Volume 36 Issue 2 Senior Edition 2022





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022!

"Get Inspired"

by: Maria Middleton (2019)

The overwhelming power of prayer Revealed in dark and scary times When one is blinded by fear and confusion God's radiant light penetrating throughout

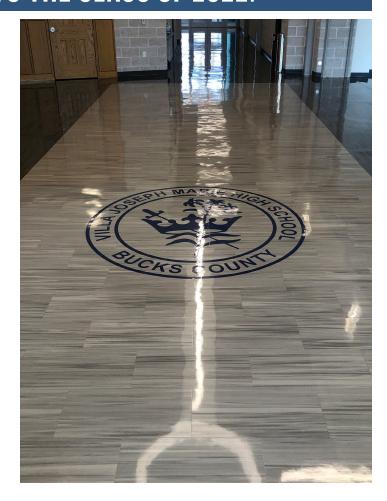
Revealed in dark and scary times
Providing hope in shining armor
God's radiant light penetrating throughout
Swaddling His children in comfort and peace

Providing hope in shining armor As one enters their journey into the depths of the unknown

Swaddling his children in comfort and peace Complete trust and faith given to persevere

As one walks their journey into the depths of the unknown

When one is blinded by fear and confusion Complete trust and faith given to persevere The overwhelming power of prayer.



FAVORITE MEMORIES

Meeting and Spending Time with Friends

Winning Sports Games and Championships

Being Involved in the Shows

Events like Prom and Hope-A-Thon

Traditions like the Spirit Days, Thanksgiving Feast, and Vespers

Celebrating Birthdays in Classes and at Lunches

Two Fire Alarm Malfunctions that Let Us Leave Early

ADVICE FOR THE JUNIORS

Don't be afraid to try new things.

Join Clubs.

Do not procrastinate.

Be yourself.

Don't step on the back of your penny loafers.

Enjoy your time here. It goes by so quickly.

WHAT SENIORS WILL MISS MOST

Friends

Teachers

Traditions

Sports

Theatre Productions

Villa's Food

WHAT SENIORS WILL MISS LEAST

The Workload

Waking Up Early

The WiFi & Cell Service

Having 7 Classes a Day

Waiting in Line for Food

Having Uniforms



Senior Poem

to grow

by: Elli Einset & Autumn Andrecjzak

The seeds were planted on the very first day

Molding our hearts and souls like clay Sprouts emerged from all around And all you could hear was laughing while the song "Oceans" resounds Watered by our mentors, we were able

We were able to bloom beyond what we had known

As we began to grow taller we realized we wouldn't have much longer
Until we were told the world was ours to conquer

Senior year came much too quick
Bringing along new friends with whom
we effortlessly clicked
Retreat and Vespers were filled with
songs and laughter
and helped strengthened our sisterhood
hereafter

All of a sudden it was May

And we were soaking up every
single day

Balloons and streamers filled the halls
Sticky notes and upside down pictures
hung on the walls

All our shirts were no longer Villa,
but college bound

As we gather for one last time all around Drenched in water and shaving cream Giving Sundays with Schmidt one last scream

Now here we are at the end
Saying goodbye to all of our friends
But we know that we will still be united
As Mother Maria's message will keep
us guided
As we sing from above

Always more, always together and always with love

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

On behalf of the Class of 2022, we would like to take a moment to look back on our four short years here at Villa. These past four years have been an adventure with many ups and downs, and we have had the best people supporting us through it all. Thank you to all of the teachers, faculty, and staff who have always encouraged us and helped us to grow into amazing students and young women. Thank you to our parents for their endless love and many sacrifices to give us a great education and support in becoming the best versions of ourselves. Lastly, thank you to our classmates, we wouldn't have wanted to experience these past four years with anyone else. Villa has given each of us amazing memories and friendships that we will be forever grateful for. Thank you to this community for being our second family. We are so blessed to call Villa our home.

To the Class of 2025: We hope you enjoyed your first year at Villa and hope it was more than you imagined. Cherish the journey you have ahead of you because there is so much to come, yet so little time. Try not to stress over the little things and take advantage of every great moment you have here at Villa. Use these years to make the best of friends, try new things, be yourself, make mistakes, learn and grow. Don't take these high school years for granted. Before you know it you will be a senior.

To the Class of 2024 — Our little sisters: You've completed half of your high school experience! It's your turn to be big sisters and the best examples for the underclassmen. Junior year can be pretty intense, but it's nothing you haven't prepared for or can't handle. Work hard, but don't let schoolwork stress you out too much. Have so much fun driving, going to prom, looking for colleges and growing even closer with your classmates. We will miss you all so much and we hope you have the best next two years at Villa.

