

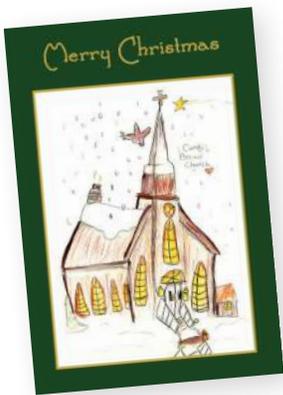
# CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

WE'RE THE GOOD NEWS!

November 2021

## DEAR FRIENDS OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL SOCIETY,

It is here that magical, sacred time of year. When the world begins to glow, it comes with the arrival of snow. Our streets, homes, and hearts are filled with anticipation for the special kind of joy that only comes with Christmas. That childlike feeling of excitement makes us all kids again. That emotion, despite the formidable times we are living in, that anything is possible if we just believe! Well, that beautiful gift of the hope God chose to send us was his child, Jesus. This year's artist for our "Kids with Wings" Christmas card 5th grader, Sophia Torres, reminds us that she likes Christmas because, on December 25th, it is Jesus's birthday! "I love celebrating Jesus's birthday because he saved us from our sins." Now that is a wise 5th grader, a 5th grader, all of you support going out into the world and making it a better place.



Father Champlin founded the Guardian Angel Society 24 years ago because he believed in his heart that we could change the world through education, and he was right. Sophia is just one example that our mission to educate underprivileged children and break the cycle of poverty is still relevant today. Our scholarship and mentoring programs are exactly what the world needs right now; highly educated scholars with values deeply rooted in faith will bring hope and wisdom to a world so desperately in need of it. We celebrate at Christmas that God sent us his only son, and here at the Guardian Angel Society, we celebrate all of you, our faithful followers who make it possible for us to send these children into the world prepared to make a difference.

Carrying on this legacy would not be possible without donors like you.

Thank you wholeheartedly for generously investing in our children; by doing so, you are spreading the gift of hope to others who are less fortunate and changing their lives forever.

On behalf of all of us at the Guardian Angel Society, we wish you that delightful kind of childlike Christmas filled with that holy feeling that only Christmas brings. May the blessings of the beautiful 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 New Year,

**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.

★ **\$91.00 Dinner Certificate for the Inn  
Between Restaurant**

★ **"Kids with Wings" Christmas Cards**

★ **Tickets to a Guardian Angel  
Fundraising Event:**

- ★ Christmas with the DeSantis Orchestra
- ★ St. Patrick's Day Feast March 13, 2022
- ★ Kentucky Derby Gala May 7, 2022

*details on back cover*

★ **Father Champlin's "Spiritual  
Suggestions" CD**

★ **Guardian Angel Society Cell Phone  
Power Charger**





## OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL TO DATE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

As we step outside into the brisk fall air, the Guardian Angel Society is pleased to share one last summer hurrah! On August 5th at Radisson Greens, 109 golfers gathered on the green for a fun-filled day under the sun, all for a great cause. The 17th Annual Golf Tournament was our most successful to date, with over \$24,000 raised directly supporting tuition assistance, mentorship, and tutoring services for Father's kids. Since its creation in 2005, the Golf Tournament has raised over \$240,000 to help our scholars make it one step closer to destination graduation. A special thank you goes out to Bruce LaGrow, who helped start the tournament 17 years ago. He brought the idea to the Society and has served each year as a partner, supporter, and friend, ensuring the tournament's growth and success. Congratulations to Bruce as he takes the next step in his life journey, enjoying retirement. Bruce proudly served our community for over 27 years as President & CEO of Money Federal Credit Union. We could not have done all this without you, Bruce, and we are thankful for your continued friendship. Thank you again to 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 6th, 2022.

## 2021 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

When you were just a tiny soul on this planet, do you remember what you wanted to grow up to be? A doctor? A lawyer? Maybe a ballerina? We all have dreams, starting from the earliest moments of life. Some of us are more fortunate than others to make those dreams come true easily. However, some have to work a little harder and push farther to make their dreams possible. Even so, determination is a powerful force and, coupled with faith, can overcome giants.

