, students may tinker with lenses for an optics experiment or examine how light behaves as a wave during a laser test. “They really get a completely different view of physics when they do research,” says Oxley, who specializes in atomic physics. “Personally, I enjoy the process of discovery that’s involved in research.”

That said, it was the balance between research and teaching that attracted him to Holy Cross. “I wanted to teach at a place where I felt connected to students,” says Oxley, who earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University after a coveted scholarship brought him to the United States. “The thing that’s struck me since I’ve been at Holy Cross is the close relationship between students and faculty members. Students are incredibly well cared for; there’s no faculty member that won’t bend over backwards to help.”

For his part, Oxley is known to do all he can to accommodate busy students. Sitting around a table in his office, he and students wanting further explanation of something covered in class jot down equations on a big white board or scribble notes paper. “Whether there’s one student or several in my office, they never get away without first telling me what they’re doing later in the day or how their other classes are going,” adds Oxley, who makes it a point to get to know students.

Oxley credits his passion for education to his parents, particularly his electrician father who later became a vocational teacher. “Teaching was in the air in our home so to speak,” Oxley recalls. “My parents, having missed out when they were younger, really instilled in me the importance of education.”

He’s also impressed with students’ passion. Serving on the College’s Health Professions Advisory Committee, he sees their long lists of community service achievements—everything from helping with the Deaf community in Worcester to cleanup missions after Hurricane Katrina. “It really opened my eyes to how incredibly dedicated these students are to the idea of service—in ways I had never come across in England before,” he says. “There’s no sort of end to the kind of things they will find to help the community or others in need.”

Oxley is equally proud of the College’s new Integrated Science Complex (ISC), a modern facility that he anticipates will draw more students to the sciences. “The Science Complex is now a welcoming place even to nonscientists,” he says. This fall, Oxley will retreat to his new ISC lab for a sabbatical that involves colliding lithium atoms with hydrogen ions, which will ultimately provide data to test theories of collisions in everything from stars to fusion experiments. He’ll also use the time to finish reconstructing the equipment he disabled to make the move to his new quarters. “The average person, the space may seem like nothing more than a room full of gadgets. But to Oxley it makes perfect sense and is a world waiting to be explored. “There’s always a method to the madness—to some degree anyway,” he says with a smile.

—Jody Garlock
Ann Sheehy
“I love working with undergraduates at the early part of their career.”

Department of Biology
Faculty member since 2005
Ph.D., Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

When she’s not advancing her ground-breaking HIV research in the lab, Associate Professor Ann Sheehy is training the next generation of scientists in her classroom, where failure is a point of pride. “I always say to my students—and this applies for anything—if your paper is accepted outright, if you get in to all the graduate schools you apply to, then you have not aimed high enough,” says Sheehy, a nationally recognized HIV researcher who just finished grading papers for her sixth year at Holy Cross. “You’ve got to aim for the top.”

This scientist’s motto was born from the 15-plus years she has spent in laboratories with the lofty goal of unlocking the mysteries of HIV infection. “As a researcher, you’re very lucky if only 90 percent of your work fails,” Sheehy says. “But when that 10 percent is a success? Tremendous medical advances can happen.”

Sheehy’s biggest discovery to date made it on to a July 2002 cover of Nature magazine. Sheehy identified a protein in T cells—the cells that can get infected with HIV—that in the laboratory could fight off HIV infection. “This protein, called Apobec3G, lives in all our cells,” explains Sheehy. “It acts like a smart bomb. Your cellular protein blows up the virus so it can’t work or spread.”

With the assistance of lab students at Holy Cross and her joint appointment at the Center For AIDS Research at the University of Massachusetts, Sheehy is currently doing research on why this cellular protein can disarm the HIV virus in a laboratory but doesn’t work as well in the body. It’s a complicated, time-consuming trek, but one that holds promise in helping to protect people against HIV infection. Sheehy has a sabbatical scheduled for 2012–2013 during which she will focus on this research.

Sheehy teaches four biology courses at Holy Cross: Introduction to Biology, Virology, Principles of Biology: The HIV Pandemic, and Molecular Immunology with lab. In addition, she houses two or three students each semester in her lab to assist in primary research. It’s a big commitment for both the students and Sheehy: During the academic year, the students work 12 to 15 hours a week in the lab; in the summer, it’s at least 40 hours a week. “I tend to attract students who are involved in research questions,” says Sheehy, whose Holy Cross students have gone on to prestigious graduate schools such as Johns Hopkins, Emory University and Duke University.

The fact that she is a professor is somewhat of a surprise to Sheehy, who thought her career path ran directly—and only—into the laboratory. Raised in Michigan, she received her bachelor of arts degree from Kalamazoo College, where she double majored in biology and chemistry. ""F"" rom the perspective of a top R1 institutions. She decided that being in a classroom might be an interesting way to stretch her intellectual boundaries. On her first visit to Holy Cross, she knew she’d found her next home. “The people are just amazing,” she says. “The department is full of smart people who are continuing to grow intellectually, and they’re asking interesting and relevant research questions.”

When she started teaching in 2005, she’d never graded a paper or written a syllabus. “I’d always liked liberal arts, but I’d never done any teaching,” she says. “I would certainly say I’m in the minority in that I had no teaching experience. But from my perspective, my strength is that I could introduce students to a new world of research.”

The intersection of teaching and research can be a bumpy road at times. “I love working with undergraduates at the early part of their career,” says Sheehy, who has three young boys with husband, Jonathan Choi, a genetic scientist. “It can be frustrating because they tend to waste reagents and time, but you get to introduce them to this complete academic freedom and the unparalleled opportunity to ask thought-provoking questions and still be excited about the science 20 years later.”

—Christine Hofmann-Bourque
In Their Own Words ...

What do you consider the best attribute or trait of Holy Cross students?

- They believe in the good of the universe, and they believe in social justice.
- They are super hardworking and eager to learn—not to mention wicked smaht.
- Their dogged determination to pursue whatever they’re most interested in, and at the same time maintain a sense of service to the community.

What was your toughest class as an undergrad?

- For me, it was English. In Puerto Rico, if you go to private school, you learn English, but if you go to public school, you don’t. Coming from a poor background, I didn’t.
- Astronomy.
- A history class sophomore year. The professor gave us only primary source documents each week, and then asked us to write brief histories of early America using no outside sources at all.

What is your favorite book, reading purely for pleasure?

- I have many, so my favorite is whatever I’m reading at the moment. But La Guerra del Fin del Mundo (The War of the End of the World) is one of the best I’ve read. Mario Vargas Ilosa—he’s from Peru and won the 2010 Nobel Prize in Literature—is an amazing writer, and in this book, he writes about the War of canudos in 19th-century Brazil.
- I’m a sucker for 19th-century literature. A favorite book of mine from that period is Middlemarch, by George Eliot, which I read at a moment when I had time to immerse myself in it. I think it’s so beautifully written, and I like to believe that reading things that are well written has a good effect on my own writing. Also, A Midwife’s Tale, by Edith Wharton.

you can co-teach a course with any historical figure or celebrity, living or dead. Whom would you pick?

- I don’t think I could—or would—pick anybody because then it would be about the celebrity and not about the students.
- Mary Magdalene. I’d love to know her version of early Christian history.
- A Native American leader during the Colonial Era, because we don’t really have easy access to the voices of the people we’re talking about when exploring Native history. I’d choose Massasoit; he was the leader of the Wampanoag Confederacy on the East Coast in the early 17th century. It was his people the English encountered. It would be great to have his perspective.

ONLINE read what other faculty members say about their newly tenured colleagues in this issue’s Web Exclusives at holycross.edu/magazine
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<th>Daniel Klinghard</th>
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<td>t hey work really hard. I've been impressed by the fact that they rise to whatever challenge you give them, t hey might complain, but they do it.</td>
<td>t hey are bright ... I really enjoy engaging with students in the classroom and laboratory.</td>
<td>t hey are very motivated and very hard working. And I really appreciate that.</td>
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<td>I atin</td>
<td>continuum mechanics [an engineering class]. I thought it was horrendously difficult; it required highly complicated calculations to solve problems. It was tremendously complex.</td>
<td>Physical Chemistry. Argh! It was a horrible class!</td>
<td>electromagnetism. But now that I teach it I have a much deeper understanding—and I'm happy to teach it because it's an interesting subject.</td>
<td>t hat's easy: Molecular structure and Reactivity</td>
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<td>Blood Meridian, by Cormac McCarthy</td>
<td>I have to admit that even for pleasure, I read books related to my work. I really like reading about the history of paleontology, geology, and biology, and the people and ideas that shaped today's scientific fields. Recently, I enjoyed reading a biography of Thomas Henry Huxley by Adrian Desmond.</td>
<td>On the Road, by Jack Kerouac. I read it when I was quite young, and it really shaped me.</td>
<td>Lonesome Dove, by Larry McMurtry, The Metaphysical Club, by Louise Menand and The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, by William Shirer. I wouldn't have thought the third one would be a page-turner, but it was for me. It was a work my dad gave me, and my grandfather had given to him, so I had a family connection to it.</td>
<td>Flanagan's Run, by Tom McNab</td>
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<td>Abraham Lincoln</td>
<td>Sir Richard Owen. He's a Victorian-era scientist who named dinosaurs and wrote the first scientific descriptions of an astounding number of extinct and living animals. He has been given a bad reputation in books about the history of science, partially due to his resistance to evolutionary theory, but he was a fantastic anatomist and created a tremendous body of work that is still very useful today.</td>
<td>Charles Darwin's colleague Alfred Russel Wallace, the co-discoverer of natural selection. I think he was much cooler than Darwin, but no one gives him any credit.</td>
<td>t hat's easy. Michael Faraday, one of the greatest experimenters in early 19th century. He was an English physicist and chemist—an experimental genius!</td>
<td>Jane Austen, because I'm a closet English major.</td>
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As a sixth-grader, Lisa Grattan ’86—now a successful civil litigator who loves conversation and debate—temporarily lost her voice.

“When I was very young, I knew that I wanted to be a lawyer,” says Grattan. “It was always, always something I wanted to do.” A grade-school teacher quieted those dreams after Grattan told him about her plans for when she grew up. “He said to me, ‘Girls don’t really become lawyers,’” Grattan recalls. “I kept my own counsel after that. I didn’t give up on being a lawyer, but I put it in the category of ‘not very realistic.’”

Fast forward to Grattan’s third year at Holy Cross, where the political science major was sitting in the class she was most passionate about—U.S. Constitutional Law with Associate Professor Caren Dubnoff. Out of the blue, the professor asked to see Grattan after class. “She said to me, ‘I think you have to go to law school. Have you thought of that?’” Grattan recalls. “I felt so incredibly affirmed and encouraged. That supported in my mind, ‘hey, being a lawyer isn’t crazy.’ That was a big event for someone in her late teens who is trying to figure out what the possibilities are out there for her.”

Grattan went on to law school at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and is now very happily—and passionately—advocating for clients as a lawyer at Bourne, Noll & Kenyon in Summit, N.J. This year she lifted her voice for Holy Cross as the co-chair of her class’s 25th reunion gift committee. She also gave back with a challenge gift: If the entire gift committee raised $100,000 in April, Grattan pledged to match that amount in addition to her already substantial gift to Holy Cross. The challenge was a success. “The generosity of my classmates and the hard work of our committee enabled us to more than double our April fundraising goal,” she says.

“Never give up’ is the X-factor of Jesuit education at Holy Cross.”

