

# CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

WE'RE THE GOOD NEWS!

November 2020

## BLESSINGS TO OUR FRIENDS OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL SOCIETY,

Every year at the Society, we have the joy of choosing the artwork created by our students for our annual "Kids with Wings" Christmas card. Our students' creativity and artistry never ceases to amaze and inspire me. This year's card was designed by Khatreeya Thawtheet, a 6th grader at Cathedral Academy at Pompei. When I asked her what was in her heart about the meaning of Christmas when she created her sketch, she shared the following: "the layers and branches on the tree represent the steps along our path to follow God and the gold star at the top represents God and his love and light. The dove represents the Guardian Angels that God sends down to watch over and protect us." Who better than a young, innocent child to remind us after a year like no other that no matter what is going on in our world, God is always there to light our path. He is there to love and protect us and keep us safe for He is the truth and the way.



Father Champlin truly believed that we could make the world a better place by providing children with a quality education and values deeply rooted in faith. Khatreeya is one beautiful example that the Society's mission to educate underprivileged children is working and making a difference, not only today but for generations to come. It is students like her that will one day be our future business and community leaders. In this, I place great hope. Carrying on this legacy would not be possible without faithful supporters and donors like you. Thank you sincerely for investing in our children. By doing so you are bringing the love, light and truth the world so greatly needs.

On behalf of all of us at the Guardian Angel Society, we wish you and all those you hold dear a happy and beautiful Christmas full of love, serenity and well-being. May the blessings of the season be with you now and throughout the new year. God Bless you with good health, peace, joy and abundance that only His grace can provide!

Merry Christmas and Happy 2021,

**Sarah Jane Ioele**, Executive Director

Father Champlin's  
Guardian  
**ANGEL**  
Society  
wings for education

## Christmas List



## GIFT IDEAS & STOCKING STUFFERS

To purchase, please call 315.422.7218  
or visit [GuardianAngelSoc.org](http://GuardianAngelSoc.org).  
Proceeds support Father's kids.

- ✦ **"Race for Education Raffle Ticket"**  
Win a trip for two to the Kentucky Derby or win cash prizes
- ✦ **Exclusive dark and milk chocolate-covered potato chips** - "Chips for Father's Kids," benefiting the Society sold at Speach Family Candy Shoppe
- ✦ **\$90.00 Dinner Certificate for the Inn Between Restaurant**
- ✦ **"Kids with Wings" Christmas Cards**
- ✦ **Tickets to Guardian Angel Fundraising Events:**
  - ✦ Wise Guys Comedy Show
  - ✦ St. Patrick's Day Feast
- ✦ **Father Champlin's "Spiritual Suggestions" CD**



# CIRCLE OF FRIENDS ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

*LouAnn Christo, Chairman,  
Circle of Friends Committee*

We at the Society are continually inspired by Father and our kids. When the challenges of life are difficult, Father always seems to send a message to us to look at the children and see the hope, the magic and the possibilities in their eyes and hearts. There is nothing more gratifying and fulfilling than seeing the joy and gratefulness in their smiles.



As Father's kids navigate a school year unlike any other, we are reminded of their strength, resilience, determination, and ability to support one another. Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to save the world." Indeed, our world is in need of saving. It is our goal that we can create a huge wave of hope and positive change by guiding young minds to high school graduation. By supporting our Circle of Friends Annual Giving Campaign, you can be part of the positive change and help our scholars make this world a better place. Thank you in advance for your generous support. Please call the office at (315)-422-7218 to participate.

# 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

## ASTOUNDING RECORD YEAR AMID PANDEMIC

With the many unexpected challenges this year has posed, the Guardian Angel Society is excited to share some great news! Father Champlin's spirit was shining down on us on August 6th at Radisson Greens, as 91 golfers gathered to help support our scholars. After spending months apart, golfers were excited to get back on the green and spend time with one another. Joy filled the fresh air as old friends and new faces enjoyed a day of fun for a great cause. The 16th Annual Golf Tournament was our most successful to date, with over \$22,500 raised, to directly support tuition assistance, mentorship and tutoring services! Since its creation in 2005, the Golf Tournament has raised over \$220,000 to assist our scholars on their educational journeys. During such an unprecedented time, the Society is astounded at the positive turnout and generosity of those involved. We are so thankful for our longtime supporters, new friends, and all our exceptional sponsors and volunteers who made this event such a huge success! Save the date for next year - August 5th, 2021!

