AP SEMINAR UPDATE

We have grown our Advanced Placement (AP) offerings and even been awarded as an AP Capstone school. This program cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars to make logical, evidence-based decisions. Under the guidance of Dr. Chris Clement, nine students were empowered to:

- Extend their abilities to synthesize information from multiple perspectives and apply skills in new situations and cross curricular contexts;
- Collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision;
- Communicate and defend evidence-based arguments; and
- Explore relevant topics that appeal to their interests in a disciplined and scholarly manner.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

BISHOP’S CHALLENGE

In the fall of 2017, Bishop David O’Connell through his Bishop’s Initiative Challenge, offered a $30,000.00 tuition assistance match. Over 180 alumni, parents and faculty stepped forward with a donation and even exceeded this challenge goal. The Bishop has now posted a new challenge for spring 2018, and we are confident Pomona Catholic will meet it.

Please make your donation today! Bishop O’Connell will match every gift up to $25,000.
PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Happy New Year! We are enjoying an enriched 2017 - 2018. Some of the additions to our school program includes:

- Implementing a music program that performs at Masses and other school events
- Completing a financial audit from an independent company
- Successfully completing first semester of AP Capstone program

Read more about our successes in this modified newsletter; each page is dedicated to how we live out our 4 pillars.

It’s hard to believe in just a few short months, our seniors and eighth graders will be graduating. Please continue to keep them in their prayers as they receive college acceptances and take HSPT tests. Further, registration packets will be sent home with students soon. Please ensure that you review the documents and complete your registration in a timely manner so that we may begin course scheduling. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated!

I know that you have other options for educating your child and want to thank you for partnering with us and for entrusting us to teach, support, and care for your child.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Samuel Torres, Principal
principal@pomonacatholic.org
909-623-5297, ext. 11

Left: Requiem of the Unborn, with Leah Williams ’20
Bottom Left: Christmas Tree Lighting
Bottom Right: Sparks of Love Toy Drive. Pomona Catholic filled the entire school van with toys. Pictured here with ABC7 meteorologist Leslie Lopez, Class of 2001
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name of Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 29 - February 2</td>
<td>Catholic Schools Week</td>
<td>See page 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 3, 2PM - 6 PM</td>
<td>Alumni Coming Home</td>
<td>See page 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8 - February 11</td>
<td>Kairos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 14 at 10 AM</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Joseph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 16</td>
<td>Schoolwide Day of Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 21 at 9:30 AM</td>
<td>Sophomore Pendant Mass</td>
<td>At Pomona Catholic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, February 23</td>
<td>Career Day</td>
<td>See page 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 3; 9 AM - 11 AM</td>
<td>Middle School Open House</td>
<td>For prospective PC Middle School students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 6</td>
<td>6th and 7th Grade Retreat</td>
<td>At Pomona Catholic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5- March 7</td>
<td>8th Grade Astro Camp</td>
<td>Science Camp in Idyllwild, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 15</td>
<td>Youth Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 17</td>
<td>Mother - Daughter Event</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 19</td>
<td>Honor Societies Induction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22 - March 24</td>
<td>Spring Musical: Evita</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 29 - April 6</td>
<td>Easter Break</td>
<td>School Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, April 13</td>
<td>Walk-a-thon</td>
<td>Come join us for a day of fun while raising funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 22</td>
<td>Prom</td>
<td>All Prom attendees get next day off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 6</td>
<td>Car Show</td>
<td>Car and Craft vendors, call us!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, May 7</td>
<td>Marian Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 8 - May 16</td>
<td>AP Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 18</td>
<td>Senior Salute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18 - May 19</td>
<td>8th Grade and Senior Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 23</td>
<td>HS Graduation</td>
<td>St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pomona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 2</td>
<td>MS Graduation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4 - June 8</td>
<td>Semester Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WELCOME FATHER STEVE GUITRON, CHAPLAIN FOR PC

It is a Blessing to announce Father Steve Guitron, Pastor, Saint Joseph Pomona, is now officially Chaplain at Pomona Catholic. We are blessed to have his leadership. Together, we will build the kingdom of God in Pomona and beyond.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RELIGION teacher, John Torres takes his all boys’ religion class to pray in the chapel.

Pictured here are new pews donated by St. Aidan Episcopal Church in Malibu.

Huge “thanks” to all the dads who helped with the loading and unloading of the solid oak pews.