—Lisa Grattan ’86

she says, “I wanted to do something meaningful, that really mattered, and wasn’t academic in any sense. Kim urged me to look into the JVC. I had a one-half hour meeting with Kim that literally changed the direction of my life in a lasting way.” Today Grattan sits on the JVC national board of directors and still vividly remembers her in-the-field work with the JVC. “You get a sense of the struggles that are real for people,” she
“It’s not an overstatement that Holy Cross is the most important formative influence in my life other than my family,” shares attorney Lisa Grattan ’86.

Success for Grattan came through very hard work, and this wife to Bob Moriarty ’83 and mom to four children, ages 8 to 15, wouldn’t want it any other way. “One thing I value about Holy Cross is the experience of failing and getting back up and trying again,” she says. “I didn’t have a straight line of success at Holy Cross. It was a wake-up call to me. But I felt supported by the faculty. I felt encouraged by my friends. The message I took away was, ‘You have the ability to do well, and you need to try harder.’ Never give up is the X-factor of Jesuit education at Holy Cross.”

“My parents made a tremendous sacrifice to send me to Holy Cross,” says Grattan, who is repaying their generosity with a gift that ensures other talented students will have the same opportunity. “Holy Cross is a special place with an important mission.”

keeping the promise

Holy Cross is need-blind in admissions and commits to meeting the full demonstrated need of admitted students, and maintaining this financial aid tradition is expensive. The number of students who receive some form of financial aid is 60 percent, markedly higher than at many top schools. Fifty percent of students receive grants directly from Holy Cross. The college still has a substantial middle- and working-class representation among its students, in contrast to many elite colleges that have a majority of very wealthy students and a small group of high-need students. Throughout its history, Holy Cross has helped many students who have gone on to exceptionally successful lives after graduation. The financial aid policy is an important aspect of the Holy Cross mission, and a tradition that the college wants to maintain. The bar graph (below) shows the grant money distributed in recent years, and the cost of both admitting students blind of need and meeting the full demonstrated need of all admitted students.

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<th>Fiscal year</th>
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Summer 2011
OT A SECOND was wasted in the love story of Billy Macaluso ’87 and Lisa Smits Macaluso. While on Cape Cod for the Fourth of July in 1990, they met through Holy Cross friends. When 24-year-old Billy introduced himself to Lisa—whom he had been told had a significant other—he got right to the point: “I said, ‘Here’s a quarter. Go call your boyfriend and tell him he’s out and I’m in.’ Lisa asked me, ‘Why is that?’ And I said, ‘Because we’re going to get married.’”

Their flirtatious conversation that night included Billy asking Lisa what kind of flowers she wanted at their wedding. “She said something to the effect of, ‘I don’t want roses, I want daisies,’” says Billy. The next day, he cut down a bunch of daisies from a neighbor’s yard and then walked to the beach where Lisa was working to give them to her.

The couple was soon engaged and married a year later in a church full of daisies. They started their family with the birth of Catie, then welcomed Lexi, Maddie, Will, Jack and Mary in the next nine years. All the while Billy’s career in finance with Lehman Brothers and Fidelity Investments moved the family around the world.

The whirlwind was due in part to Billy’s constant need to go somewhere and do something. “Most people say I’m hyperactive,” he says. “In fact, Lisa complained about it for most of our marriage. But when she got sick, she said to me, ‘I now know why God gave me a hyperactive husband. We’ve done more in 15 years than most people do in a lifetime.’”

Lisa, who never smoked, passed away on Nov. 29, 2005, after a three-year battle with lung cancer; she was 38.

Macaluso recently established and funded The Lisa Smits Macaluso Financial Aid Fund at Holy Cross. This endowment provides general support to the Holy Cross financial aid budget, helping qualified and deserving students pursue a Jesuit education, a goal that was very important to both Billy and Lisa, who was a graduate of Loyola University in New Orleans. “I wanted to do something that my children would be able to appreciate,” he says. “My children can look at this and say, ‘That’s my mother.’”

“Our situation is beyond difficult … but it’s made so much easier by people who are there for you,” he says. “One of the things that was so powerful to both of us was how amazing the people from Holy Cross were throughout. People went over and above to be involved.

“I think that, one way or another, you walk out of Holy Cross with an obligation to help other people,” observes Macaluso, who is still close with many of the people he lived with on Wheeler One and off-campus on Cambridge Street. Macaluso has high hopes that one or more of his children, who are now ages 9 to 18, will follow in his footsteps as a Crusader, just as he followed the lead of his uncle, the late Joe Dunn ’56. And while Billy captained the soccer team during his third and fourth years at Holy Cross, he anticipates his children wanting to pursue their interests: skiing, lacrosse and golf. Most importantly, though, he would like them to experience day-to-day interactions with the Jesuits, whether in the classroom or at the pub. “One of my most long-lasting memories is learning you could just talk to priests,” he says. “They were regular guys.”

The spiritual grounding he received at Holy Cross has served Macaluso well during these trying years. Noting that he is blessed to have his mother living with him to share the responsibilities of raising six children, he says that he recently left a job with extensive travel requirements and is exploring new opportunities that will keep him closer to home. This summer, the family will spend time on the Cape, where Billy and Lisa bought a house early in their marriage. It’s a place where daisies—and love—are known to bloom.
THE POWER OF ONE

Charles T. Strauss ’02

Hometown: Pittsburgh, currently resides in South Bend, Ind.

Family: Married to Elizabeth; children are Anna Louise and Charlie

What he did at Holy Cross: “I found a supportive network from day one in the First-Year Program (FYP). I worked as a tour guide and senior interviewer in the Admissions Office and as a liturgical coordinator in the Chaplains’ Office. I traveled to Malawi, Africa, and Miami, Florida, with Habitat for Humanity and to Cuernavaca, Mexico, in the Mexico Immersion Program. After studying abroad at Mansfield College, Oxford, I completed a Fenwick Scholar thesis in Irish-American history, chaired our Senior Show production of The Wiz and enjoyed life at 50 College Street.”

How did Holy Cross affect your life? “The poet Richard Wilbur visited campus during the fall semester of my first year. We had read his poems in FYP, specifically, ‘Love calls us to the things of this world.’ Wilbur describes one’s search for the spiritual in terms of the physical. We encounter God in the day-to-day. Holy Cross provided me with four years to dig deeper into this radical notion: Professor Lawler’s seminar on Renaissance Literature and Professor Green’s Modern European History Survey (just two of many life-changing courses); the Chaplains’ preaching at the 10 p.m. Sunday Liturgy; quiet conversations with Jesuit friends and Dean Joe McGuire; a protest trip to the School of the Americas; recovering and rebuilding after campus controversies and national tragedies; learning, living and sometimes stumbling with complete strangers who at some point along the way became lifelong friends. These experiences provided me with intellectual and experiential knowledge of ‘the things of the world’ and set me, and so many of my classmates who are doing far more than I am, on a course to transform these ‘things’ with love.”

The working life: “I will defend my dissertation in U.S. history at the University of Notre Dame this spring and begin teaching at Valparaiso University in August.”

Memorable Holy Cross moments: “I was lucky to have tremendous teachers. Professors David O’Brien and Ed O’Donnell directed my thesis and started me thinking about a career in history. Professors Rev. Philip C. Rule, S.J., Eugene McCarthy, Tom Lawler, Lee Oser, Bill Green and Theresa McBride are also on my list of role models in the academic profession. The kindnesses that each showed me are still fresh in my mind today.”

Why he stays connected to Holy Cross: “I stay connected because learning about the good work that the faculty, staff and graduates of our small, Jesuit, liberal arts college do in the world is good for my soul. It also reminds me that I should be working harder.”

Why he gives to Holy Cross: “Earlier this year, five former residents of 50 College Street, including myself, welcomed new additions to our families. I give to Holy Cross because I believe that the world that our children inherit will need people who are trying to live out the values and ideals that our College affirms.”

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Originally used as a weapon of war, the mace was an emblem of physical strength in the Middle Ages. Its look changed with its purpose: Maces were once heavy clubs with spike-covered metal balls attached to the ends or swinging from short chains. Knights and other warriors used them to crush the armor of their opponents. By the 16th century, maces were decorated with jewels and precious metals and no longer used as weapons. Today, the mace is viewed as a symbol of intellectual authority and is often carried during ceremonial academic and ecclesiastical processions.

Holy Cross’ own intricately designed, hand-crafted silver mace was presented to the College in 1984 by blacksmith Kenneth Lynch Sr., who traced the roots of his Connecticut-based ironwork firm, Kenneth Lynch & Sons, back to the renowned craftsmanship of his native Connemara, Ireland. (Lynch passed away in 1989, and his family continues to run the company.)

In a 1984 edition of Crossroads, the precursor to Holy Cross Magazine, Lynch shared his reasons for bestowing the gift to the College: “I come from a Jesuit family with two brothers who are Jesuit priests. I’m a great admirer of the Cross, so I wanted to express how deeply I felt. This was the sort of personal gift that I was able to make.”

Throughout his life Lynch took part in many renowned projects, including directing repairs on the Statue of Liberty, making the wrought iron gates for the baptistery at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City and constructing an intricate gold-plated casket for the first American saint, Mother Cabrini. Lynch, who also worked on the wrought iron fence that runs along College Street, spent almost a year making the Holy Cross mace in his spare time.

The gleaming result made its debut the year Mario Cuomo, then governor of New York, delivered the Commencement address. It measures more than three feet in length with three layers of polished silver covering its bronze base, and replaced the wood and metal mace that had been a gift of the Class of 1940. Both are housed in the Holy Cross Archives and Special Collections when not in use or on display. The names of the College presidents and their years of service are inscribed on the head of the mace, which features a cross-topped dome. A rectangular block near the bottom of the mace bears the College’s seal.

It is tradition for the College’s registrar to carry the mace at the Baccalaureate Mass, Commencement and the inauguration of a new College president. Registrar Mary Sanchez emphasizes the importance and privilege of this duty. “It’s not only a great honor, but it is also humbling to serve as Grand Marshal at Commencement. It’s such a special time
for everyone involved, and I feel very privileged to ‘lead the way.’” While she has never actually dropped the mace, Sanchez admits, “It is very heavy, and I do always worry about that!”

Long Island native Christine McEnery ’11 received her bachelor of arts degree in May. She majored in English.

ONLINE You can see (and hear) all the pomp and circumstance of the College’s 2011 Commencement exercises at holycross.edu/commencement

Registrar Mary Sanchez carried the Holy Cross mace for the processional at the May 26 Baccalaureate Mass. The following morning, she lifted it again to lead 691 graduating students onto Fitton Field.
Gridiron Alumni Reach Out

Still in its first quarter, the 90-Wide mentoring program is connecting athletes to alumni who can help launch their career visions.

Dawn has not yet broken through the early February skies above Mount St. James as Taylor Glor ’10 and Patrick Lowe ’12 crawl out of their beds and fumble bleary-eyed through their showering and dressing rituals.

Headlights on, soon they are driving together toward an unforgettable experience: The startling idea of being in an operating room hasn’t fully registered until they are parked in front of the home of Joseph Ciccone, M.D., ’97 in suburban Boston, ready to follow his car to Beth Israel Hospital.

For Ciccone, this trip is routine, just another start of a sunrise-to-sunset workday. For Glor and Lowe, football teammates in the fall of 2009, it is a chance to explore what their futures might be. But at this early hour, they are starting to wonder why they signed on for this new mentoring program called “90-Wide.” They change their minds soon enough.

“I had to pull a few strings to get them a place in the OR,” explains Ciccone. Usually the operating room is an inner sanctum reserved for residents or medical students, not a backup quarterback and a walk-on kicker from Holy Cross.

Before seven strikes, Glor and Lowe find themselves wearing scrubs alongside Ciccone and his urologic surgical team. “We made sure there are seats behind them at all times, in case they get queasy,” Ciccone remarks.