# A FOND FAREWELL



Kaitlyn Cogswell, the Guardian Angel Society's former Marketing and Operations Manager, has taken a new position with Givebutter, a worldwide fundraising platform. In her new role, Kaitlyn will be working with clients from over 300 college campuses and many leading nonprofits. Although we are sad to see her go, Kaitlyn's two-and-half years with the Society will always be cherished. Her positive attitude and expertise have helped the Society grow exponentially. We celebrate Kaitlyn's success as she takes on her new position. As we like to say, it's never a goodbye, but "see you soon." Blessings to Kaitlyn and her husband, Ryan, on their new journey!

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- OFFICERS**
- Dr. Hayes Wanamaker** *Chairman*
- Christine Woodcock Dettor** *Vice Chairman*
- Michael Paparo** *Treasurer*
- James Kearns** *Secretary*

- MEMBERS**
- Dr. Tammy Anthony
- Daniel Barrett
- LouAnn Christo
- Michele Jones Galvin

- Melanie George
- Philip LaTessa
- Lorna Oppedisano
- Terence Wynne

- Michele Sardinia
- Patricia Schirripa



# MEMORIAL GIFTS

Donations were received between April 1st and October 15th in memory of the individuals listed below. We are grateful to the families and friends who honor their loved ones in such an impactful way!

Shoukre "Chick" Abdo

Father Lou Aiello

Carole Barbato

Harry Barber

Father Joseph Champlin

Katie Chanley

Bishop Thomas Costello

Rev. John Curran

Mario DeSantis

An, Max and Carl Dobe

Marie Herscha Esposito

Father John Finnigan

Tom Geiss

John and Eileen Hallihan

Marla Hicks Quinn

Jon Kirschner

Dr. and Mrs. John Laura

Rose Mazzeo

James McCarthy

Jeanne McNamara

Gail McSeeeny

Arlene Ragan

John & Deanna Rezak

Robert Rossiter

Mary Rybak

Maureen Sheedy

Pat Testa

Theresa Lee Towers

Elizabeth Bazydlo Wilkinson



Krista



Angelica



Aidan



Patty



Dan

## OUR GUARDIAN ANGEL FAMILY IS GROWING!

The Guardian Angel Society is ecstatic to welcome two new staff members, two new board members, and a Le Moyne Work Study student to the team! This is the first time in the history of the organization that we have had a team with such diverse talents and we could not be happier!

**Krista Wright** joins us as our new full-time Operations and Marketing Manager and will be overseeing day-to-day office operations. Krista is a graduate of OCC with an A.S. degree in Criminal Justice and of Le Moyne College with a B.A. degree in English Literature. She is a Baldwinsville native with extensive business management experience, including a three-year internship at the U.S. Attorney's Office. We are glad to have Krista join our team, and she is happy to be supporting our mission.

The Society is also pleased to announce a newly created part-time position of Development and Program Manager. **Angelica Clements** will be leading and supporting all fundraising and development efforts, and helping to lead the Mentor Tutor program. Angelica is rejoining the Society, having worked with us for nearly three years as our Le Moyne College Work Study student. We are glad to have Angelica back and she is glad to be filling this newly created position.

**Aidan Rozler** is our Le Moyne College Work Study student this year. Aidan is a senior at Le Moyne majoring in Business Management and Leadership. He has already proven himself to be a tech guru and is helping to develop the Society's marketing and social media campaigns. After graduation, Aidan plans to attend graduate school with a future goal of finding an occupation to help others.

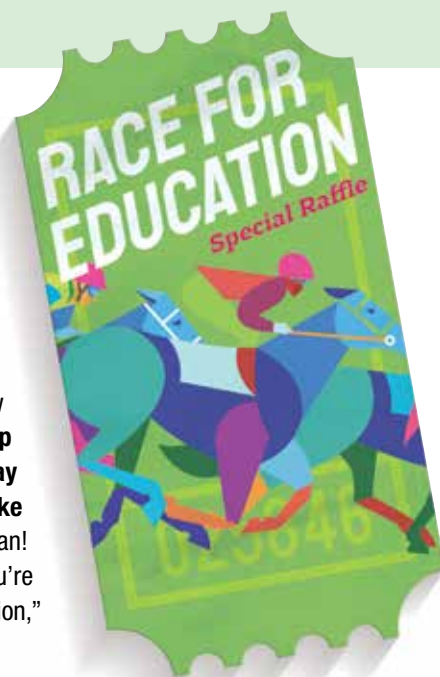
**Patty Schrippa** has joined our board this year! She has been a friend to the Guardian Angel Society since its inception, having even attended some of the first Sweet Cabarets. She loves our mission and is so appreciative of Father Champlin for his vision. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with loved ones, date nights with her husband Bruno, quiet time in prayer, and traveling.