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONE’S WHO ARE IN HEAVEN

Students of Ms. Gomzalez and Mrs. Cuevas collaborated to remember loved ones for Dia De LoS Muertos. With the wonderful help of Mrs. Silva (mother of Ashley Silva ’20), we were able to put all creative ideas together to create this altar.
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 2

CSW is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Schools typically observe the week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members.

Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to Church, local communities and the nation.

This year’s theme is Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Join us at the following events:

- **Monday – Jan. 29th**: Tri-school Mass (10:00 AM) with Pomona Catholic, St. Joseph and St. Madeleine. Pomona Catholic will walk to St. Joseph Church.
- **Tuesday – Jan. 30th**: Campus Ministry and ASB will distribute appreciation gifts to local police and fire department and local parish(s) - St. Joseph and Sacred Heart.
- **Wednesday – Jan. 31st**: Monique Guillory Gray, Class of 1983 - guest speaker on her miraculous healing.
- **Thursday – Feb. 1st**: Celebrate students/Learning /Cultural Diversity. We are one faith and universal; prayer during homeroom. Cultural add-ons may be worn with uniform on this day.
- **Friday – Feb. 2nd**: Jeans for Jesus - Students will be able to wear Jeans this day according to handbook dress code. Celebrating vocations in Religion classes, show DVD of “For Love Alone”. Sister Desiré-Ann Marie Findlay will share her story and vocation in Religion classes.

Students attend Requiem of the Unborn. Pictured here with Bishop Ed Clark. His first teaching position as a priest was at Pomona Catholic.

Trivia: What was his nickname at Pomona Catholic?
The first semester was jam packed with learning outside of the classroom. The Guidance Department assisted with the following:

- Student-Led conferences
- Campus tour field trips-High School-Cal Poly & UCR. Middle School-Cal Poly
- On campus college representative visits-USC, Carroll College, LMU, Grand Canyon University, Stone Hill College, University of Dallas, University of La Verne, Saint Mary's College, Mount Saint Mary's, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, & University of San Diego.
- My Name My Story-Empathy Drives Change Workshop-all junior and senior, plus 30 freshman & sophomore attended a 5 hour assembly.
- My Name My Story-Empathy Drives Change-Keynote speaker for all middle school
- Regional Admissions Counselors of California (RACC) Senior Personal Statement workshop
- PSAT workshop for 8-9th graders
- Financial Aid Workshop-all junior and senior students and parents-Claremont McKenna representative
- Senior college visit day
- College Fair-50 university representatives RSVP'd and attended
- Peer Counseling-junior and senior leadership opportunity for high school/middle school mentorship
- Faculty College Add-on days-last Friday of every month
- Junior College Advising Night - Case Study in March 2018-hosted by the RACC

LIFELONG LEARNERS - TEACHERS ATTEND 4 CORE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES (CIP) THIS YEAR.
Speech and debate was an unexpected interest of mine. Last year, Mr. Thomas Vavra arrived at Pomona Catholic and started the Pacers Speech and Debate team, and I was intrigued, but at the time, I was very busy, having just started high school so I decided not to join. I joined in the middle of the school year, and decided to participate in Public Forum, which is when two people compete against two people. I chose Rebecca Pruzensky ‘20 as my partner and we competed at Los Osos High School for the Public Forum finals, which was extremely challenging. Our topic was on the unrest in Israel and Palestine. Unfortunately, we did not have any wins.

I knew that public forum was for me when I first explored this topic. I enjoy learning about current events and exploring the different perspectives. Although my partner Rebecca shared that same interest, she felt as if public forum was not for her, and instead, she pursued Congress, which is a form of debate but there are much more people debating a certain topic and each person is given six bills to make a speech about. My new public forum partner is Jimena Medina ‘20.

At our very first tournament at Cypress College, we did so well that I knew we were meant to be a team. Our topic at the Cypress Tournament was about the NCAA and if they should pay student athletes. We developed passionate opinions on the topic and debated to the best of our ability and made it to quarterfinals. That was much better than I expected! One thing my partner and I can agree on about debating is although it is stressful, it is a little fun when you make a very good point and you can see the judge’s approval and your opponent’s silence of shock. After this tremendous victory, we moved on to the Eisenhower High School Debate Tournament. In the beginning we were nervous but those feelings subsided and we became confident when we arrived in the room to begin debating. which is where we defeated Damien High School in Public Forum. We were ready to face them head on. The topic of the month was, “Spain Should Grant Catalonia Its Independence”. Because of Jimena’s quick wit and our presentation of stronger evidence and facts and delivering with confidence, we won! We defeated Damien in Public Forum!

