

ST. JOSEPH'S - ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.saintjosephscollege.org

Fall 2025 Newsletter

*We honor the past; We celebrate the present;
We plan for the future.....TOGETHER.*

ALUMNI COMING EVENTS

Please save the dates for the following Alumni events in 2026.

1. DAY OF RECOLLECTION

On **Saturday, February 7, 2026**, we will provide you with a quality day of spiritual recollection both in-person at St. Patrick's Seminary and Zoom. The Invitation will come out in very early January. Guests are welcome and lunch will be provided for those who attend. The event is FREE. For those of you who are unable to attend in-person by reason of distance or otherwise, we will use Zoom nationally. We are concerned that more alums don't make use of this wonderful opportunity to feed their souls and minds. If you think of improvements, please tell us.

The Director for this day, back by popular demand, is our own Rev. Jim Fredericks, C '73, retired theology professor from LMU. He is dynamically insightful.

2. ALUMNI DAY 2026

Alumni Day (#44) will take place at St. Patrick's Seminary on **Saturday, April 25, 2026**. Those in Honoree Classes are particularly urged to get together to celebrate each other and the lives they have lived since they left the Seminary.

The Honoree Classes will be:

60 Year Class:	Rhet Class '66
55 Year College:	College '71
50 Year College:	College '76
50 Year High School:	High School '76
45 Year College:	College '81
45 Year High School:	High School '81
40 Year College:	College '86

If you were ever in one of these classes even for just a cup of coffee, you are in the Honoree class. If you want to see a class list and would like to organize a good turnout, contact Don Carroll at donandmaryjocarroll@gmail.com. Invitations will go out in late March of 2026. It is not too early to beat the drums with classmates and friends for attendance.

Message from Rev. Jim Hagan, Rhet '63

Our esteemed alum, Fr. Jim Hagan, was released many years ago by the Archbishop to minister along the California-Mexican border. In 2023 the Alumni Association was able to honor him with an Alumnus of the Year Award, and Jim also gave the homily at the Mass on that occasion. Jim periodically writes the Alumni Board to update his life and activities. His activities are unique: he not only ministers to the poor but particularly to those with handicaps, some quite severe. Jim is now fighting cancer. There follows a couple of excerpts from Jim's latest letter to us all.

"Our Chapel holds 200 with zero outside interest. Our children have long ago been cut off from public concern. In the words of a professor at the school of physical therapy where we sent our Directress to earn her certification, "the best course for these children is abortion." I choose to be here, to share with this people who love one another and evidence the eternal quest to live in peace.

I profess thanks for 40 plus years down here blessed with what my Mother called a strong back and a weak mind. Up until the beginning of December, I worked along with our crew

swinging the pick and shoveling hard pan for a new septic system for our center of cognitive and speech therapy. I was diagnosed with stage IV prostate cancer that had spread to the spinal column. What distressed me was the oncologist's order to throw away my shovel and not lift anything heavy. After 20 years of taking care of David [read: "carrying" David], a man with cerebral palsy confined to a wheelchair, I had to send him to our home for men in Rosarita, the most painful decision of my life. What remains is an empty room and a larger void in my heart.

I do not not know how long or in what capacity I can continue. What I do know for sure is to give thanks to God for your support. With neither fear nor compromise, we can continue to work in the service of the other by the grace upon grace of the One who has joined us together.

Greetings and blessings for all.

Jim Hagan

If you want Jim's contact information, contact Don Carroll.

Dues Time!

It is that time of year when we come to you for voluntary "dues" with which we run this Alumni Association. As you know, we get no financial assistance from any other source except from the Raffle on Alumni Day and these voluntary dues. From the fact that this next Alumni Day will be our 44th it is plain that the alumni generously have supported our efforts.

The letter requesting dues and an envelope will be in the mail this Fall. Please be as generous as you can because our expenses continue to rise. We are grateful for whatever you can afford to give. We know that times are hard for a number of alums. We still have over 1,000 alums for whom we have good contact information. We want to keep this brotherhood going.

Thanks! Your Alumni Board

ALUMNI DAY 2025: A REPORT

On April 26, 2025, we held our 43rd consecutive Alumni Day at St. Patrick's. Another successful event. If you missed it, hopefully you can make #44. The Alumni Association honored two alums with *Alumnus of the Year Awards*: Dan Collins (R'54) and Dennis Lucey (R'64). Dan is one of the longest serving members of the Alumni Board. A retired stockbroker, Dan has advised on the investment of the funds of the C.W. Sweeney Scholarship Fund during the many years of its existence, and he continues to advise the Alumni Board as part of its stewardship of the Association's funds. Dennis has for several years maintained and curated that weekly channel of communication known as "Semnet" which provides news and opinion to over 450 alums who have chosen to receive it. Dennis is a form of glue for us all.

This year the Alumni Board chose to award the James P. Murphy Award (for outstanding service to the Association itself) to Mark Wandro (C'70). A long-time member of the Board until very recently, Mark has continued to maintain our database to keep it "evergreen" so that we can stay connected. In addition, he updated and maintain our Alumni Association website. (check it out at www.saintjosephscollege.org.)