To the Class of 2023: It has been great watching you grow these past 3 years. You are now the seniors of the school. It is your time to experience senior retreat, vespers, and all of the last goodbyes. Live in the moment and make the most of every day you have with your Villa family. Create the best memories and strengthen the bond you have with your sisters. It has been so fun participating in sports and plays with you, going to clubs with you, and experiencing almost all of our high school years with you. We will miss you, but we know you all will do great things and wish you the best of luck with college decisions and your future.

To the Class of 2022 — Our fellow sisters: We've made it; it's time to graduate. It's time to retire the old maroon uniforms worn at Villa forever. It seems like yesterday we were at orientation, getting lost in the halls and playing endless ice breakers, but our journey is coming to an end, and we are all starting new chapters in our lives. So much has happened over these last four years, and we have made it through it all — virtual learning, two fire alarms that gave us off from school, SBA closing, the passing of Maria Middleton '21, Hope-A-Thon, the new PAC, and everything in between! We have made the best out of what we were lucky enough to experience, like Mrs. Ryan's gym class. We will hold on to these past four years for the rest of our lives as we accomplish bigger and better things and will always remember our Villa family.

Throughout our time some of our sisters have moved on: Alexa Banford, Alyssa Chiminski, Lillie Corino, Olivia DaSilva, Samantha Davidson, Madelyn Deeds, Bailey Gollmer, Kaitlyn Jurney, Kathryn Keating, Grace Klingenberg, Joy Kruman, Raine Powell, Valarie Rubinstein, Arabella Seaner, Faith Silva, and Carina Yancer — but she missed Villa too much and came back.

And, we welcomed some amazing new sisters: Allyson Byrne, Bryn Colon, Emma Doughty, Kylie Duggan, Brianna Durante, Honor Eidenshink, Allison Foster, Clare Gibson, Hannah Haist, Bridget Hogan, Amia Johnson, Michaela Joniec, Hailey Magilton, Alexandra Mahoney, Teresa Majkut, Kelley Malone, Teresa McCann, Ava McCrea, Abby McCusker, Naomi Montroy, Ryann Moore, Ella Murray, Victoria Nigro, Bridget Owens, Nichole Piermatteo, Anisa Pocari, Cate Quinn, Sophia Romano, Samantha Sonnie, Bernadette Stanton, Sophia Velasquez, Keira Whalen, and Samantha White.

The addition of the students from St. Basil Academy this year has been so special and one we will cherish. We all have been able to foster new friendships and create lasting memories.

We also gained lovely new teachers and administrators this year: Mr. Ashton, Mrs. Crotty, Mrs. Davis, Ms. DeVito, Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Grant, Ms. Scarpello, Mrs. Young, Mrs. D'Angelo, Dr. Kenkel, and Mrs. Smith.

Our high school journey has been different from past classes. Our only "normal" year of high school, with no worries or changes because of COVID was freshman year. It has been difficult navigating this new way of life and following the many changing guidelines, but we are thankful that we were able to spend the majority of our learning in school and in person. We love Villa and the time we've spent with one another and are proud to represent such a great community. Each person and grade is so unique, but at the same time so connected. We have such amazing teachers and staff that bring us positivity and happiness every day we step into the building. We have learned many things over these past four years — most importantly, the fact that with God's love and some hope anything is possible. Prayer is powerful, and we must trust in God as he uncovers the plan he has for each one of us. Graduation is bittersweet. We are putting behind this school and stepping into a new world where we will be making new friends and trying different things. We will be leaving to attend many institutions across the country...Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Alabama, Virginia, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and more. It will be hard not racing to the cafeteria on Tuesdays to be first in line for chicken, hearing a hello from Mr. Mayer as we pass him in the halls, waking up extra early for club meetings, seeing Mr. Bender's all-out crazy Halloween performances, hearing Mrs. Weaver's heels clank through the chapel, and all the other little moments that make Villa so special. Although we won't be physically together, we will always be connected to Villa, the Sisters of St. Casimir, and each other through our class rings. We will continue to live by the message of Mother Maria and share the wonderful Villa spirit with everyone we encounter in the future. Although it feels like only yesterday that we all just met, our high school journey is coming to a close. We will take the memories, lessons, laughs, cries, friendships, and this sisterhood wherever we go for the rest of our life and never forget our Villa family.

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT | 5 | VJM JOURNAL

Always more, Always better, Always with love.