The Speech and Debate Team has 14 members. We started off nervous and unsure of ourselves but now we all enjoy competing very much. Although the work is tiring and we get stressed, in the end we appreciate competing. I am proud to be part of the Pacers Speech and Debate team, and I am very grateful to Principal Torres for giving us this opportunity.
WELCOM BACK CASSANDRA JONES
CLASS OF 2009

Yet another talented alum {and award winning Shakespearian actress} returned to PC this fall to teach – Ms. Cassandra Jones, class of 2009. With a degree in art from California State University, San Bernardino, she has already energized the art classes in both the middle and high school. Adding science to her artistry, she had middle school students mixing up “magnetic slime” with black iron oxide and studying the chemical makeup of clay prior to her unit on sculpting. Students have produced glorious chalk art in the courtyard and entered the Archdiocese Christmas card contest. She also designed and created the set for the fall play, The Importance of Being Earnest. Welcome Back!

The tradition continues….Cassandra’s mother Sandra Flores graduated in 1983. Her sister, Danielle graduated in 2012.

DID YOU KNOW?  23% of our faculty graduated from PC?  ⭐ = Legacy Family
SISTER TRIFECTA!

Sister Mary Seraphine (Elizabeth Rose) Moynier, class of 1957, holds the trifecta title of Pomona Catholic Graduates. She has been a student, a teacher and a principal at our beloved alma mater.

The year 2017 has been a memorable year for Sr. Seraphine. Not only did her class observe their sixtieth year since graduation, she also observed her sixtieth jubilee as a Felician Sister. Sr. Seraphine was also the speaker Pomona Catholic High School Graduation 2017 Graduation.

Sr. Seraphine now ministers in Pomona with the Angela Spirituality Center, bringing the Eucharist to shut-ins and caring for the homeless.
SCHOOLWIDE DAY OF SERVICE
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16

Interact Club of Pomona Catholic School is sponsoring a school wide day of service on Friday, February 16, 2018, 8:00 am – 12:30 pm. Interact is dedicated to community and international service and is sponsored by the Pomona Rotary. Its 15 members are comprised of students in grades 9 – 12. Ms. Navy Phay, Club Moderator, works with the students to organize service projects for the local community. Board President, Monica Cuevas, with the help of Vice-President Belin Lopez and Secretary, Faith Bechtel wanted to create a “community of service” and set out to organize this project that includes the Pomona Catholic School community.

Each grade level, from 6th – 12th, is participating in their own service project for the day. Grade Six will be working with the Barbara’s Blanket Project. They will be making blankets that will be donated to the homeless. Grades Seven and Eight will be off campus working with The Farm at the Fairplex of Pomona. The students will seed, transplant, weed, and clean up The Farm. Grade 9 will be making care packages for the homeless and tutoring students at the St. Joseph’s Catholic Elementary School. Students in grade 10 will be making care packages, write letters and participate in “Healing the Heart” art contest for Project Sister Family Services who serve more than 45,000 women, children and men with advocacy and accompaniment for various services. Grade 11 students will make care packages and write letters for House of Ruth, an organization that provides life-saving services for victims of domestic violence. Finally the students in grade 12, in conjunction with Mayor Tim Sandoval and the City of Pomona, will clean up the local community by clean surrounding neighbor’s yards. Also, as a farewell gift to their school, the seniors will wash the school vans, dust library, clean classrooms, and assist with planting flowers on the west side of campus.

QUICK TAKES

Left: Alexys Alonzo, 7th grade won Jr. California title is looking forward to going to nationals in June of 2018, representing North Dakota.

Right: Middle school students are tutored by high school girls in Pacer Step Up after school homework club.
EMPOWERMENT

TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP (TLC)

Three 8th grade students attended a leadership conference that was fully funded by the Rotary Club of Pomona. Selection was based upon character, scholarship, and leadership skills. Middle School teachers and the Administrative Team selected Makenzie Ramirez, Michael Countee, and Michael Valdez.