Soon wide-eyed with fascination, quarterback Glor and kicker Lowe are witnessing surgeries of all types, from the laparoscopic removal of kidney stones to emergency open surgeries. “We had a hugely busy day,” their new mentor notes.

“This is my first time in an operating room except for my own dental and nose surgeries ... and I was knocked out for those,” quips Lowe. “Dr. Ciccone is the lead surgeon, and we are observing from a few feet away from all the video screens and scopes. It is very, very cool.”

Glor is similarly impressed: “We had a great time. After surgery, Dr. Ciccone took us on his rounds. We saw his softer side and how his patients

From left: Taylor Glor ’10, Joseph Ciccone, M.D., ’97 and Patrick Lowe ’12
love him and are so grateful for how he is helping them. His colleagues really like Dr. Ciccone, and they were willing to show us all around,” Glor recalls.

Glor and Lowe form an immediate bond with Ciccone. They have Holy Cross in common and Crusader football, in which all three contributed as unselfish reserves who saw limited action. They share an aptitude for science. Ciccone takes them out to dinner after their exhausting day. He tells them of the circuitous and arduous 10-year career path that has led him to his current role.

“My first passion is poetry,” says the English major. Wanting to teach, Ciccone received a master’s degree at Emerson College in Boston and had some of his poetry published. “But poetry was not a good career fit, and I returned to my childhood dreams of becoming a doctor,” he recalls. He completed his premed requirements at Boston’s Northeastern University while working as a medical assistant at Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates, then received his degree from New Jersey Medical School in Newark, N.J., his home state.

“I tried to give Patrick and Taylor a few tips and tricks,” Ciccone says. “Hopefully my story demonstrates to [them] the discipline and hard work that it takes to succeed in medicine.”

Since their 90-Wide mentoring experience, Lowe has landed a research internship at UMass Medical School and is aiming at a medical career as a surgical or clinical neurologist. Glor, now working as a biological researcher in Boston, is applying to medical schools. Ciccone continues to give them advice and provide them with recommendations. “The staff was very impressed with their maturity and they made Holy Cross football look good,” he notes.

Larry Doyle ’83 is the prime mover and shaker behind this unique mentoring program, named “90-Wide” for the 90 or so football alums who originally signed up to help. The “Wide” pays homage to Coach Tom Gilmore’s widespread offense. Since its inception in December 2009, the number of mentors has grown to about 120 from 23 states.

“We have always trumpeted with pride the Holy Cross tradition of connecting students with loyal alums who are willing to help them,” notes Dick Regan ’76, director of athletics. “Larry Doyle’s 90-Wide efforts have formalized the process in football.”

Doyle is by nature a doer, a guy who has spent decades negotiating the turbulent waters of Wall Street. His devotion to Holy Cross is passionate to put it mildly: Dad Bill ’48 grew up in West Roxbury, Mass., around the corner.

(Continued on Page 46)

Off the Field with Jordan Michael ’12

Varsity soccer defender and Burnaby, British Columbia, native Jordan Michael ’12 says he is “lucky to have ended up at Holy Cross, playing a sport I love with guys who have become my closest friends.” We asked the accounting major what his life is like when he unlaces his cleats.

Q&A:
When you’re not on the practice field or in the library where can someone find you? And what would you be doing?
If I’m not practicing soccer or studying you can find me in my room playing video games with my friends and teammates Tony Rosales ’12, Joey Curran ’12 and Vince Garofalo ’12, or around Worcester driving SPUD (Student Programs for Urban Development) vans so that students can serve the community.
Do you have any favorite professors or classes here at Holy Cross?

My business law class with Associate Professor Scott Sandstrom has definitely been my favorite class so far. He brings an interesting and entertaining perspective to some seriously challenging material. His humor keeps me laughing and engaged.

If you weren’t playing soccer, what sport do you think you’d be playing?

It would have to be baseball. When I was 12 years old I played in the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pa., with Team Canada. We ended up losing to Team Mexico in the semifinals, but I miss my days as a shortstop on ESPN.

Hailing from just outside Vancouver, did you get a chance to go to the 2010 Winter Olympics?

I went to the semifinal hockey game between Canada and Slovakia with my dad. Of course, my home country won 3-2 before a packed house. It was amazing; definitely the best sporting event I’ve ever been to.

Michael and his teammates open the season at home on Aug. 26 against Boston University. Visit goholycross.com for ticket information.

— Tom Van Grinsven ’11
GRIDIRON ALUMNI continued
from Holy Cross president emeritus Rev. John E. Brooks, S.J., ’49, and still visits the Fitton Field President’s box to watch football games with his old pal. There are many in Doyle’s family tree who claim Crusader heritage, including his daughter Alison ’12; his son Kevin ’11, who served as the football team’s manager; his brother Ed ’82, an ardent mentor; and his first cousin, the irrepressible Chuckie Doyle ’86, a tough running back who still flashes a license plate that reads “BEAT BC.”

Doyle, an active member of the Holy Cross Gridiron Leadership Council, is an outspoken proponent of “thinking outside the box.” He is part of an imaginative cadre working to support Crusader football. Recent advances include the creation of the Football Ring of Fame at Fitton Field, golf tournaments and other fundraising events, plus the invention of Thursday night football under the lights. (Save the date: The HC-UMass home clash is set for Sept. 1.)

“We’re not trying to be like a University of Alabama Booster Club,” cautions Doyle. “Providing mentoring to football players doesn’t cost a dime. We’re simply asking former football players to give of their time and talent and give some career advice to present-day football players. Mentoring is the essence of Jesuit principles. In truth, a mentor

FREEZEFRAME: LACROSSE
The men’s varsity lacrosse team ousted the Mercer University Bears in a late-season home game this spring. Political science major and midfielder A.J. Guarante ’12 (pictured here) of Gaithersburg, Md., heads up the team’s volunteer efforts with Worcester’s Big Brothers program, and brings “great enthusiasm and leadership” to the field, according to Coach Jim Morrissey. The team, which ended the season with a 2-13 record, hopes to increase its wins in the coming season with “a wealth of skilled returning players and a strong group of incoming freshman,” Morrissey says.
always gets back more than he gives.”

Doyle has players fill out questionnaires to determine their career goals. On his computer, he matches up the right grads with the right players. His chuchurahrah.blogspot.com site keeps everyone in the loop about mentoring successes while floating new ideas.

Once the players and grads connect, magic happens. “There are a lot of HC dots out there. We’re just trying to connect them,” says Tom O’Brien ’59, who, as a Holy Cross birddog, has been scouting football talent for more than 50 years. He, his classmate Bill Maloney and many others have been offering career advice to Crusaders for decades; O’Brien gets the credit for suggesting that the 90-Wide program go coed and include cheerleaders.

So alums and athletes are reaching out to each other, some meeting up for a chat, others sharing time at a workplace. “Some guys like Craig Cerretani ’79 and Pete Mondani ’79 are what I call ‘serial mentors’ who are involved with a lot of kids,” says Doyle. Relationships are being built, words of encouragement dispensed and often internships or even first jobs evolve.

Take Mark Tolden ’12, a captain-elect and quarterback, who finds himself in The Pits, those famed octagonal platforms on the wild trading floor of the Chicago Board of Trade.

“I linked up with Jim O’Gara ’88, who operates on the Chicago Board of Trade,” explains Tolden, who hails from Rolling Meadows, Ill. “I’m learning the ropes up close to the trading action, and I’m meeting a ton of new people.” Tolden is serving his second summer as an intern for O’Gara’s firm.

“Trading is very complex, and I’m not that good with numbers,” Tolden admits. “But a lot of these guys learned on a job ... it’s more about work ethic and taking ownership of their craft. I love the atmosphere. Like being a quarterback, you learn how to audible and handle something different every day.” Tolden also is talking with another mentor, Dave Dowd ’95, senior director of ticket sales for the Chicago Bulls. O’Brien helped make that link via his connection to Dave’s grandfather, the late Tom Dowd ’23, Holy Cross honorary Hall of Famer and longtime Red Sox travelling secretary.

The dots continue to connect and the 90-Wide program spins off more benefits—Coach Gilmore has another benefit to share with recruits, more grads are getting reconnected with the College and other sports are beginning to adopt Doyle’s brainchild. Perhaps most importantly, the student-athletes now being helped will have another reason to give something back to alma mater down the road.

John W. Gearan ’65 is an award-winning writer who worked as a reporter and columnist for the Worcester Telegram & Gazette for 36 years. He resides in Rhode Island.
The New England Patriots’ owner Bob Kraft knew the process of honoring his old-time gridiron heroes wasn’t moving the ball fast enough. So he called an audible and set up a Senior Selection Committee to remedy the problem.

A senior committee of 10 elected Jon Morris ‘64 as its first inductee. “It was a landslide, an easy choice made without debate,” says committee member Jim Donaldson, a Providence Journal columnist who has covered the Patriots for many years. “Jon had been among our three annual nominees three years running, and nobody has better credentials; nobody is more deserving.”

He outlined Morris’ brilliant pro career as a center, including seven All-Star game appearances. “A true gentleman, Jon represents the best pro football has to offer. He was also a radio analyst for the team for eight seasons,” he notes. Morris was voted as center on the Patriots 50th anniversary team.

In 2007, Kraft changed the way Patriot Hall of Famers are selected. A select panel of 21 nominates a total of three retired players and/or coaches. Then the fans vote online to select only one of the three nominees as that year’s selection. This spring, the top vote-getter was quarterback Drew Bledsoe, who finished ahead of former coach Bill Parcells and lineman Houston Antwine. When it became obvious that today’s fans were overlooking stars from the Patriots distant past, Kraft approved the idea of the Senior Selection Committee. A player or coach has to be retired for at least 25 years to be eligible for selection by the senior committee.

On Sept. 17, Bledsoe and Morris will be inducted in a public ceremony outside the Hall at Patriot Place in Foxborough, Mass. They will join 18 others already in the Patriots Hall of Fame, including Holy Cross’ Bob Dee ‘55.

After three years of being nominated for fan selection and being overlooked, Morris told Holy Cross Magazine in an interview last fall, “There is not going to be room for an old guy like me.”

When Kraft called him in March, Morris says, “It was overwhelming. I consider this the crowning achievement of my football life.”

Already a Holy Cross Hall of Famer, Morris will also be honored this fall as a newly elected member of the Fitton Field Ring of Fame.

— John Gearan ’65

HOMETOWN HELPERS

Student athletes and coaches from Holy Cross baseball, men’s ice hockey, women’s lacrosse and softball teams spent time throughout the 2011 spring semester volunteering with Catholic Charities of Worcester County (CCWORC), which runs the largest food pantry in the Worcester area. Assistant baseball coach Jeff Kane (right) hoisted non-perishables to help stock the shelves on one visit. More than 24,000 people in need received nourishment through the CCWORC pantry last year.

courtesy of courtesy of courtesy of the new england patriots
HCAA President’s Note

Save the Date for Move-in Day!

Help welcome members of the Class of 2015 as they begin their Holy Cross experience on Saturday, Aug. 27. The Holy Cross Alumni Association is looking for volunteers to greet students and their parents as they arrive on campus. This will be the HCAA’s third year of involvement in this important tradition ... and it’s fun, too! Just ask the Rapillo and St. Onge families (left to right), who pitched in last year. Contact the HCAA at 508-793-2418 or email hcaa@holycross.edu to get involved.

In this issue, be sure not to miss a special tribute to our beloved Fr. O’Brien, written by longtime HCAA board member Marcy Vandale ’87. Father received the In Hoc Signo (IHS) Award in October 2010, and his dedication to the College will undoubtedly continue to inspire so many of us.