Senior Destinations

Abdalla, Kate Alessandra **Hobart William Smith Colleges**

Abruzzi, Angelina The University of the Arts

Andrejczak, Autumn Muhlenberg College

Austin, Carly Carnegie Mellon University

Bachmayer, Madison George Washington University

Bennett, Lindsey Kate Clemson University

Bowe, Elizabeth Villanova University

Bowes, Riley **DeSales University**

Byrne, Allyson Lock Haven University

Carradorini, Gianna University of Pennsylvania

Cerquetelli, Santina Millersville University of Pennsylvania

Chiolan, Madison The University of Alabama

Coelho, Julia University of Pittsburgh

Colon, Bryn St. John's University

Cornwall, Amanda Pennsylvania State University

Crozier, Madison Pennsylvania State University

Davis, Brynn Louisiana State University

Defriece, Allison University of Pittsburgh

Donahue, Olivia **Rutgers University**

Doughty, Emma University of Central Florida

Duffy-Cyr, Madison Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Duggan, Kylie **DeSales University**

Durante, Brianna DeSales University

Eidenshink, Honor DeSales University

Evans, Abigail Fairfield University Evans, Jillian Grace Boston College

Fair. Kvlie Loyola University Maryland

Flook, Sydney Loyola University Chicago

Foster, Allison University of Connecticut

Froman, Samantha The University of Tennessee

Galasso, Annabelle **American University**

Gibson, Clare Ursinus College

Goodwin, Madison **Bucks County Community** College

Gordon, Maria Pennsylvania State University











Senior Destinations

Grunwell, Caroline **Purdue University**

Haas, Olivia James Madison University

Hagan, Emma Wake Forest University

Haist, Hannah West Virginia University

Hannigan, Jamie **Drexel University**

Henrysen, Callie Manhattan School of Music

Hogan, Bridget Pennsylvania State University

Hunter, Maren University of South Carolina

Iannacone, Grace Frances Seton Hall University

Johnson, Amia Saint Joseph's University

Jolly, Paige University of Vermont

Joniec, Michaela **DeSales University**

Kakoyan, Camille University of Pittsburgh

Khimitch, Elizabeth IE University - Segovia

Koors, Ella The University of Alabama

Kosmala, Ellie University of Pittsburgh

Kraunelis, Megan Pennsylvania State University



Lambert, Catherine Elia Colorado State University

Lampone, Julia University of Delaware

Lopergolo, Alexandra Widener University

Lyons, Molly The University of Alabama

Magilton, Hailey Bryn Athyn College of the New Church

Mahoney, Alexandra University of New Hampshire

Majkut, Teresa University of Notre Dame

Mallee, Abigail James Madison University

Malone, Kelley **Baylor University**

Manero, Kelley Duquesne University



Marino, Juliana The Catholic University of America

May, Ashley **Auburn University** SENIOR DESTINATIONS | 7 | VJM JOURNAI

May, Brooke Samford University

McAtee, Molly University of California at Berkelev

McCann, Theresa University of Pittsburgh

McCrea, Ava University of Pittsburgh

McCusker, Abby Saint Joseph's University

McDade, Jaclyn **DeSales University**

McDonald, Emily **DeSales University**

McFadden, Erin Villanova University McNally, Dakota Holy Family University

McNulty, Mary Frances
DeSales University

Minnichbach, Rebecca Binghamton University

Misnik, Kelly
DeSales University

Moak, Kayla Savannah College of Art & Design

Montemuro, Emily University of Virginia

Montroy, Naomi University of Delaware

Moore, Carys Rosemont College

Moore, Ryann Widener University Morace, Emily King's College

Moses, Aria Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Murphy, Morgan Westminster College

Murray, Ella University of Delaware

Nigro, Victoria Thomas Jefferson University

Noble, Ava James Madison University

Noone, Julia Saint Joseph's University

Owens, Bridget Temple University

Papouschek, Mya University of Vermont Patrick, Madeline Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Perales, Mikealani Drexel University

Peters, Mary Misericordia University

Phillips, Allison Boston University

Piermatteo, Nichole DeSales University

Pocari, Anisa Saint Joseph's University

Profy, Grace Holy Cross College

Quick, GraceUniversity of Scranton

Quinn, Cate United States Naval Academy





Senior Destinations

Redican, Lauren University of Pittsburgh

Riley, Shea
University of Pittsburgh

Ritchie, Bernadette University of Dayton

Riti, Logan University of the Sciences

Romano, Sophia University of Scranton

Rosica, Ashley University of Georgia

Schmidt, Anna Manhattan College

Schuck, Annalise
Princeton University

Sharp, Reagan Duquesne University

Shnayder, Olivia
The College of New Jersey

Smith, Brianne Loyola University Maryland

Smith, Devin College of Charleston

Smith, Madeline University of Pittsburgh

Solov, Isabella Clemson University

Sonnie, Samantha University of Scranton

Spera, Isabella Saint Joseph's University

Stanton, Bernadette Loyola University New Orleans







Thorell, Julianne Clemson University

Toledo, Jazlynn West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Tomlinson, Alexandra Fairfield University

Tulio, Juliana Fordham University

Uhlenbrock, Karly Prima Elon University

Usonis, Madeline University of Denver

Velasquez, Sophia Saint Joseph's University Whalen, Keira Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Whalen, Kiersten Johnson & Wales University

White, Samantha
DeSales University

Williams, Madeline Saint Joseph's University

Woolerton, Brigid Temple University

Yancer, Carina University of Scranton TIONS | 9 | VJM JOURNAL

To the Class of 2022...

