

# Memorare

The newsletter of the Cathedral College/ Cathedral Prep Alumni Association

## Introducing Memorare

by Bill Bishop

*Memorare*. To recall or remember. We have chosen this title for the newsletter in order to fulfill a secondary purpose of the alumni association: to preserve the memories of our experiences in the priest-formation programs. Whether it was the discipline and structure imposed, the values that were reinforced or the role-modeling that was provided, the great majority of us who went through the programs must credit the good men of the faculties for creating a large part of whatever success we have achieved in life.

Consequently, we hope that a significant part of this newsletter will be reader-driven. We encourage you to send in your recollections of your time at Cathedral. Feel free to send in anything that you would like to share with your fellow alumni. It is the board's intent to publish twice a year – one issue in the spring and one in the fall – to coincide with executive board meetings during those seasons.

So, hoping to hear from a good number of you over the next six months, I will end by wishing you all the best of luck and, although it's very early, a Merry Christmas.

## Prep Class of 1968 Holds 50th Reunion

by Joe Fusco

Many a witty inspiration is like the surprising reunion of befriended thoughts after a long separation (Karl Wilhelm Friedrich Schlegel). In the words of the philosopher, Arthur Schopenhauer. "... every reunion, a hint of the resurrection." Witty inspiration, befriended thoughts and hints of



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### Alumni Officers:

Msgr. Edward Weber—President  
Rev. Brian McWhinney—Treasurer  
Dr. Joseph Fusco—Secretary

### Alumni Board Members

William Bishop  
Richard Castarelli  
Robert Conway  
Paul Madura  
Patrick Martin  
John McGlynn

## Prep Class of 1968 Holds 50th Reunion (cont.)

the resurrection were plentiful, as the Class of 1968 of Cathedral Preparatory College and Seminary celebrated their golden anniversary of graduation from “the seven storey mountain” on 555 West End Avenue, NY, NY.

On June 19, 1968, thirty-two young men received their high school diplomas. On the week-end of June 23 and June 24, 2018, seventy-five percent of the living members of the Class of 1968, together with three faculty members re-explored relationships of the past, were filled with energy and enthusiasm, and were reminded of “living in interesting times”.

On the evening of Saturday, June 23 we gathered at the Church of the Assumption in Tuckahoe, New York. The liturgy was meticulously prepared by Ed Behn; Paul Madura served as Organist. Archbishop Charles Balvo was joined by our classmates, Msgrs. Kevin Sullivan and Edward Weber in celebrating The Mass of the Solemnity of St. John the Baptist. In his homily, the Archbishop reminded us that we lived in tumultuous time, but worked through them, as we continue to do, faithful to the gospel values instilled in us at the Prep. We also remembered our known deceased brothers, Jim Kennedy, Fr. Steve Kelly, and Fr. Sal LaSala.

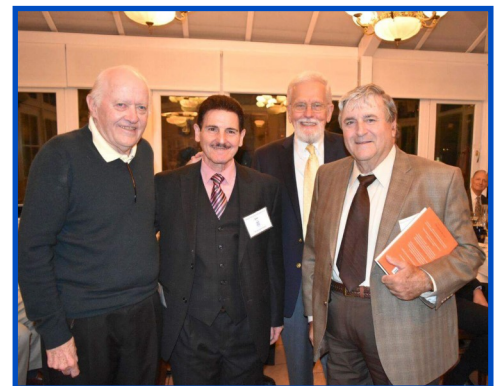
The dinners and activities that followed were planned by a committee chaired by John McGlynn. Dinner on Saturday was held at the Olde Stone Inn. where the food and service were commendable. Msgr, Edward Weber, President of the Alumni Association opened with Grace. “May these moments together lead us to treasure ever more fully each beat of our hearts and every new day life brings us.” John McGlynn served as Master of Ceremonies and delighted us with his humor and memories of the four wonderful years that we spent growing and learning on West 87th Street.