- Michael Countee (left) - I learned that your leadership has the power to influence and motivate others. It’s a great gift to have.
- Mackenzie Ramirez (middle) - I enjoyed the ice breaker the most. It allowed me to come out of my shy shell and be open to all the activities.
- Michael Valdez (right) - I enjoyed the conversations with new friends that I still group chat with.

NEW WRESTLING TEAM

We have a new wrestling team and they are off to a good start with a few girls receiving medals at their first competition. Our Pacers are playing well and continue to represent Pomona Catholic with high standards. The team includes: Riley Holmes ‘19, Yajing Wang ‘21, Danielle Frillou ‘18, Lacey Salabaj ‘20, and Kaitlyn Demerjian ‘19.

ANATOMY

Students in Anatomy were assigned to create models of the human long bone.
Fall Sports News
We had an amazing first semester in sports. Pomona Catholic continues to impress with the dedication of each student athlete and the direction of their coaches. All Sports represented Pomona Catholic at Finals and or Playoffs.

CROSS COUNTRY - had an amazing year taking First place in our League. They made it all the way to CIF Finals and qualified to State where they competed in Fresno. Pomona Catholic was ranked 5th in the State.

First Team recipients are:
Lilianna Garcia ‘20      Brooke Burciaga ‘20
Eliana Garcia ‘18        Yasmine Valjalo ‘20
Tristan Unger ‘21        Jessica Margala ‘18

Our JV Cross Country team was league champions and received First Team recognition in their category.

VOLLEYBALL - continues to perform and represent Pomona Catholic with a dominant senior starting lineup and their leading outside hitter Franki Piloto ‘18 who received First Team recognition and CIF recognition. Jazlynn Dizon ‘18 received Second Team recognition.

Pomona Catholic made it to Quarter Finals in CIF playoffs.

GOLF - Samantha Flores ’18 and Belin Lopez ‘19 made it to League Finals.
Samantha advanced this year to CIF playoffs and made League First team.
Belin received Second Team recognition.

TENNIS - Had many new members join the program. 3 year Captain Riley Holmes ’19 together with 2 year Kaitlyn Demerjian ‘19 advanced to League Semi Finals giving them Second Team recognition in the Del Rey League for our very first time.
MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS

We continue to offer a large variety of sports in our Middle School program. We are currently offering boys and girls’ basketball and are preparing for this Spring Boys Volleyball, and boys and girls soccer.

Last semester, Middle School boys had a large number of athletes participating in football. CYO allowed us to split our team in two and for the first time we had the opportunity to represent Pomona Catholic in two different CYO leagues which gave all the boys the chance to play. Also, Girls’ Volleyball tied for first in the league and proceeded to playoffs.

Water Polo is undefeated in league.

Cheer team qualified to Nationals again and is still competing.
Save the date!

PC THEATER DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR: Linda Figueroa-Haskins

Spring Musical
Evita
By Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Weber

Car Show & Craft Fair

Sunday, May 6 from 9 am - 2pm

Car show exhibitors vie for prizes. This is a family friendly event with food, music, games, and Craft Fair. Pre-registration fee $25 for car exhibitors and $35 fee + raffle item for craft fair vendors.

Proceeds go to Athletics. Admission is free to the public. For more info: carshow@pomonacatholic.org

CAREER DAY
February 23, 2018
8:00 - 1:00 pm at Pomona Catholic

Our students are interested and want to know about the many professions they can consider and prepare for. Consider sharing your experience in the occupation and career path you have chosen.

Contact Miss Salas-Tapia for more information: osalas-tapia@pomonacatholic.org
In order to register for the 2018 - 2019 school year, your tuition accounts must be current. Also, to qualify for tuition assistance, you must apply through FAST.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Monica Juarez, Finance 909-623-5297, ext. 19 or mjuarez@pomonacatholic.org.

Miss Young Filipinas USA 2017
By Jazlynn Dizon, Class of 2018

July 16, 2017 at the Alex Theatre in Glendale was the night of my first beauty pageant. Miss Philippines USA is a beauty pageant for young ladies that have Filipino blood, competing for many titles. Miss Philippines USA's mission is to develop the finest ambassadors of goodwill and role models for the Filipino-American community, to raise scholarship funds, and to donate proceeds to charities that promote education.

I joined Miss Philippines USA 2017 hoping to take home the crown for the young division. I competed against 10 other young beautiful ladies. Throughout my journey, I received a large amount of support from my family and friends that pushed me to work hard. The main thing I learned about myself is how brave I am because it is not easy to be on stage for a couple of hours in front of many people watching your every move.