Speaking of the prestigious IHS Award, it is with great pleasure that I inform you of this year’s winners: John Hayes Jr. ’91, Greg Cahill ’81 and Kathy Troidle Jackson ’83. All three are HCAA past presidents and have been terrific servants to Holy Cross.

In April, alumni in several states embarked on service projects in their local area on “Holy Cross Cares Day,” and we have included a recap of this successful event on Page 52. The intent is for this event to grow over time, and we invite you to get involved.

Looking ahead, I hope you will put two events on your calendar—opportunities to show your purple pride and connect with fellow alumni and current students. Come to campus and help us welcome and move in new students on Saturday, August 27. Fall Homecoming is slated for September 17.

Colleen F. Amann ’92
President, Holy Cross Alumni Association

Colleen Amann ’92
President, Holy Cross Alumni Association

Questions, comments & suggestions: hcaa@holycross.edu
508-793-2418
offices.holycross.edu/alumni

Holy Cross Alumni Association

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Executive Secretary
It is not at all uncommon to hear an alumnus of Holy Cross refer to him or herself as having “purple blood.” Indeed, Rev. George L. O’Brien ’54 counted himself among those who proudly claimed to bleed purple, yet with Fr. O’Brien, it went deeper.

Fr. O’Brien once wrote: “Holy Cross has been part of my life as far back as I can remember. Beginning as a toddler, my father brought me to Fitton Field for football and baseball games and to the Worcester Auditorium for basketball games. In high school I became an usher at Fitton Field. I took the bus to St. John’s High School and I walked to Holy Cross College! There, the Jesuits firmed up the education begun by the Xaverian Brothers. There, a priestly vocation was nurtured. There, a lifetime of commitment to alma mater was established.”

At Fr. O’Brien’s funeral liturgy, his friend of 55 years, Rev. Paul T. O’Connell ’56, preached: “Father George was a loyal friend and great Crusader. An only child, he drew people wherever he ministered—in parishes, on committees and at Holy Cross—into a family. Not one to expect that he would be called ‘Father’ he nevertheless was known as ‘Father’ to many and all. From the sidelines at Fitton Field, to the altars where he prayed, he enriched our lives with his presence and friendship.”

Holy Cross became synonymous with who Fr. O’Brien was, as much as being a priest defined him. He had the pleasure of serving the College in various capacities for more than six decades. While serving as director of the Holy Cross Fund, Fr. O’Brien embraced people and relished getting to know fellow alumni. Thomas E. Ryan ’76, P05, who served as an assistant under Fr. O’Brien, recalled: “Each week during the final two months of the Fund, Fr. George would take out his famous purple Flair pen and write short personal notes to each class chair, extolling them to keep up their wonderful efforts. His personal touch worked, and within five years, the alumni participation rate broke the prestigious 50 percent mark, never dipping below 50 percent for the rest of his tenure. The Annual Fund hit its high-water mark of 58 percent alumni participation in the 1989 Fund.”

While his official job was serving alumni, Fr. O’Brien got to know students by serving as team chaplain on the sidelines of Fitton Field and courtside in the Hart Recreation Center. He celebrated and presided at weddings, baptisms and funerals of many Crusaders.

As Fr. O’Brien struggled with health issues through the late fall of 2010 and until his death in February, one thing remained constant—his daily contact with alumni. Whether it was a visit or call with a classmate or Holy Cross friend, or an afternoon faithfully watching former Coach Mark Duffner’s “other” team, the Jacksonville Jaguars, his spirits were boosted by all things purple. His health caretakers, many of whom turned out to have ties to either the College or the parishes in which he ministered, were in awe of his network of friends and of the huge Holy Cross presence in his life.

The crowning honor for Fr. O’Brien was receiving the In Hoc Signo Award in October 2010. Although he had twice received the Worcester Club’s Crusader of the Year Award, it was the In Hoc Signo Award that truly humbled him.

And while Father would insist that Holy Cross gave him more than he gave back, the number of alumni who respectfully disagree could fill the stadiums on the Hill. Holy Cross has lost a loyal son and will miss Fr. George O’Brien deeply.

To read about Fr. O’Brien’s 2010 In Hoc Signo Award, visit http://magazine.holycross.edu/issue_44_4 and select ‘Alumni News.”
Spreading the Love
Alumni across the country pitch in on national “Holy Cross Cares Day” 2011

On March 25 and 26, more than 200 alumni, families and friends put the Holy Cross mission into action by taking part in the inaugural national “Holy Cross Cares Day.” This event, a partnership between the Holy Cross Alumni Association and seven regional clubs across the country, brought different generations of Crusaders together for a day of community service and support.

Volunteers raked leaves, cleaned up playgrounds, tutored schoolchildren and donated items to food pantries. From Boston to Florida, participants showed their school pride and supported wonderful community causes. Some volunteer shutterbugs snapped a few photos of their weekday fun:

1 Buster Melvin ’93 (holding daughter Margaret), Rev. Jim Mathews ’58 and Jim Sparkes ’71 (from left) with the Holy Cross Club of Central New York at St. Lucy’s Church in Syracuse, where Fr. Mathews is the pastor. 2 The Holy Cross Club of Greater Boston worked in the schoolyard at Donald McKay K-8 School. 3 Meagan C. Lyons ’00 and Thomas N. Lyons ’00, members of the Holy Cross Club of Greater Hartford, volunteered their time at St. Thomas the Apostle Food Pantry. 4 A member of the Holy Cross Club of Metro New York City, Fred Bleakley ’65 helped a young student hit the books at Brooklyn Jesuit Prep. 5 In Florida, the Holy Cross Club of Naples worked at St. Matthew’s House, a shelter and food pantry for the homeless. 6 It was a sea of purple when the Holy Cross Club of Greater Chicago helped out at St. Gabriel Elementary School. 7 Tessa Wiegele ’05 worked some magic on scuffed walls at the Nativity School with the Holy Cross Club of Greater Worcester.

The HCAA hopes to grow this event in year number two! If you are interested in participating in 2012, contact the Holy Cross Alumni Association at 508-793-2418 or hcaa@holycross.edu.
The In Hoc Signo Awards

Three Recipients Honored for Exceptional Service to Holy Cross

The Holy Cross Alumni Association has named the 2011 recipients of its highest honor, the In Hoc Signo Award. Gregory H. Cahill ’81, John R. Hayes Jr. ’91 and Kathleen Troidle Jackson ’83 will receive In Hoc Signo Awards for their significant, exceptional and longstanding service to Holy Cross on Friday, Sept. 16, at a special dinner on campus. The In Hoc Signo Award is an expression of admiration and respect for those alumni who have given most generously of their time, their talents and their expertise in faithful service to the College, to their regional clubs and/or to their classes.

Gregory H. Cahill ’81

Gregory H. Cahill ’81 is past president, a multi-year vice president and a board member of the Holy Cross Alumni Association (HCAA). During the past two decades, Cahill has volunteered on a variety of HCAA committees, including the nominating, budget and finance, strategic planning, admissions and senior reception committees. Cahill is a past president and a 10-year-plus member of the board of the Holy Cross Club of Boston. He has been the driving force behind the highly popular Holy Cross Boston Monthly Luncheon program for more than 20 years. Each month, he brings together up to 100 alumni to hear a speaker from the Holy Cross community.

A class agent, Cahill is very active in Class of 1981 reunion efforts. In addition to the many volunteer roles he plays on behalf of the HCAA and his class, he conducts interviews with potential applicants for the Holy Cross Admissions Office. He has received the Haberlin Award and has been named a Crusader of the Year.

Cahill is the senior vice president of Lincoln Properties in Boston. His volunteerism has extended to his community, his high school and his son’s school and sports programs. He is also a member of the board of visitors at New England Baptist Hospital. Cahill and his wife, Victoria, live in Wellesley and have a son, Peter ’14. Cahill’s father is George Cahill ’49.

John R. Hayes Jr. ’91

John R. Hayes Jr. ’91 had a strong and lasting impact during his term as HCAA president: He initiated a strategic planning dialogue for HCAA and commissioned a peer college review. He also established ad hoc committee to develop new initiatives for engaging young alumni. In addition, he re-introduced the HCAA presence at Commencement after a decade-long absence.

Co-chair of the inaugural HCAA Homecoming Dinner, Hayes has served on many other HCAA committees, including nominations and elections, communication, scholarship, and the committee on committees. He chaired the strategic planning committee for three years and twice chaired the Senior Reception Committee. He is a member of the HCAA board of directors.

A class agent, Hayes was a class chair from 2002 to 2007 and reunion gift co-chair for the Class of 1991’s fifth and 10th reunions. He was a Boston Regional Committee volunteer for the Lift High the Cross Campaign.

Hayes is the director of individual giving for the UMass Memorial Foundation. A decorated military veteran who served four years in the United States Navy, he is a trustee of the USS Constitution Museum, as well as an overseer and member of the museum’s Development Committee. In addition, Hayes has volunteered for the Newman School in Boston. Receiving an M.B.A. from Babson College in 2002, he volunteered as his M.B.A. class gift chair.

Hayes lives in Andover, Mass., with his wife, Nicole, and their two young children, Mia and Jack.

Kathleen Troidle Jackson ’83

Kathleen “Kathy” Troidle Jackson ’83 was president of the Holy Cross Alumni Association from 2006 to 2007. She also co-chaired HCAA’s young alumni ad hoc committee. Now a member of the HCAA board of directors, Troidle Jackson chaired the HCAA’s IT committee for two years. She has been a member of HCAA’s executive, budget and finance, nomina-

Come to the HCAA Dinner Sept. 16

Alumni, family and friends are invited to attend this annual gathering to honor the In Hoc Signo Award recipients and recognize the Patrick L. McCarthy ’63 Scholars—rising seniors who are children of alumni and who have demonstrated high academic achievement. For ticket or sponsorship information, call 508-793-2418 or visit http://offices.holycross.edu/alumni/events/hcaa
AnnMaura Connolly ‘86 is in the fight of her life. Her opponent: skeptics who don’t believe the federal government should invest in national and community service.

Fortunately, federal deficits and a budget-conscious Congress don’t easily scare Connolly, chief strategy officer and executive vice president of City Year, a nonprofit service agency that gives 17-to-24-year-olds the opportunity to learn leadership skills while performing community service.

“The House of Representatives passed a resolution that once again proposes to eliminate federal funding for national service organizations, and we’re working very hard to oppose it,” says Connolly, who is also president of Voices for National Service, a coalition of national, state and local service groups that aim to educate leaders about the value of national service. She’s currently serving as director of the Save Service Campaign (www.saveservice.org).

“Our leaders should be investing in national service programs, not eliminating funding for them,” she continues, adding that “The $1 billion invested by the federal government generates $800 million in matching dollars from the private sector and philanthropy. The return on that investment is extraordinary—not only does it engage citizens in rolling up their sleeves to create solutions to problems facing their communities, it also helps create pathways to work, teach marketable skills and help young people of all backgrounds go to college.”

City Year is one of the most well known national service organizations, operating in 21 U.S. cities and now London and Johannesburg, South Africa. The program pairs diverse teams of City Year AmeriCorps members with high-need public schools, where they serve as tutors, mentors and role models for one year. They also help organize after-school programs and school vacation camps. With a student dropping out of school every 26 seconds, according to the group’s website (cityyear.org), the group’s objective is clear: Keep at-risk kids in school. Since its creation in 1988, its corps members have served more than 1 million children.

But these programs don’t just help students—they also instill confidence and responsibility in the
young people who serve, Connolly says. Plus, private sector employers like to hire City Year workers, because they’ve demonstrated dependability and conscientiousness in their service work.