A touching and inspiring Keynote Address was delivered by Ed Behn. He discussed his and our “interesting times” and the feelings of friendship, support, and understanding that were ever-present in the brotherhood that was and is Cathedral Prep. Mr. William Poli, alumnus, teacher and mentor, spoke to the Class of 1968; his heart-felt words were delivered from the thoughts and reflections that he had penned in a letter to the Class of 1968. In dedicating Witness 1968 to Bill Poli, it was stated, “The Senior Class feels that Mr. Poli has had such a vital effect upon our growth that we have acquired an unpayable debt to him”.

On behalf of the Class of 1968, Joe Fusco presented Charles Kavanaugh, William Poli and Vincent Scotti with *The Road to Character*, signed by members of the Class of 1968. The main theme explored in the book is that our modern culture has lost its way in terms of teaching new generations the path to building character.

Since the Class of 1968 is part of the generation “that refuses to grow old”, the celebration continued Sunday, June 24. A cruise on the Long Island Sound was organized by Joe Rodriguez and followed by culmination of the Fiftieth Reunion with dinner at Artie’s on City Island.

Memories of the event will be kept alive in the many photos taken by Marty Heslin and Vinny Curren and by the favor procured through the work of Tom Sheridan, who also assisted the committee in many ways.



*Charlie Kavanaugh, Joe Fusco, Bill Poli, Vince Scotti*

### Summaries of excerpts from email, sentiments mirrored in numerous e-mails from the Class of 1968

“Our reunion was a heart-warming occasion to renew friendships and share memories. I was particularly moved by our Eucharistic Liturgy. I echo our gratitude to all who organized the events of the reunion. It's heartening to revisit with you, and I ask God to bless you. It is difficult to express in words how good it was to see each other and be able to enjoy the stories, events, etc. that all of us have, to share. Thanks for the opportunity and for all the well planned and thoughtful touches that truly made this week-end a pleasure. Hope that our lives are blessed again in the future to see each other. “



555 West End Avenue

## Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Brothers,

Cathedral College was opened in September 1903. The original location of the school was on Madison Avenue and 51st Street. The school was a 6-year program, with a strong emphasis on vocation formation.

By the 1940s, the school had outgrown its current location, and plans were made to move to 87th Street and West End Avenue. The first classes were held in the new location in September of 1942. Although the school had always had a preparatory department, it wasn't until 1968 that the preparatory and minor seminary programs were split. Plans were made to move the Cathedral College out to the Cathedral College of the Immaculate Conception in Douglaston. Cathedral Preparatory Seminary continued as a free-standing, four-year high school program.

In 1992, Cathedral Prep moved from the West Side of Manhattan to Rye, New York, and in 1998 the Prep was converted from a four-year stand-alone high school program to a formation program.

It appeared with the closing of the Prep, interest in the Cathedral College/Prep Alumni Association had dwindled. A few years ago, an attempt was made to revitalize the organization. With re-organization and revision of the Constitution, we had re-instituted the Annual Mass and Dinner which is now held in May at The Cardinal O'Connor Residence in Riverdale. We are making strides in increasing membership and are in the process of surveying the membership for suggestions. Most importantly, we are trying to increase engagement of various classes and trying to continue to make the Cathedral College/Prep Alumni Association a viable organization.

### College and Prep Directories and Class Listings

Alumni directories by class year along with contact information is available at:

<http://stlukes-parish.org/cathedral>

Note: Contact information is not available for every alumnus. Class listings are also available for all classes at the same location.

Thanks to St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Westborough, MA for providing hosting space.

## Letter from the Executive Board (cont.)

### Facebook Group

For those who use Facebook, we have a group and you can check for information and updates. This is the site address: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1031291000372044/>

With this letter, we encourage you to take a more active role in the Alumni Association and to encourage classmates who may not be members to join the organization.

We are also seeking in-put about the Association and its activities. We encourage you to complete the survey to assist us with this aspect.

As we conclude this letter, we remind you, the Association has the following purposes and objectives: To assist in advancing the goals or the New York Archdiocese's vocation program in any possible way, including financial assistance and proselyti-

zation of vocations; To nurture the Association's relationship with the New York Archdiocese's vocational program; To unite the Association's members in fellowship and friendship

We look forward to hearing from fellow alumni and seeing you at future events.

Fraternally,  
The Executive Board of the Cathedral College/Prep Alumni Association

### Cathedral College/ Cathedral Prep Alumni Association

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