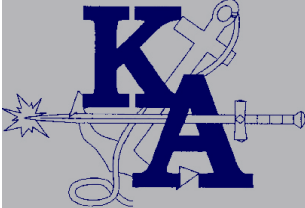


# Koinonia Academy Newsletter

May 2011  
Volume 3, Issue 4

Headmaster Thomas Appert



Jesus is Lord!

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 6/1 Senior Dinner
- ◆ 6/2 Ascension Thursday, no school
- ◆ 6/3 High School Graduation, 7 pm
- ◆ 6/6-10 Half Days
- ◆ 6/8 Move-up Day, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation, 7 pm
- ◆ 6/9 Spirit Day
- ◆ 6/10 Last Day

## From the Headmaster by Thomas Appert

To the Koinonia Academy Class of 2011:

**You are a class of firsts:** the first senior class in many years to have a full year of school, the first class to have senior electives and independent study courses, the first senior class to go on the choir tour, the first class to participate in varsity cross country and field hockey. You have done all that very well and you should be very pleased with all your accomplishments.

**All of us at KA,** teachers, staff, parents, benefactors, wish you the very best. We certainly wish you every blessing in your future endeavors. Even more we pray that you continue to seek the Lord and the blessings of life in Christ.

**We have every confidence** that you are ready for the next phase of your lives and that you can make wise choices that will lead to a wonderful future. As you make your decisions for the future, "Commit your life to the Lord. Trust in him and he will act." (Ps. 37)

## God Bless the Class of 2011

## KA Class of 2011 Accomplishments by Maureen Debrot

**Total merit scholarships** awarded to students from various colleges: \$2M

**KA students were accepted** at the following colleges:

Rutgers University  
Providence College  
Ave Maria University  
Saint Anselm College  
Franciscan University of Steubenville  
DeSales University  
Kean University  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
Seton Hall University  
Alvernia University  
St. Mary's College  
Felician College  
Montclair State College  
William Paterson University  
Villanova University

Rochester Institute of Technology  
The College of Holy Cross  
St. Thomas University  
University of Dayton  
Caldwell College  
Catholic University  
Grand Rapids County College, MI  
Belmont Abbey  
Raritan Valley Community College  
Boston College  
Fordham University

## Gap Year Students:

Joe Guido: 6 months Belfast, Ireland  
Julia Molnar: 10 months, London  
Matthew Leonelli: 3 months, Underberg, South Africa with the Reichenau Mission run by Daughters of St. Francis

LAURA APPERT  
MARY BELL  
MARTIN BUGANSKI  
GRACE BUNSA  
PETER CLEMENTE  
SUSANNA FLOYD  
JOSEPH GUIDO  
PETER HERBERT  
MARIA IRELAND  
KATHERINE KUSIK  
MATTHEW LEONELLI  
MATTHEW MCCABE  
CHRISTINE MILLER  
JULIA MOLNAR  
MAGDALENA MUNOZ  
CHRISTINE PASCUAL  
CHRISTINE QUENSE  
DAMIAN QUENSE  
HANNAH QUENSE  
ANDREW SKRZYNIARZ  
CATHERINE TOUHILL  
SAMUEL WARAKSA

*“Thank you to all who participated, and to the sponsors, parents, and teachers who encouraged the students to read and support their school!”*

## Book-a-Thon a Big Success! by Theresa Guido

The 2011 Book-a-Thon was a big success! The students in Grades 1-6 worked very diligently to read and collect pledges and donations for Koinonia. Each day I was very encouraged by their enthusiasm and updates, and I am so proud of each and every one who participated, and for their wonderful efforts!

With the help and support of their teachers, the students read a total of 1,316 books and raised a total of \$7,263.74 for Koinonia Academy! Prizes were awarded to many individual students for their great efforts, but also to specific classes for their hard work as

a group to read many books or raise a large amount of money for our school.