Connolly credits her family with teaching her the importance of social consciousness. “My grandmother, Clare Dowd, made us understand that our role on Earth is for others, not just worrying about ourselves. She was the kind of person who’d roll up her sleeves and dive in to do what needed to be done. Besides her civic work, she made time to connect with each of her 20 grandchildren.”

Clare’s husband, James “Skip” Dowd, attended Holy Cross as a member of the Class of 1910, and was later named to the Holy Cross Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a basketball standout, and his record of 12 field goals made in one game (set in 1909) was not broken until Bob Cousy ’50 surpassed it. In baseball, his pitching earned him the title “The Shutout King,” and brief stints playing with the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Cincinnati Reds.

Connolly’s father, Phil, who served with the National Security Agency for 39 years, “had an amazing ability to connect with people,” she says. “He taught me how to be a friend. And my mother [Ann] worked with hearing impaired students for much of her career. She is very involved in her parish community; at age 80, she’s still one of the leading lights of St. Pius X Parish in Bowie, Maryland.”

After graduating from Holy Cross with a degree in political science, Ann Maura Connolly joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, where she served at St. Anselm’s Immigrant and Refugee Center in Garden Grove, Calif. There, she ran a counseling program for refugees struggling to adapt to life in the United States. Returning to Washington in 1987, Connolly spent two decades endeavouring to build national service in this country, which included work as a senior leader at the Corporation for National and Community Service. She joined City Year as chief of staff in 2000, and then rose to senior vice president for global initiatives and strategic partnerships, and chief external affairs officer, before being named to her present position in 2010.

Connolly may have a funding fight before her, yet, at the time of our interview, she was looking forward to relaxing with friends at her 25th reunion back on the Hill, which took place in June. “Holy Cross is really where I learned how to write and think critically,” she recalls. “Every time I drive through those gates, it’s always inspiring.”

Q&A:

You enjoyed working in theater at Holy Cross. Who is your favorite playwright?

I love musicals, everything from the classic musicals of Lerner & Lowe to Rogers & Hammerstein to Gilbert & Sullivan. I was a member of the Alternate College Theatre, and I liked working behind the scenes. In my senior year, I was the stage manager for Anything Goes, the senior class show. Today, I love when I have the time to see a show.

What person from history would you most like to meet?

Mahatma Gandhi. I love his incredible, fierce relentless determination for justice, and his commitment to the way he achieved justice. I’d love to ask him, “How did you keep your cool through all those challenges?” Not only was he an incredible force for social justice, but he had a great sense of humor. I was reminded of that when I had the opportunity to meet South African President Nelson Mandela. When I looked into his eyes, there was no anger there. Here was a man who had spent 27 years in prison, yet he had an incredible sense of optimism about him.

What makes you angry?

Injustice.

What makes you happy?

My family and friends.

What is your guilty pleasure?

I love award shows. I watch all of them. Last year, I had the chance to attend the Screen Actors Guild award show, and it was fantastic.

THE CONNOLLY STAT BOX

Birthplace: Silver Spring, Md.
Residence: Chevy Chase, Md.
Birthday: Jan. 10, 1964
Family: Husband Bill Bonk; son Owen, 10
Pets: “Moose,” an Irish wolfhound/black lab mix
Generations of family associated with Holy Cross: Four

Q&A: You enjoyed working in theater at Holy Cross. Who is your favorite playwright?

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IN MEMORIAM

A Note about In Memoriam

Holy Cross Magazine publishes In Memoriam four times a year, in honor of College alumni, Trustees, students, employees and friends. Due to space constraints, obituary content is limited to an overview of an individual's life accomplishments, including service to alma mater, and a survivors' listing. Tributes appear in the order in which they are received; due to the volume of submissions and magazine deadlines, it may be several issues before they appear in print. For a list of recent deaths, visit offices.holycross.edu/alumni/services/memoriam. To notify the College of a death, please call the Alumni Office at (508) 793-3039 or send an e-mail to Karen Haney at khaney@holycross.edu, attaching a copy of a newspaper obituary, if available.

1938

James F. Bergin

James Bergin died Nov. 30, 2010, at his home in Shrewsbury, Mass., at 93. During his career, Mr. Bergin had practiced law for many years in Worcester and Shrewsbury. A veteran, he served in the Army during World War II. Mr. Bergin had been a Holy Cross class agent. He is survived by a nephew and two nieces.

1934

William T. DuPaul

William DuPaul died Dec. 23, 2010, in St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, at 97. During his career, Mr. DuPaul had worked at Galileo Electro-Optics in Sturbridge, Mass., prior to his retirement. He is survived by his wife, Carmela; a son; two daughters; a son-in-law; a daughter-in-law; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

1937

Harold E. McNaney

Harold McNaney, of Milford, Mass., died Dec. 12, 2010, in Uxbridge, Mass., at 96. Prior to his retirement, Mr. McNaney had been the New England district manager for Encyclopedia Britannica Educational Corporation-Film Division; previously, he was a district manager for Reader’s Digest-Educational Division. During World War II, Mr. McNaney worked for Pratt-Whitney, manufacturing aircraft engines. He was an active parishioner of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Milford and a member of the Bishop’s Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. Mr. McNaney is survived by a sister; and several nephews and nieces.

1941

William T. Ratigan

William Ratigan died Dec. 31, 2010, at his home in East Greenwich, R.I., at 91. A certified public accountant, Mr. Ratigan had worked 25 years for Arthur Young & Co. (later Ernst & Young), retiring as a principal. He subsequently served as an audit manager in the Office of the Rhode Island Auditor General. An Army veteran, Mr. Ratigan served in the Pacific theater during World War II. He had been a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. Ratigan was a parishioner of St. Francis de Sales Church in North Kingstown, R.I. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; four sons, including John J. ’79; a daughter; a son-in-law; four daughters-in-law; and 15 grandchildren.

1942

Robert B. Flynn

Robert Flynn died Dec. 30, 2010, at the Catholic Medical Center, Manchester, N.H., at 90. During his career, Mr. Flynn had been a store manager at Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward; from 1977 to 1979, he was proprietor of the Norwich (Vt.) Inn. Most recently a resident of Goffstown, N.H., Mr. Flynn had lived many

During his career, Mr. Grant had been the owner of the AA Driving School in West Palm Beach, Fla., for 45 years. Active in the local Chamber of Commerce, he also wrote a weekly political column for the Palm Beach Post. Prior to relocating to Florida, Mr. Grant toured the country for 10 years with his musical group the Jack Grant Trio. He is survived by a son; two daughters; a son-in-law; a daughter-in-law; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.
years in Milford, N.H., where he was treasurer of the quarry Owners Association. An active parishioner of St. Patrick Church in Milford, he more recently belonged to St. Catherine of Siena Church in Manchester. Mr. Flynn was an Army veteran, serving in the Pacific theater during World War II. He had been a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. Flynn is survived by his wife, Louise; a son; three daughters; three stepchildren; a sister; numerous grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

1943

Robert J. Duncan, M.D.

Robert Duncan, M.D., died Dec. 25, 2010, at his home in LaSalle, Ill., at 89. During his career, Dr. Duncan had maintained a private urological practice in LaSalle, from 1954 to 1987; he had been a staff member of several area hospitals, including St. Mary’s and Peoples. Involved in numerous professional and community organizations, Dr. Duncan was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons; diplomat of the American Board of Urology, past president of the LaSalle County Medical Society and a board director of LaSalle State Bank, among other affiliations. He was an active parishioner of St. Patrick’s Church. Dr. Duncan served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1946 to 1948. He is survived by his wife, Jane; a son; two daughters; and four grandchildren.

Clarence E. Emery Jr.

Clarence Emery died Dec. 30, 2010, at his home in Palm Coast, Fla., at 88. During his career, Mr. Emery served as an attorney for the Ford Motor Company in Michigan. He was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II. Born in Portland, Maine, Mr. Emery lived in Troy, Mich., prior to relocating to Florida 10 years ago. He had been a member of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Palm Coast. Mr. Emery is survived by his wife, Helen; five sons; five daughters; two sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; two brothers; 18 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

1945

Frederick C. Rozelle Jr.

Frederick Rozelle died Dec. 7, 2010, in Laconia, N.H., at 84. During his career, Mr. Rozelle had been a trust officer with the Old Colony Trust Company in Boston, which became part of the First National Bank of Boston; he retired in 1980 as a senior vice president. Attending Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, before pursuing his naval science degree at Holy Cross, Mr. Rozelle became a Navy officer after graduation and served in Guam during World War II; he subsequently earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering at Yale University in New Haven, Conn. At the start of his career, Mr. Rozelle worked for the John C. Paige Insurance Agency in Portland, Maine, and, then, relocated to Winchester, Mass., where he was instrumental in establishing a chapter of A Better Chance (ABC)—an educational opportunities program for inner city youth—and served as a deacon in the First Congregational Church of Winchester. Later, as a resident of Center Sandwich, N.H., Mr. Rozelle participated on several town boards and continued his participation on the boards of numerous educational and service institutions, including the Andover Newton Theological Seminary, Newton Centre, Mass., and the Spaulding Youth Center in New Hampshire. He is survived by two sons; two daughters; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

1947

Dominic G. DeSimone

Dominic DeSimone died Jan. 10, 2011, at the Lyons (N.J.) VA Medical Center, at 89. An employee of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company for more than 30 years, Mr. DeSimone, upon retirement, worked for the Eastern Savings Bank in Salem, Mass. A decorated Navy veteran, he served as an ensign in the Pacific theater during World War II. Mr. DeSimone had been a longtime resident of Lynn, Mass. He is survived by a daughter; a son-in-law; and his former wife, Marion.

1949

William G. Gallagher

William Gallagher died Dec. 4, 2010, at his home in Riverside, Conn. During his career, Mr. Gallagher had been involved in the municipal bond business for 45 years, serving as a marketing
officer at Vance Sanders/Massachusetts Investors Trust, Chemical Bank and MBIA. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a son; and a daughter.

Edgar L. Kelley
Edgar Kelley, of Boxford, Mass., died Jan. 1, 2011, at 82. A graduate of Boston College Law School, Mr. Kelley had served as an associate with the firm Hale, Sanderson, Byrnes & Morton before entering into private practice. Early in his career, he had been an assistant U.S. attorney under former Massachusetts Attorney General Francis Bellotti. A veteran, Mr. Kelley served as legal officer, lieutenant junior grade, aboard the USS Salem, during the Korean War. He had been active in the Catholic Church, national and local politics, and veterans groups. Mr. Kelley was a founder of the W.B. Yeats Foundation in Ireland and New York City. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. Mr. Kelley is survived by his wife, Martha; a son; four daughters; a son-in-law; a sister; two brothers-in-law; a sister-in-law; three grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

George B. Loan, M.D.
George B. Loan, M.D., of Essexville, Mich., died Dec. 10, 2010, in Bay Regional Medical Center, Bay City, Mich., at 84. A longtime physician, Dr. Loan began his career as a general practitioner in Monroe, Ohio, from 1953 to 1966, and subsequently, served 27 years with the Essexville Family Practice. From 1992 to 2006, Dr. Loan held the post of medical director at the Bay Medical Care Facility in Essexville. He had been a Navy veteran of World War II. Dr. Loan was a member of numerous professional associations, including the Michigan State Medical Society, and a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Church in Essexville. He is survived by his wife, Katharyn; two sons; three daughters; their spouses; and 11 grandchildren.