The principal celebrant at our Mass was Fr. Joe Gordon (R'65), a veteran member of the Board who was a member of the 60 year honoree class. The homily was delivered by Fr. Paul Rossi of the College class of 1970, a member of the 55 year honoree class. Fr. Paul's homily surely showed how much effort he put into saying something nostalgic and yet spiritually meaningful to this rather "unique" crowd. He recounted how he

and others joined their seminary classes only after high school, a transition that was hard but was made successful "under the wise and courageous leadership and guidance of the Sulpician priests, especially Al Giaquinto." Paul can still recall, in some detail, the tensions in seminary life brought about by Vatican II. The changes were cheered by some and decried by others. "...we were not even sure... St. Patrick's was going to open for a new year because of the unresolved conflicts and disagreements between the Archbishop and faculty." Yet, the Holy Spirit prevailed: quoting Cardinal Bob McElroy (H'72), "the greatest gift from the Holy Spirit to the Church in the last 100 years was the Second Vatican Council."

Paul also noted that this Alumni Day was falling within the octave of Easter and this Jubilee Year of Hope; so, Paul asked alums and guests to enter "the mystery of the death and resurrection", treasuring our baptisms and our role as "disciples who are living in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus". The Day was a success. We had happy Raffle prize winners. (Thanks to you donors to the Raffle!) Above all, it is clear that the luncheon format, rather than a dinner format, is permanent. Be on the lookout for the date of Alumni Day #44 in 2026 when the honoree classes will include: R'61, R'66, C'71, C'76, H'76, C'81, H'81 and C'86.

Ad multos annos.

Donald C. Carroll (R'58)



*Fr. Joe Gordon walking past 2025 Alumnus of Year Awardee,
Dennis Lucey*



*Dennis Lucey,
2025 Alumnus of the Year*



*Top row: Mike Leary, Mark Wandro, Mike Crilly, Jack Quatman
Bottom row: Jay Kreissl, Mike O'Callaghan, Rev. Paul Rossi*



Dennis McQuaid, Tony McGuire, and Diane Ravnik



Don Carroll is assisted by Gloria Mota, Mark Wandro's granddaughter, for the raffle drawings



Dan Collins, Alumnus of the year, with his son Jim on the left, and his daughter, Karen McGuinness



Andy and Jane McClure, Mike Sheehan, and Mike Davis selling raffle tickets



*Margie Matthews, Dakin Matthews,
Bruce Bergondy, Bob Norris, and Fr. Mike Strange,
and Betsy Norris*



*Joanne McFadden, Pat Cloherty, Maria Boller,
Jane McClure, Andy McClure, Tom McGuire,
Dan Onorato, John Riley, John Murphy
and Jim McFaden*

NECROLOGY

The following alums have gone to God since Alumni Day so far as known to the Alumni Association. Please continue to hold them up in prayer.

Michael J. Allen Rhet '61
Rev. Thomas Burns Rhet '54, SPS '60
Charles F. Conneely Rhet '64
Rev. Mario E. Farana Rhet '64, SPS '70
Paul Feyen Rhet '61, SPS '67
Gerry Hipps Rhet '60
Rev. Terence Loughran Rhet '52, SPS '58, former professor
James P. Mannion Rhet '61
Brian McAlindon H.S. '77
Rev. Anthony "Tony" McGuire Rhet '59, SPS '65, former Board member
Emmet P. Monahan H.S. '69
Robert Slattery H.S. '66
Martin J. Snelus Rhet '56, SPS '62

Requiescant in pace.

CAN YOU HELP?: A CHANCE TO VOLUNTEER SOME TIME

“When, Lord, did we see you sick or imprisoned and visit you?”

Some lay members of the Alumni Board have over the years followed the last years of priest classmates and contemporaries. We have sometimes found isolation and loneliness. Some have little or no family members left. Some have need of visitation or transportation to and from some appointments or to some social gathering with other priests. The needs vary.

The Alumni Board at its recent September meeting decided to make these needs known and to see if St. Joe's alums might be linked up (geographically of course) with one or more of these priests. We have been encouraged in this by the professionals tasked with the general well-being of these retired priests in

the Dioceses of San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Rosa and San Jose. We expect to coordinate with these professionals.

The Board has appointed a subcommittee to organize this effort. If you live in one of these Dioceses and might have some time to give on occasion or would at least like to hear more, please contact any one of the following subcommittee members. Don Carroll (donandmaryjocarroll@gmail.com), Dennis McQuaid (DMcQuaidsonoma@gmail.com), Jim Farley (jimfarley@comcast.net), Jim Harvey (ja_harvey@yahoo.com), Mike Sheehan (mike@bioresourceinc.com), or Jose Salcido (Jose-salcido@sbcglobal.net).

Stay in the loop ...

Don't miss our colorful and informative newsletters, our Alumni Day information, and more. If you have moved recently please let us know: write us a note, send us a quick email, or contact us through our school's website. **If items we mailed to you bounced back to us, then we need to delete your mailing label from our file.** Don't let this happen to you!

Thank you!

Don Carroll, R'58 Email: donandmaryjocarroll@gmail.com

Contact Information

Please do contact us with any change of address, suggestions, alumni updates, opinions or concerns.

Don Carroll at donandmaryjocarroll@gmail.com

Editor, Jim Harvey

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
44th ALUMNI DAY
Saturday, April 25, 2026