I remember first learning about the Guardian Angel Society my sophomore year at Le Moyne College. I was looking for an on-campus job when I was introduced to the Community Based Work-Study Program and paired with the Guardian Angel Society as my placement. Kathy Fedrizzi, Executive Director Emeritus, sat me down and told me beautiful stories about Father Champlin and the stories of the scholars we support. At that moment, I knew I was where I was meant to be. Their stories were similar to mine, and I knew I needed to do what I could to help them.

Fast forward to 2021. I have been involved with the Society for five years, roughly a quarter of my young life. I want to send a message to each of you reading this. Father Champlin created an incredibly powerful movement that has helped hundreds of children have a chance at a better future. Education is the key to success, and a parochial education creates a beautiful foundation for our youth to grow upon. Each child you see in these pictures has a story to tell. Behind their eyes are journeys most children don't have to face, from poverty to homelessness to fleeing a country seeking asylum. The list is endless. In their eyes, I see myself, young and scared, grasping for something greater. But behind that, I see their strength, intelligence, and willingness to fight. These children are our future. They will change the world, for the better, with their minds, hearts, and faith in Jesus Christ.

I encourage all of you to join our Circle of Friends Annual Giving Campaign to help our scholars move one step closer towards their dreams, towards a better tomorrow. Thank you in advance for your generous support. Please call the office at (315) 422-7218 to participate.

**Angelica Clements**  
Development & Program Manager



## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Donations were received between April 1st and October 25th 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!



- Ann Byrne
- Anthony Ranieri
- Barbara Olin
- Domenico Rotella
- Elizabeth Bazydlo Wilkinson
- Father Joseph Champlin
- Francis A. Ioele
- Frank Sgarlata
- George & Georgia Peluso
- George Feltman
- Harry C. Barber
- Jack & Eileen Hallihan
- John & Nellie Bourg
- Joseph Burkhardt
- Leo & Ida Greco, Charles & Vivian Griswold
- Louisa Assunta Marzocchi
- Lucille Conway
- Marie Herscha Esposito
- Marla Quinn
- Mary Jackson
- Mr. & Mrs. Edward McKeown Sr.
- Nancy Medicis
- Ngan Nguyen
- Paul DeForge
- Sharon Wojcik Gambocorto
- The Dobe Family
- Theresa Tower
- Tommy DeSantis
- Nancy Gaffney & Christine Morgans
- Suzanne Reagan

## SPONSOR A STUDENT



With Christmas right around the corner, we are excited to share a unique opportunity! In partnership with Bousquet Holstein, the Guardian Angel Society is reigniting its Sponsor-A-Student campaign. An education starting at Cathedral Academy at Pompei is life-changing. Like the stories shared, many Guardian Angel families have struggled to survive, and CAP is a beautiful chance for their children to succeed. It costs \$5,000 to send **one** student to Cathedral Academy at Pompei for the school year. If 300 people give \$50 or more, we can send **three** children to CAP! We hope you will consider helping us end the cycle of poverty by supporting our Sponsor a Student campaign. May God bless you for doing his work by aiding our mission to give the gift of education this Christmas season, the most valuable gift there is.



## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS GROWING!

Here at the Guardian Angel Society, we are blessed to be surrounded by old friends while continually making new ones. This year, we are pleased to announce our board has continued to grow! Long-time friend and supporter **Angela Nicoletti-Cox** joined our Board of Directors this August, and we could not be more excited.

Angela is an alumna of Bishop Grimes, class of 1986. After graduating from Grimes, she attended Genesee Community College to get her Associate's Degree in Travel and Tourism. Upon graduation in 1988, she worked as a travel agent for 15 years. In 2001, she decided to start her own travel consulting business, Extra Mile Travel. Her favorite group she took care of was the One World Concert. She's had the pleasure of booking travel for some big names such as Dave Matthews, Phil Phillips, Cindy Lauper, the Dalai Lama, and Martin Luther King III.

Angela says her passion is helping others and watching them grow and succeed. She was thrilled to be involved with the Society starting as a speaker for our Speaker Series at Bishop Grimes last year. When we asked her to join our board after this, she was excited to be even more involved! We are so thrilled to bring Angela's wisdom, kindness, and passion to the board!