1950
Joseph F. Fidler Jr.
Joseph Fidler died Dec. 21, 2010, in Tufts Medical Center, Boston, at 82. A 1956 graduate of Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Mass., Mr. Fidler had been a trial attorney for the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for 34 years, retiring in 1990 as assistant New England division general attorney. He was a former member of the American, Massachusetts and Boston bar associations, a board member of the “Life after Liberty” retirees’ volunteer group, and a member of the Liberty Mutual Quarter Century Club. A 50-year resident of Milton, Mass., Mr. Fidler had been an active parishioner of St. Agatha Church, participating in its pre-Cana program and serving as a Eucharistic Minister. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War. Mr. Fidler’s interests included tennis, bowling, bike trips and international travel. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. Mr. Fidler is survived by his wife, Betty; two sons; two daughters, including Katherine Fidler Dowd ’83; two sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; a sister; and 10 grandchildren.

Francis J. Rivers
Francis Rivers died Jan. 10, 2011, at his home in Framingham, Mass., at 80. During his career, Mr. Rivers taught French and Latin in Millis and Wayland, Mass.; he later retired from Newton (Mass.) South High School and, subsequently, worked as a columnist for the MetroWest Daily News in Framingham. Mr. Rivers was a Navy veteran of the Korean War. He had been a member of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church in Framingham. Mr. Rivers is survived by his wife, Louise; three sons; and a daughter.

1951
Francis H. Maloney
Francis Maloney died Dec. 11, 2010, at his home in Basking Ridge, N.J., at 81. During his career, Mr. Maloney had been a sales executive with the National Starch and Chemical Co. He served as an officer in the Navy from 1951 to 1954. Mr. Maloney is survived by his wife, Nancy; two sons, including Denis J. ’75; three daughters; and 11 grandchildren.

William F. McAuliffe
William McAuliffe, formerly of San Diego, died Feb. 8, 2011, in the Notre Dame Long Term Care Center, Worcester, at 81. During his career, Mr. McAuliffe had been a social worker for many years in San Diego. Receiving his master’s degree in social work in 1971 from San Diego State University, he had held various positions with healthcare organizations, including the Centre City Hospital and Harbor View Medical Center; prior to his retirement, he worked for the San Diego County Probate Court. Entering the Paulist Fathers Novitiate in 1955, Mr. McAuliffe was ordained a priest in 1961; he served as a campus chaplain at the University of Texas in Austin, from 1961 to 1966, and at the University of California, San Diego, from 1967 to 1971. A member of the Navy ROTC program at Holy Cross, Mr. McAuliffe was commissioned an ensign in the Navy upon graduation; he served as a lieutenant junior grade and gunnery department head aboard the destroyer USS Rooks and participated in carrier task force operations during the Korean War. He had been an avid rower and a marathon runner. Mr. McAuliffe is survived by two brothers, including John E., D.D.S., ’45; two sisters; and four nephews, including Timothy J. O’Malley ’80, six nieces, and their families.

Thomas J. McMahon
Thomas McMahon, of Walpole, Mass., died Feb. 6, 2011, at 81. A graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., Mr. McMahon was a professor of law emeritus at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. Earlier in his career, he had been a trademark attorney for the Gillette Co., Gulf Oil Corp. and American Cyanamid. Joining the Navy during the Korean War, Mr. McMahon retired as a captain in the Judge Advocate General Corps. He is survived by his wife, Alcida; a son; three daughters; three sons-in-law; a daughter-in-law; a brother, Gerald P. ’57; and 13 grandchildren.

Richard E. Cormier
Richard Cormier, a longtime resident of Shrewsbury, Mass., died Nov. 26, 2010, at the Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Worcester, at 80. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Cormier had worked for Koopman Lumber in Whitinsville, Mass., as a kitchen specialist; previously, he owned and operated the Casual Kitchen store in Shrewsbury. During his career, Mr. Cormier had also been active in civic affairs and a parishioner of St. Mary’s Parish in Shrewsbury. He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War. Mr. Cormier is survived by two sons; a daughter-in-law; a brother; three sisters; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Robert E. Fair
Robert Fair, of Natick and Centerville, Mass., died Jan. 24, 2011, at his home in Natick. Active for many years in the insurance industry, Mr. Fair had worked for New York Life before joining his family at Fair & Yeager Insurance in Natick; he subsequently founded the Fair Insurance Agency in Centerville. A Navy veteran, Mr. Fair had been stationed at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Key West, Fla.; he was the recipient of the National Defense
Service Medal Ribbon. Mr. Fair was a lifelong, active member of St. Patrick's Parish in Natick and Our Lady of Victory Church in Centerville. A member of the College hockey team, he had served as a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. Fair is survived by his wife, Doris; three sons, including James G., ‘88; three daughters; three sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; four brothers-in-law; three sisters-in-law; and numerous nephews and nieces. His brother was the late Arthur B. Jr. ‘49.

**John W. Keib**

John Keib, of DeWitt, N.Y., died Dec. 18, 2010, in Crouse Hospital, Syracuse, N.Y., at 80. A 1955 graduate of Cornell University Law School, Ithaca, N.Y., Mr. Keib worked his entire career for the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, serving as associate general counsel and, also, as an officer of the corporation. A Little League coach for 10 years in DeWitt, Mr. Keib enjoyed hunting and fishing at his summer home at Campbell’s Point on Lake Ontario. He was a past president of the Holy Cross Club of Central New York. Mr. Keib is survived by his wife, Marion “Peggie”; a son; four daughters; four sons-in-law; a daughter-in-law; and 15 grandchildren.

**Richard J. Lavin**

Richard Lavin, of Leominster, Mass., and Popponesset Beach, Mashpee, Mass., died on Dec. 23, 2010. An educator and consultant during his career, Mr. Lavin was the founder and executive director of the Merrimack Education Center, Chelmsford, Mass., where he worked for 26 years, retiring in 1993. He also taught graduate courses at Boston College and Boston University and assisted Fitchburg (Mass.) State College—now Fitchburg State University—in expanding its field-based graduate education programs for educators in Massachusetts school districts. Mr. Lavin first worked as a business manager for the athletic department at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., and served as assistant superintendent of the Wayland (Mass.) Public Schools. His involvement in professional associations included serving as the first president of the Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives and as president of the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials. A Navy veteran of the Korean War, Mr. Lavin served as an officer aboard the destroyer escort USS George E. Davis. He is survived by four daughters, including Patricia C. Roberts ’81; three sons-in-law; a brother; two sisters; a sister-in-law; and four grandchildren.

**T. Lawrence O’Connell**

Timothy “Larry” O’Connell died Feb. 7, 2011, in UMass Memorial Medical Center–University Campus, at 80. A Realtor for more than 50 years, Mr. O’Connell had been the owner of Larry O’Connell Real Estate, which was established in the early 1960s. He served as an administrative assistant in the Army Medical Corps during the Korean War. Mr. O’Connell was a longtime, active member of Blessed Sacrament Church in Worcester. He had been a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. O’Connell is survived by his wife, Nancy; three sons; two daughters; a son-in-law; and three grandsons.

**Arthur A. Weller, D.D.S.**

Dr. Weller had practiced dentistry in Neptune, N.J., from 1960 until 1984. He had served as a first lieutenant in the Army. Dr. Weller’s interests included community theater, short story writing, Little League baseball and gardening. He is survived by his wife, Carol; a son, two daughters, and their families; and his wife Carol’s three children and their families.

**Michel H. Berthier**

Michel Berthier died Nov. 23, 2010, at 78. During his career, Mr. Berthier had served as an international corporate lawyer with IBM, AMC and GTE. He is survived by Denise Berthier; his daughter; Catherine Berthier; and Patricia Chappell.

**Rev. George L. O’Brien**

Rev. George O’Brien, longtime director of the Development Office at Holy Cross, died Feb. 15, 2011, at St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, at 78. Ordained to the priesthood in 1958, Fr. O’Brien served as associate pastor of several parishes in the Worcester diocese: St. Mary’s in Grafton, 1958; St. Augustine in Millville, 1959; St. Leo’s in Leominster, 1960-65; St. Joseph’s in Auburn, 1965-69; and Our Lady of Good Counsel, West Boylston, 1969-73. In 1971, he was awarded the Pro Deo et Juventute Medal by the National Catholic Youth Association. Subsequently serving on the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal, Fr. O’Brien became the director of development at Holy Cross in 1976. During his 18-year tenure, he oversaw fundraising efforts and, also, served as chaplain to the College football and basketball teams. Recipient of the Matthew P. Cavanaugh Medal for Outstanding Class Chair, Fr. O’Brien was honored last fall by the Holy Cross Alumni Association with its In Hoc Signo Award. Twice named “Crusader of the Year” by the Holy Cross Club of Greater Worcester, he had been an active member as well in the Holy Cross Club of Cape Cod. Fr. O’Brien returned to parish work in 1994, becoming the pastor of Holy Cross Church in East Templeton, Mass.; following his retirement in 2006, he relocated to South Yarmouth, Mass., where he assisted at St. Pius X Parish and served on the boards of its elementary school and Pope John Paul II High School in Hyannis, Mass. A past trustee of Notre Dame.
Dame Academy in Worcester and St. John’s High School in Shrewsbury, Mass. Fr. O’Brien had been a member of the Canon Law Society of America and past president of the Vatican Philatelic Society. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. Fr. O’Brien is survived by an aunt; and several cousins.

1955

J. Neill Kennedy, M.D.
J. Neill Kennedy, M.D., died Dec. 10, 2010, at his home in Chevy Chase, Md., at 77. A longtime physician, Dr. Kennedy had recently retired from his practice with the Internal Medicine Center of Chevy Chase. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne; a son; a daughter; a brother; two sisters; a brother-in-law; three daughters; their spouses; a brother-in-law; a sister-in-law; and many nephews and nieces.

Francis D. Nelen, D.M.D.
Francis Nelen, D.M.D., died Jan. 10, 2011, at his home in South Hadley, Mass., at 77. Dr. Nelen had practiced dentistry in South Hadley for many years, retiring in 2002. His professional and community involvement included serving as president of the Valley District Dental Society and chairman of the South Hadley Board of Health; following retirement, he volunteered with the South Hadley Council on Aging. Dr. Nelen had also been active in local and state politics. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; two sons; three daughters; their spouses; a brother; a sister; a brother-in-law; and 11 grandchildren.

1956

Donald E. Kennedy
Donald Kennedy died Dec. 12, 2010, at his home in East Greenwich, R.I., at 76. Active in the jewelry industry during his career, Mr. Kennedy had been a business owner and an outside representative. A retired Navy commander, he served eight years as a pilot. Mr. Kennedy is survived by his wife, Judith; two sons; four daughters; three sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; a sister; and 14 grandchildren.

Edward N. Koppen
Edward Koppen, of Smithfield, R.I., died Nov. 21, 2010, at 77. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Koppen had worked for many years as a salesman. He was previously a resident of Cumberland, R.I., and Old Saybrook, Conn. Mr. Koppen is survived by two sons; two daughters-in-law; and five grandchildren.

Rev. Donald L. Larkin, S.J.
Rev. Donald Larkin, S.J., most recently of Weston, Mass., died Jan. 20, 2011, at 76. Fr. Larkin had served many years as a missionary in Jamaica, West Indies. He is survived by a brother; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins.

John D. Quine
John Quine died Feb. 2, 2011, at his home in Meriden, Conn., at 76. During his career, Mr. Quine worked for Utica Mutual and Xerox Corporation and, later, started Quine Printing, Inc. A former mayor of Meriden and longtime member of the City Council, he served on numerous city boards as well as the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Quine was a past chairman of the Republican Town Committee and an active member of many civic organizations, including the Rotary Club of Meriden. An Air Force veteran, he flew B-47 jet bombers as an officer in the Strategic Air Command during the Cold War. Mr. Quine had been a member of Ducks Unlimited and the Appalachian Mountain Club. He is survived by his wife, Sandy; three daughters; three sons-in-law; a brother; a sister-in-law; and six grandchildren.