**Dan Barrett** is new to joining the Guardian Angel Society board & has worked on the finance committee for just over a year. He is a Marketing and Healthcare Consultant with extensive experience in pharmaceuticals & economics. Dan is excited to use his expertise to support our mission and help local youth on their academic journey.

## SUPPORT OUR RACE FOR EDUCATION

### SPECIAL RAFFLE

Here at the Guardian Angel Society despite a very challenging year we are in it to win it! Due to the pandemic, the Society was forced to cancel our largest fundraiser of the year, our Kentucky Derby Party, slated for May 2, 2020. The cancellation was a game-changer for the Society as the party is our signature event for the year. Therefore, the Society is happy to announce a new fall appeal campaign - a "Race for Education!" Now through December 28, we will be raffling off a once-in-a-lifetime trip! **One lucky winner will receive a trip for two to the Kentucky Derby, live in Louisville, Kentucky, on May 1, 2021, with airfare and hotel stay included! A second-place winner will receive a cash prize of \$750, and a third-place winner will take home a \$250 cash prize.** Tickets are only **\$50 each!** Only **500 tickets** are available. Get yours while you can! Call the office at (315) 422-7218 to purchase your ticket and gain a chance to win this unique prize! If you're not interested in the raffle but still want to support our **goal of raising \$25,000** toward our "Race for Education," give us a call to make a general donation!





# MENTOR & TUTOR PROGRAM

## VIRTUAL SERVICES

Earlier this year, in the blink of an eye, Father's kids went from bringing their smiles to school each day to learning exclusively from home. Social interaction dropped from constant to infrequent. Such a huge change was not easy. There were tough moments and challenging days. Sometimes, loneliness was encompassing, not just for students, but for teachers and staff. However, we are happy to say that our brave scholars pushed through, supporting each other and excelling academically, even with lessons being taught via Zoom. During this time, the Society was still able to offer students tutoring lessons virtually, allowing those who were struggling to have the support they needed to succeed. As the first quarter of the new school year comes to a close, we are happy to announce that we are offering our Mentor Program at Bishop Grimes virtually! Bishop Grimes will welcome a different speaker each month via Zoom to chat with students during their lunch periods. The speaker will share their personal success story and information about their current professional position, allowing our scholars to learn about a career they possibly didn't even know existed! We are excited to use the virtual mentor program to open the minds of our scholars to dreams they never thought possible!

## A HOLIDAY NOTE

 *Maria DeSantis*

Our hearts are "Holiday heavy" as we will be unable to perform Christmas at the Palace live during this pandemic. Just like "no snow" on Christmas, the holiday is not complete without our annual concert in December. It is our sincere desire to broadcast excerpts from our past Christmas Shows to celebrate this holiday season. We are continuing to explore these options. We are certain that my father, Mario will continue to shower Father Champlin's kids with heavenly notes from above, conducting his favorite show with Father and all the guardian angels by his side. We look forward to continuing our 20+ year association with the Guardian Angel Society with new and exciting ideas in 2021 and beyond! Please continue to consult our Facebook, Instagram and DeSantisorchestra.com for the latest updates.



# THANK YOU SPEACH FAMILY CANDY SHOPPE!

The Guardian Angel Society is so thankful to have been a part of Speach Family Candy Shoppe's 10 Decades of Giving celebration this year! Michael Speach and the Candy Shoppe team created a special product for the Society, a mix of decadent milk and dark chocolate-covered potato chips, affectionately titled "Chips for Father's Kids." **The product is available for purchase until December 31st and full proceeds benefit the Society.** Additionally, in the month of October, we were fortunate to receive partial proceeds from everything sold in the shop! In a year marked by difficulties, we are grateful for the support Michael Speach and the Speach Family Candy Shoppe has shown to us and other local nonprofits! Grab your "Chips for Father's Kids" as a special holiday treat for you and your loved ones!



# LEGACY GIVING

Leave a Legacy of Love

You have the opportunity to have a lasting impact on the lives of children in need, all while leaving a legacy of love you and your family can be most proud of!

To receive more information about Legacy Giving and accompanying legal services (including Wills, Trusts, Beneficiary, Designations, and Outright Gifts), please call our office at (315) 422-7218.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We are excited to offer some wonderful events this winter to support Father's kids, including the Wise Guys Comedy Show that will be live streamed, and a St. Patrick's Day Feast with takeout available! Stay tuned on our website and social media pages for further info!