As our Society grows, we are proud to announce that in July 2021, **LouAnn Christo** has been named Vice Chair of our Board of Directors. LouAnn has served on our Board for over three years and has been a dedicated volunteer for over five years. LouAnn holds a Master's Degree in Public Relations from Syracuse University Newhouse School of Communications. She has over 28 years of active training as a community volunteer and held leadership positions in marketing, fund development, and professional Coaching and Training. Her outstanding experience, coupled with her passion for education and serving those in need in our community, make her an ideal fit to help lead Guardian Angel into the future.

Our Board of Directors as a whole continues to be strong. We are grateful to **Michele Sardina**, V.P.-Digital Solutions for Advanced Media, NY, who has generously agreed to renew for another three-year term. Her gifts and talents continue to be a huge blessing to the Society.

Thank you to Angela, LouAnn, and Michele for your commitment and dedication. We are blessed to have you as part of our leadership team!



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**OFFICERS**  
**Dr. Hayes Wanamaker** *Chairman*  
**LouAnn Christo** *Vice Chairman*  
**Michael Paparo** *Treasurer*  
**James Kearns** *Secretary*

**MEMBERS**  
 Dr. Tammy Anthony  
 Daniel Barrett  
 Angela Nicoletti Cox

Michele Jones Galvin  
 Melanie George  
 Lorna Oppedisano

Michele Sardina  
 Patricia Schirripa  
 Terence Wynne



## BISHOP GRIMES' MENTOR SPEAKER SERIES

# MENTOR & TUTOR PROGRAM

Our Mentor and Tutor Program is off to a great start this school year! With restrictions still in place, we continue to navigate and be present for our scholars as much as possible. Our Mentor Speaker Series at Bishop Grimes continues to be a hit. Bishop Grimes has graciously agreed to welcome a different speaker each month in person or over Zoom to chat with students during their lunch periods. The speakers share their personal success stories and information about their current professional position, allowing our scholars to learn about a career they possibly didn't even know existed! This year, we kicked off the series with board member Michele Sardinia, V.P. of Digital Solutions for Advanced Media, NY. Our students were excited to connect with someone working in the media field. Thank you, Michele, for blessing our students with your presence and setting up our series for success this year! Our Speaker for November is Award-winning sports journalist and reporter Alex Sims of News Channel 9.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We are excited to offer some wonderful events this winter to support Father's kids, including Christmas with the DeSantis Orchestra, and a St. Patrick's Day Feast with takeout available. We are also proud to announce the return of our Kentucky Derby Party! Stay tuned on our website and social media pages for further information.

## GUARDIAN ANGEL IS CELEBRATING IT'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY THIS COMING YEAR!

Look for ways to celebrate 25 years of changing the world one child at a time.



Leave a Legacy of Love

## LEGACY GIVING

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**.



**KENTUCKY DERBY Party**

**May 7th, 2022**  
Marriott Syracuse Downtown • Grand Ballroom • 5-10 PM

Watch the Derby Live • Music by Atlas

Derby Themed Buffet • Whiskey Bar & Mint Juleps  
Fabulous Basket Raffles • Pick-a-Pony Contest  
Best Dressed/Hat Contest • Special Hotel Rate

**-\$95 per person-**

For reservations, sponsorships and advertising opportunities call or visit:  
**315-422-7218 • GuardianAngelSoc.org**

A Special Event Benefitting  
Father Champlin's Guardian **ANGEL** Society  
wings for education 



*with* **Christmas**  
*with* **The DeSantis Orchestra**

**Sunday • December 12 • 5pm**  
**St. Charles Church, Syracuse**  
501 South Orchard Rd at Fay Rd  
**For tickets call 315-488-7611**  
*A portion of the proceeds benefits  
Father Champlin's Guardian Angel Society*



*St. Patrick's Day*  
**FEAST**

*Stay Tuned for Details!*  
**MARCH 13, 2022**

## THANK YOU UPSTATE SHREDDING & ADAM WEITSMAN FAMILY!



This fall, the Guardian Angel Society was blessed to receive a \$2,000 grant from Adam Weitsman and Upstate Shredding to acknowledge our efforts to help underprivileged children in Syracuse! This grant will go directly towards supporting our students through scholarship, as well as mentoring and tutoring services! We could not make our mission possible without generous supporters like Mr. Weitsman, and we are grateful to have him join us as part of our Guardian Angel family.