Malcolm E. Quinn
Malcolm Quinn, of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., died Dec. 8, 2010, at St. Peter’s Hospital in Albany, N.Y., at 76. During his career, Mr. Quinn had taught science at Saratoga Springs High School—and, for many years, was employed by the New York State Department of Civil Service in Albany. Later, he was the proprietor of Old Smoke in Saratoga Springs. Mr. Quinn had served as a lieutenant junior grade in the Navy. An avid skier, he worked several seasons at Killington (Vt.) Resort. Mr. Quinn was a lifelong parishioner of the Church of St. Peter in Saratoga Springs. He is survived by his longtime companion, Phyllis Gardiner; three brothers; three sisters-in-law; numerous nephews and nieces; four grandnephews and grandnieces; and many cousins.

1957

J. Michael Doherty
J. Michael Doherty, of Mount Lebanon, Pa., died Jan. 20, 2011, at 75. A graduate of the Duquesne University School of Law, Mr. Doherty had been a practicing attorney for 40 years in Pittsburgh and a longtime member of St. Bernard Church, where he served as a priest. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; three sons, including Gerard M., M.D., ’82; three daughters; three sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law, including Faith E., ’82; two brothers; 15 grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

John J. Downs
John Downs, formerly of Montpelier, Vt., died Feb. 7, 2011, at 75. During his career, Mr. Downs had worked for the New England Life Insurance Co., and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Massachusetts, where he served as assistant vice president, actuarial and underwriting. Subsequently joining M & R Services—which was affiliated with Milliman & Robertson Consulting Actuaries in Seattle—as executive director of administration and systems, Cape Cod, Mass., Mr. Downs worked for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health in the late 1990s as a capital projects coordinator. He had served with the Vermont National Guard and, also, in the Army. Mr. Downs is survived by his wife, Valerie; three daughters; two sons-in-law; and five grandchildren.

James J. Haggerty
James Haggerty, of Dunmore, Pa., died Feb. 8, 2011, in Naples, Fla., at 74. A longtime attorney in Scranton, Pa., Mr. Haggerty had most recently been a partner in the firm Haggerty, McDonnell & Hinton. Receiving his juris doctor degree from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., in 1960, he served as a law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge William J. Nealon prior to opening a law firm with Robert P. Casey ’53 and Frank McDonnell in 1965; the firm later became Haggerty, McDonnell & O’Brien. During his career, Mr. Haggerty had also served as secretary of the commonwealth under then Pennsylvania governor, Robert Casey, from 1987 to 1989, and, as general counsel of the commonwealth, from 1989 to 1993. Involved in numerous professional and community affairs, he was a past president of the Lackawanna County Bar Association, member of the board of trustees of the University of Scranton and Scranton Preparatory School, and a board director of the First National Community Bank, among other responsibilities. An Army veteran, Mr. Haggerty served as a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard and the Army Reserve. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross and a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. Haggerty is survived by his wife, Cecelia, a former Holy Cross Trustee; three sons, including Daniel P. ’97;
four daughters, including Jean H. McGrath ’89; their spouses; 18 grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

1960

John F. Downs

John Downs died Feb. 13, 2011, at his home in Bridgewater, Mass., at 71. A teacher at Stoughton (Mass.) High School for 30 years, Mr. Downs subsequently taught 10 years at Cardinal Spellman High School in Brockton, Mass., prior to his retirement last October; he was also an assistant football coach for several years at Stoughton High School. A veteran, Mr. Downs served in the Navy from 1960 to 1962. He is survived by his wife, Jill; two sons; a daughter; three brothers, Charles E. Jr. ’58, Michael P. ’61 and Timothy ’66; a sister; and many nephews and nieces. His father was the late Charles E. ’30 and his brother was the late Jerome F. ’59.

1961

Earl C. Francis

Earl Francis died Dec. 4, 2010, at the Delaware Hospice Center, Milford, at 73. During his career, Mr. Francis had worked for the L.D. Caulk Company in Milford, retiring as the director of operations. He was an active parishioner of St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Milford and a founding board member of St. Thomas More Preparatory School in Delaware; Mr. Francis was honored with the Bishop Michael A. Saltarelli Community Service Award. He received his master’s degree in chemistry from Holy Cross in 1964. Mr. Francis is survived by his wife, Kathryn; three daughters; three sons-in-law; a brother; two sisters-in-law; 10 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

1962

John S. Power

John Power, of Sea Girt, N.J., died Jan. 26, 2011, at 71. A graduate of the Fordham University School of Law in New York City, Mr. Power had served many years as an attorney in New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Leslie; a son; four daughters, including Katherine W. Power ’05; a brother; a sister; and seven grandchildren.

1963

Robert J. Barile

Robert Barile died Dec. 19, 2010, in the Shore Memorial Hospital, Somers Point, N.J., at 69. During his career, Mr. Barile had worked 35 years as a project development manager for the Bayer Corp. in Spartanburg, S.C., retiring in 2002. He was a 30-year resident of Marion, N.J. Mr. Barile received his master’s degree in chemistry from Holy Cross in 1964. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; two daughters; two sons-in-law; two sisters; a brother-in-law; and four grandchildren.

James J. Vanecko

James Vanecko died Jan. 19, 2011, at 69. A sociologist, an educator, a marketing executive and an entrepreneur during his career, Mr. Vanecko had taught at Brown University in Providence, R.I., and at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; he also managed the education division of Abt Associates Inc., in Cambridge, Mass., and served as deputy assistant secretary for education policy development with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare during the Carter administration. Mr. Vanecko was co-author of two books, The Politics of Desegregation and Who Benefits from Federal Education Dollars? Starting Abt Associates in Boston in 1982, he joined John Hancock Financial Services in 1987 as manager of customer relationship marketing. In 1994, Mr. Vanecko became the founding president of Advanced Integrated Marketing, which provided strategic consulting and data systems to corporate, financial and university clients. Also involved in the journalism field, he served as a consultant to the Gallup Poll and other polling organizations and conducted election polling for several regional news organizations. Mr. Vanecko had been an executive, a board member and an adviser in telecommunications and publishing startups. A member of various boards, including the Handel and Haydn Society in Boston and the Boston Lyric Opera, he had served as a trustee of the Center for National Policy in Washington, D.C., among other organizations. Receiving his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago, he began his career working at the university’s National Opinion Research Center. Mr. Vanecko is survived by his wife, Ellen; two sons; a daughter-in-law; a stepdaughter; three brothers; two sisters-in-law; a grandson; and many nephews and nieces.
1964

Joseph R. Martin

Joseph Martin, of Yonkers, N.Y., died Nov. 9, 2010, at 68. Mr. Martin had worked more than 20 years for the Westchester County (N.Y.) Department of Probation, beginning his tenure as a probation officer and retiring as an assistant commissioner. At the start of his career, he taught six years at Sacred Heart High School in Yonkers and served in the Westchester County Legislature from 1972 to 1973. Mr. Martin received his bachelor's degree from SUNY-Albany. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. Mr. Martin's interests included tennis, numismatics, the Civil War and international travel. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; a stepson; a stepdaughter; two sisters; a brother-in-law; three nephews; two nieces; and a grandnephew.

1973

David J. Bouffard

David Bouffard, of Geneva, Switzerland, died Dec. 15, 2010, at 59. A public relations executive and journalist, Mr. Bouffard most recently served eight years as the European director of communications for Alcoa. Previously, he worked six years for the Hewlett-Packard (HP) Company as the public relations manager for Europe, and, for two years, as a corporate public relations consultant for HP, based in Palo Alto, Calif. Earlier, Mr. Bouffard had served 10 years in public relations with the Digital Equipment Corporation, working in its Maynard, Mass., and Palo Alto, offices. He had been a member of the rugby team at Holy Cross. Mr. Bouffard's interests included tennis, music and writing. He is survived by his wife, Maria-Teresa Lopez Bouffard; his parents; two brothers; two sisters; and several nephews and nieces.

1967

John W. Craddock Jr.

John Craddock, most recently of Cornelius, N.C., died Jan. 3, 2011, in Huntersville, N.C., at 65. During his career, Mr. Craddock had worked many years for Philips Respironics as a senior sales representative in Southern California. An Air Force captain in Vietnam, he was awarded a Bronze Star.

Mr. Craddock is survived by his wife, Deborah; a stepson; a stepdaughter; two sisters; a brother-in-law; three nephews; two nieces; and a grandnephew.

1975

James M. Connor

James Connor, of Walden, N.Y., died Aug. 6, 2010, at the Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, N.Y., at 57. During his career, Mr. Connor had been a supervisor for Suburban Sprinkler and Irrigation in Elmwood Park, N.J. He is survived by his wife, Judy; three daughters and their families; five sisters; two grandchildren; and nephews and nieces.

1974

John B. Sheehan, M.D.

John Sheehan, M.D., of Holyoke, Mass., died in January 2011, at 58. During his career, Dr. Sheehan had practiced medicine in Combing, N.Y., as well as Worcester, Webster, Northampton and Leominster, Mass. He had been an active member of the John Boyle O’Reilly Club in Springfield, Mass. His interests included Irish music, gardening, reading and wildlife. Dr. Sheehan is survived by his wife, Karen; his mother; his mother-in-law and her husband; two daughters; a son-in-law; three brothers; a sister; and a grandchild.

1986

David J. Prior

David Prior died Feb. 12, 2011, at 46. A graduate of the Pace University School of Law in White Plains, N.Y., Mr. Prior was a career public servant, working as an attorney with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority since 2001. He had been a member of St. Thomas Parish in Delmar, N.Y., and a communicant at St. Francis Chapel in Albany, N.Y. Mr. Prior is survived by his fiancée, Christine Festini; two sons; Christine’s daughter; his parents; three brothers; a sister, Marianne T. Prior Boyer ’88; a brother-in-law; three sisters-in-law; and many nephews and nieces.

1995

Maj. Matthew P. Burke, M.D., USA

Maj. Matthew Burke, M.D., USA, died in the line of duty on Feb. 6, 2011, at the Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Ga., at 38. He was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on March 30, 2011. After being commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army in 1997, Dr. Burke received his Medical degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., in 2003; he completed training rotations at several locations, including Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, and Eisenhower Army Medical Center. Decorated for his service during a tour of duty at Al Asad Air Force Base in Iraq, Dr. Burke returned to the Eisenhower Army Medical Center, where he was serving as the chief of adult joint reconstruction for the orthopaedic surgery service. A diplomat of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, Dr. Burke completed subspecialty fellowship training in total joint arthroplasty at the Stanford University School of Medicine in Palo Alto, Calif. He majored in physics at Holy Cross, with a concentration in premedical studies. Dr. Burke was a member of the varsity crew team that competed at the Henley Royal Regatta on the
River Thames; the crew program recognized his passing by naming a boat in his honor at a dedication on April 23, 2011. Dr. Burke worked in medical research laboratories in Utah and Texas before entering medical school. Also an accomplished skier, cyclist and wakeboarder, he was a three-time participant in the RAGBRAI bicycle tour in Iowa.

Dr. Burke had been a Holy Cross class agent. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie; daughter Anna; his parents; his parents-in-law; two brothers, including Paul C. ’93; a sister; two sisters-in-law; three uncles, including Rev. Robert L. Keane, S.J. (Holy Cross faculty, 1986–89); an aunt; and nephew Matthew John.