"Women of vision, women of hope, women of the Gospel...

the world is changing, seeds planted are sprouting, and so much is in bud... our foremothers responded in their time, we cannot fail in ours, let us take up again our 'yes', every day, in faith and hope of what we do not see, nurturing life and a world as it should be."

-Sister Regina Marie Dubickas, SSC

INSPIRATIONAL REMINDER

"Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead."

-Nora Ephron

Congratulations, seniors! You made it! I hope you're excited for the new opportunities and experiences that await you outside of Villa. It's been great getting a chance to work with and interact with so many of you over the past few years, and I'll miss seeing you in class and in the halls. I'll always fondly remember debating with you about whether math is real or not, going on CSC trips together, and cheering you on as you competed in sporting events. Once you leave Villa, I won't be around to ask you how you're doing every day, but just know that I will still be wondering about that! Don't be a stranger! Check in every once in a while!

Whatever path you settle on in the future, I hope you always maintain your sense of kindness and generosity of spirit. The world needs that now more than ever. I know you'll make us all proud!

Congratulations again, and good luck. Take care, and best wishes, Mr. Mayer Congrats to the Class of 2022 --

"22" is a lucky number in my family, and I feel the same about your class. I first subbed with you for sophomore Theology and now having you again as Seniors, I feel luckier than I could express. Thank you for teaching me and for welcoming me to your community here at Villa. Sending you all my love and support.

Always with love, Ms. Scarpello

Please keep in mind always a quote one os my students told me several years ago:

"She needed a hero so that's what she became."

Remember that you can do anything you set your minds to! You are the hero of your own story.

Always with love, Ms. McBrinn

"May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

-Miss McKeever

INSPIRATIONAL REMINDER

"I encourage you to live with life. Be courageous, adventurous. Give us a tomorrow, more than we deserve."

-Maya Angelou

Dear Seniors,

In life, God always has a plan, even when we don't see it. I hope each of you carries your high school experiences with you in life. Use them to make great decisions, be confident in your abilities, and trust in your faith. Remember the short list and long list of your life. Create those 7/27 moments. Visit us.

Go do amazing things! Mrs. Carr

INSPIRATIONAL REMINDER

"Your life is your story, and the adventure ahead of you is the journey to fulfill your own purpose and potential."

-Kerry Washington

...you are loved, always!

To the Class of 2022 -

I pray you stay close to your faith as you continually discern who God created you to be. Use your gifts to make this world a better, more just, more peaceful place. Carry Villa's mission with you and when in doubt remember always more, always better, and to do all things with the love of God and neighbor in mind. You will be missed.

Peace and love, Mrs. McCarthy

Dear Class of 2022,

As you move into this exciting time in your lives, do not forget the steps you took to get there. All of you found your way and made decisions, and now you all have the opportunity to explore & enjoy the wonderful world that is out there! Be grateful for what Villa has provided to you and to those who have supported you along the way. I know you will all be successful in your future endeavors and remember we are all so proud of you.

Congratulations! Mrs. Bedrosian "Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same." -Flavia Weedn

Seniors - you have left so many footprints on my heart! I wish you nothing but the best!

Always With Love, Ms. Merlino

Congratulations to the VJM Class of 2022! Remember, when you believe in yourself, anything is possible. Best of luck in all that you do. I will miss you!

-Mrs. Young

INSPIRATIONAL REMINDER

"Whatever you choose for a career path, remember the struggles along the way are only meant to shape you for your purpose."

-Chadwick Boseman

EDITORIAL NOTE

The VJM Journal is a student publication. It is created by the VJM Journal staff. The opinions present in the paper do not reflect those of the student body, staff, faculty or administration of Villa Joseph Marie High School. Letters and comments should be sent to Ms. Gallagher.

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INSPIRATIONAL REMINDER

"The future is always uncertain, but we who celebrate what you have done, who celebrate all of your achievements, we are certain of one thing on this day: You will not let us down."

-Tom Hanks

To the Class of 2022,

Thank you. You have reminded me of the joys of being a teacher and rekindled my love for teaching. You have helped me find my silly self (again) and you never judge me for being that way. Thank you for listening to my stories and making me laugh every day. This senior class will always hold a special place in my heart and you will be missed dearly. Wherever you go and whatever you do: Be true to yourself and follow your heart.

Always with love, Ms Heuckroth