It was definitely an amazing experience for me where I was able to accumulate knowledge but also have fun. I won the title of Miss Young Filipinas USA 2017 and Miss Young Best in Swimsuit 2017. As a title holder I get to travel back to the Philippines to visit the foundation I picked to help. During my year of reign I will attend many Filipino community events and work on charity events. In the end, all the hard work paid off. I never lost my faith in God throughout this journey, which was crucial. As I carry the title for one year, I am looking forward to helping communities and being a role model for the youth.
Greetings from the Admissions & Outreach Office,

This May we celebrate our 119th commencement exercises; A tradition of excellence in the eastern San Gabriel Valley since 1898. Pomona Catholic serves students of all socio-economic backgrounds from the local community, surrounding cities and abroad. We just had a very successful High School Open House and are looking forward to our Middle School Open House on March 3rd from 9 am – 11am. We continue to implement our New Student Referral Program so if you know of a family that would benefit from a Catholic education, please invite them to come and experience the life of a Pacer. It’s not just a school, it’s a lifestyle.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year and have several scholarships available, both need and merit based. We also have several exciting events coming up:

- our Drama department is featuring the Spring Musical Evita, opening night is March 22nd,
- our 3rd Annual Powder Puff game on Friday, March 2nd at Damien High School (All proceeds will benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation).
- The Pomona Catholic National Honor Society hosts free tutoring to all students in grades 5-10, please see flyer for more information.

If you would like to visit or take a tour of our historic campus, please contact the Admissions department or visit www.pomonacatholic.org for more information.

Pomona Catholic
All girls’ college preparatory high school
Co-educational middle school Grades 6, 7, 8
Faith ~ Scholarship ~ Tradition ~ Empowerment

Pomona Catholic School offers:
A challenging, well-rounded education.
A solid foundation in Christian values.
AP Capstone Program Approved.
A safe learning environment.
Academic/career counseling.
A year-round athletic program.
A wide range of activities, clubs and organizations.

Now accepting applications.
Financial Aid Available!
NEW STUDENT REFERRAL PROGRAM
Earn 1 month in Tuition Credit!*

Many of our families initially hear about Pomona Catholic through a personal referral from an existing school family. In an effort to express our thanks for your continued support, we have established the New Student Referral Program. You will receive 1 month tuition credit for referring a new family!

Here’s how it works:
1. This program is open to all parents or legal guardians enrolled at Pomona Catholic.
2. Tuition credit will be given for referring new students to the school. To qualify for the incentive, referred students cannot have a sibling currently or previously enrolled at Pomona Catholic, and the student cannot already be included in the Pomona Catholic School Prospective Student Database.
3. The referring family must initiate the referral by filling out the information below.
4. New student must be enrolled and in good standing for two months to be considered a successful referral.
5. A 1 month tuition credit will be added to the tuition account of the referring family on the third month of enrollment for the new student. Account must be current.
6. Families who paid their tuition in full will receive an incentive check equal to the amount of the New Student Referral credit.

*The New Student Referral Program is subject to review and modification. Interpretation of program parameters will be at the discretion of the Principal.

---------------------------
POMONA CATHOLIC SCHOOL—NEW STUDENT REFERRAL PROGRAM

This form is to be completed by Pomona Catholic School families.

Referring Parent Name ____________________________
Current Pomona Catholic Student Name ____________________________ Grade _____
New Parent Name ____________________________ Tel ____________________________
Address ____________________________ City __________ Zip __________
New Student Name ____________________________ Grade _____
New Student Name ____________________________ Grade _____

Please return to Mrs. Meave, Admissions & Outreach.
POMONA CATHOLIC
All girls’ college preparatory high school
Co-educational middle school, Grades 6, 7, & 8

533 W. Holt Avenue
Pomona, CA 91768
Phone (909) 623-5297

Save the dates
Please join us at these events!

March 22 - 24  Spring Musical
April 13          Walk-a-thon
May 6            Car Show & Craft Fair
May 23           High School Graduation
June 2           Middle School Graduation

We want your news!
We are always looking for updates from our families and alumni. Send pictures, stories, and more. Keep in touch!

Email: development@pomonacatholic.org

*Pictures are welcome!*

Stay connected
www.facebook.com/pomonacatholic

Faith ~ Scholarship ~ Tradition ~ Empowerment