2005

Elizabeth M. (Desmond) McKee

Elizabeth McKee, of Mayer, Ariz., died Jan. 22, 2011, at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, at 28. During her career, Mrs. McKee taught with her husband at The Orme School in Arizona. Born and raised in Maine, she was a graduate of Portland High School, where she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she was notified Holy Cross Magazine that Columbia magazine, a publication of the Knights of Columbus, selected the late Rev. Joseph T. O’Callahan, S.J., as “Catholic Man of the Month,” for its March 2011 edition. A World War II Navy chaplain, Fr. O’Callahan was serving aboard the USS Franklin during an attack off the Japanese coast on March 19, 1945. For his valor and heroic action during the attack, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. The first military chaplain to receive this honor since the Civil War. Fr. O’Callahan taught mathematics, physics and philosophy at Holy Cross before and after the war.

Elizabeth McKee, of Mayer, Ariz., died Jan. 22, 2011, at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, at 28. During her career, Mrs. McKee taught with her husband at The Orme School in Arizona. Born and raised in Maine, she was a graduate of Portland High School, where she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she was notified Holy Cross Magazine that Columbia magazine, a publication of the Knights of Columbus, selected the late Rev. Joseph T. O’Callahan, S.J., as “Catholic Man of the Month,” for its March 2011 edition. A World War II Navy chaplain, Fr. O’Callahan was serving aboard the USS Franklin during an attack off the Japanese coast on March 19, 1945. For his valor and heroic action during the attack, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. The first military chaplain to receive this honor since the Civil War. Fr. O’Callahan taught mathematics, physics and philosophy at Holy Cross before and after the war.

OF NOTE

William A. “Bill” Loughlin ’51 notified Holy Cross Magazine that Columbia magazine, a publication of the Knights of Columbus, selected the late Rev. Joseph T. O’Callahan, S.J., as “Catholic Man of the Month,” for its March 2011 edition. A World War II Navy chaplain, Fr. O’Callahan was serving aboard the USS Franklin during an attack off the Japanese coast on March 19, 1945. For his valor and heroic action during the attack, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. The first military chaplain to receive this honor since the Civil War. Fr. O’Callahan taught mathematics, physics and philosophy at Holy Cross before and after the war.

FRIENDS:

William Allen, brother of Robert, information technology services; Dulce Alvarez, mother of Isabel Alvarez Boriland, Spanish department; Edith Adcroft Bell, mother of James F. Bell III ‘63 and grandmother of Aimée R. Bell ’88; Joan McHale Bemers, wife of Edgar D. ’49; Thomas "Tom" Boisr, former Holy Cross coach and father of David M. ’82; Anthony Gabriel Brescia-Cornell, son of Brian J. Cornell ’72; Maj. David L. Brodeur, USAF, son of Lawrence A. ’71; Constance S. Carlton, mother of Robert T. Jr. ’71 and Marianne ’77, and grandmother of Martha Ryan Carlton ’02 and Mary Valentine Carlton ’12; Paul J. Centi, formerly of the counseling center; Susan Cole, purchasing department; Rita Rosemarie (Guira) Collins, wife of the late Francis J. ’39, mother of Michael F. M., M.D., ’77 and J. Christopher ’80, mother-in-law of Catherine Z. ’80, and grandmother of Michael F. Jr. ‘07, Christopher J. ’08, Elizabeth M. ’09, Meaghan M. ’10 and Micaela T. ’12; Robert L. Coveney, brother of Paul F. ’55, and uncle of Paul F. “Chip” II ’85 and Denise M. Prior ’86; Peggy Cutler, sister of Paula Sylvestri, information technology services; Martha Rowden Doherty, wife of Francis J. Jr. ’53 and mother of Ann E. Smith ’83; Simonne Domina, mother of Neil, Hogan dining; Patricia Doney, mother of Therese Kars, purchasing department; Edwin P. Dow, friend of the College; Mary Erin Moran Drescoli, former College dietitian and mother of F. Paul Drescoli ’76; daughter of the late George B. Moran Sr. ’19(06), former head of Kimball Dining Hall, sister of the late George B. Moran Jr. ’43 and the late Paul N. Moran ’48, sister-in-law of the late Charles A. Polachi Sr. ’43, aunt of George B. Moran III ’71; Charles A. Polachi ’75; Peter V. Polachi ’77, Steven F. Polachi ’78, Sheila Moran Maloy ’80 and Elizabeth T. Moran ’82, and grand-aunt of Charles A. Polachi III ’05, Neala F. Polachi ’07 and Christina E. Polachi ’11; James T. Dwyer III, husband of Carolyn J. Reilly ’86, son-in-law of John J. Reilly ’55, and brother-in-law of Paul J. Reilly ’88 and Susan E. Reilly ’91; Dennis P. Farrell Jr., brother of Kelly Farrell Dunn ’87, Mary Beth Carion ’89 and Jennifer Polisner ’98; James J. Fennell, father of James F., environmental services; Patricia Dodge Finn, wife of Charles J. ’62; Anne “Nancy” Flynn, Registrar’s Office and Music Library, retired, and wife of James Flynn, retired, history department; Peggy J. Furey, wife of Vincent E. J. ’61 and mother of Kristin Furey Graffam ’94; Leonard S. “Lenny” Gabrila, public safety; John F.R. Gleason, M.D., father of Marie Gleason, D.D.S., ’77 and Anna Marie Durkin ’79, and grandfather of Loyola Pasiewicz ’08; Joseph Heille, father of Paula Gerardi, nursing; Nancy (MacMillan) Higgins, wife of John G. ’53, mother of mother of Michael J. ’73 and grandmother of Mary H. Karlon ’85; Mary Beth Carion ’89; Joan McHale Bemers, wife of the late Edward S., M.D., ’74 and grandfather of Edward W. Kulesza, father of the late Edward S., M.D., ’74 and grandfather of Edward W. Jr. ’03; Mabel L. Lang Hon. ’75; Frederick C. Laske, father of Allison, academic services and learning resources; Sue Ellen Levesque, formerly, human resources; Joanne M. Lofts, mother of Rev. Kenneth G. Lofts, S.J., ’74; Phyllis MacWilliams, mother of Susan MacWilliams Hamilton ’02; Jack Maher, father of Maureen E. ’91; James F. McNamara, grandfather of James P. ’97; John H. Merz, father of James P. ’70; John H. Merz, father of Maureen E. ’91; James F. McNamara, grandfather of James P. ’97; John H. Merz, father of Janice (Merz) Lettick ’78; Jeanne M. Mortenson, mother of Timothy J. ’78; Frieda Muccigrosso, wife of Michael G. ’67; Eleanor I. (Sheridan) Murphy, wife of William T. Jr. ’71, Elizabeth Stevens Murdy ’81 and Kathryn Stevens McCormack ’91, and mother-in-law of Christopher G. McCormack ’91; Helen Tierney, wife of Michael J. ’73; Marion F. (Quinn) White, wife of the late Irving F. Jr. ’41, and mother of Robert F. ’67, Thomas I. ’69 and Judith A. ’77.


Elizabeth McKee, of Mayer, Ariz., died Jan. 22, 2011, at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, at 28. During her career, Mrs. McKee taught with her husband at The Orme School in Arizona. Born and raised in Maine, she was a graduate of Portland High School, where she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she had been a standout athlete and class president. A history and English double major at Holy Cross, she was notified Holy Cross Magazine that Columbia magazine, a publication of the Knights of Columbus, selected the late Rev. Joseph T. O’Callahan, S.J., as “Catholic Man of the Month,” for its March 2011 edition. A World War II Navy chaplain, Fr. O’Callahan was serving aboard the USS Franklin during an attack off the Japanese coast on March 19, 1945. For his valor and heroic action during the attack, he was awarded the Medal of Honor. The first military chaplain to receive this honor since the Civil War. Fr. O’Callahan taught mathematics, physics and philosophy at Holy Cross before and after the war.
Sacrificing Paradise

Nora Leon was born on May 28, 1940, in Havana, Cuba. Her father, Bernardo Leon, was a respected pharmacist in the capital city. His work provided him, his wife and their two daughters with an upper middle class lifestyle.

My interview with Nora, my grandmother, whom I call “Aba,” would cover years of pain and betrayal as she described losing her childhood “paradise” like so many of her fellow Cuban exiles.

In 1953 the rebel Fidel Castro began what was supposed to be a democratic revolution against Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista—Castro garnered strong support throughout the island. “At that time, the government would arrest you for anything and charge you as an enemy of the state;” my grandmother recalls, adding, “I was already in college, the heart of the revolutionary movement, and a group of us students went to hide communications and information regarding the revolution in a friend’s backyard.”

Aba’s father was also actively involved in the revolution, hiding arms in his pharmacies across the island and providing medical care to the fighters. Both knew it was dangerous work: “A close family friend in Batista’s government advised my father, ‘Do not get further involved, we know what you are doing. When they come get you I will not be able to help you and you will not be saved.’”

After a six-year struggle, on New Year’s Eve 1959, Fidel’s revolutionary forces toppled Batista’s government and “Fidelistas” (Castro’s supporters) marched to the Malecon (Old Havana’s historic seawall) and welcomed their new hero. “I remember seeing him right there in front of me, next to El Che Guevara,” my grandmother says, “with their long hair and their beards, they were the messias!”

But within six months of taking power, Castro morphed into a dictator himself, aligning with Communism. The Leon family and many of their friends joined the counter-revolution.

For Aba, “It was one thing to be a revolutionary, but a totally different thing to be a Communist. We were not going to stand by and let Fidel confiscate private property, censor free speech, cancel the elections or sell the island’s soul to the Soviet Union.”

Attempts to overthrow Castro failed, and after he closed all the universities and began to persecute Cuban nationals for “almost anything,” the Leons left the island for a visit to New York City, not knowing they would never return to their homeland. They became exiles.

“I arrived to America with a tourist visa,” Aba says. “I had ten dollars and a change of clothes—that’s all the militia would let me take from the island.”

Today, my grandmother finds fulfillment and satisfaction in knowing that after a few months of arriving in a foreign country, she found herself a job at a shoe factory. She worked hard, and vowed that her new political freedom would not come at the price of poverty.

As my 71-year-old grandmother reminisces about her childhood, I feel the lightly freckled girl she once was entering our conversation. She shares memories of her family’s beach house, and of music and art where the waves meet the sand. Her childhood in Cuba was “sana, sana, sana,” she says: wholesome. Before Castro, Aba notes, Cuba ranked third in life expectancy, had a high literacy rate, a thriving middle class and held the promise of prosperity. “But simply put,” she adds, “we just wanted a democracy!”

When asked whether she would return to Cuba if she lives to witness the destruction of the Castro dictatorship, now in the hands of Fidel’s brother, Raul, Aba says no. She doesn’t need to. “Before I left Cuba, my father told me my blue eyes will always carry the beauty of the island’s water,” she says. “And that is testament enough to the Cuba we left behind.”

With pride, those final words resonate with me, and I contemplate my grandmother’s courage and struggle. She knows the price of sacrificing her paradise for ideologies, and she has helped me begin to comprehend how the fulfillment of political freedom and dignity transcend human struggle. Aba tells me, “Look at how good we turned out ... we sacrificed, but it was worth it.”
Lindsey Tonge '11 led the procession for the Baccalaureate Mass, a liturgy of thanksgiving for all graduating seniors and their loved ones that is celebrated each year prior to commencement. 

PHOTO BY DAN VAILLANCOURT
Summery bouquets and bright blue skies welcomed friends and family of the Class of 2011 as they arrived for a flurry of commencement activities in May, including the Baccalaureate Mass on the Hart Center lawn (see story on Page 4).

Photo by Dan Vaillancourt