This year, the following classes were acknowledged for their honorable efforts and achievements: Mrs. Floyd’s First Grade read 416 books, Mr. Mastriano’s Third Grade raised \$1,132.40, Mr. Stein’s Fifth Grade read 367 books (of 100 pages of more!), and the Fourth Grade raised an amazing \$2,392.50! Way to go boys and girls!

Thank you to all who participated, and to the sponsors, parents, and teachers who encouraged the students to read and support their school!

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Play “True Honor” by Marites Allen

On Friday, May 27, the eighth grade performed “True Honor”, an original play written by eighth grader Joseph Rohal. Set in the year 2100, college graduate Matt Sanders (played by Sebastian Gallic), is at a crossroads of his life. While waiting to enlist in the military, he has a conversation with a strange elderly man (played by David Hom), which leads him to question the direction he is going with his life. With advice from his best friend (played by

Michael Petritsch) and girlfriend (played by Gabby Apuzzo), he is still unsure how to proceed. His mother (played by Caroline Ireland) supports him with loving encouragement to seek God with all his concerns. The unexpected twist at the end uplifts the audience.

From the cast, crew, and under Mrs. Kinney’s knowledgeable direction, the eighth grade presented a fine production, enjoyed by all.

## KA Concert Choir Tour Brings Blessings by Hannah Quense

I am currently a senior at Koinonia Academy High School. I have been in the high school choir for four years, and have gone on four of our choir concert tours. After four years of going on tour, I can honestly say that this was the busiest tour that I have been on. We averaged about three concerts a day, going from schools, to nursing homes, to parishes, and to youth groups. We also went to Sunday mass three times! By the end of the third mass, each member of the choir had the gospel memorized! We sang the songs SO many times, we were sleep deprived, and we were overtired, but despite all that, we never got sick or tired of putting on a concert, playing with the school kids, or meeting new people. We were filled with this persistent energy that would not die, no matter how hectic our schedule got or how tired we were.

As part of a choir tradition, after every tour concert the choir goes out

into the audience and prays with the audience members. I’m going to share with you a story from this tour, where people were blessed by this choir tradition. This story has kind of become the “theme” story of our tour this year:

We were putting on a concert at a school, and at the end when we went out into the audience, one of our choir members, Andrew Skrzyniarz, went to pray over a little boy. Andrew asked the boy what he would like him to pray for, and the kid said that his tooth was loose and was bothering him, and that he just wanted his tooth to fall out. Almost as soon as Andrew started to pray over this little boy, the boy’s tooth fell out into his hand. The boy then looked up at Andrew and said, “My neighbor just died, can you pray for him too?” This story is just a simple yet powerful example of how God answered someone’s prayer and blessed someone through the gift we give of praying over audience members.



8<sup>th</sup> Grade Performs “True Honor”



KA Choir on Tour in Maryland

## KA Fundraisers a Great Success by Donna Bunsu & Kristin Camiolo

The second annual Koinonia Academy RUMMAGE SALE was a great success! Shoppers from the neighborhood and beyond commented on how well organized the sale was and what great stuff we had to sell. Thank you for your donations!

We raised \$2800 for Koinonia and money is still coming in! Our teachers "shopped" and altogether found about 100 books they could use in their classrooms, which will benefit our students immediately. We were also able to donate items to Camp Hope and several local parishes.

A special thanks to all who helped out at the sale, and especially to the team: Nancy Appert, Kim Herbert, Linda Stein, Rosalie McMullen, and Kristin Camiolo. Don't miss this great KA event next year!

On April 10 at KA the winner of the annual 50/50 Raffle was drawn. This year the raffle raised \$13,650! Great job by all those who bought and sold tickets! The winner was Marie Martine, who won \$6,825. The winning ticket was sold by Eduarda Harmon.

The winner of the "Most Tickets Sold" contest, for the second year in a row, was Steve Waraksa. Steve sold 90 tickets (\$2,250 worth)! Steve's prize was a two-night stay and 4 water park passes at The Great Wolf Lodge.

Extra thanks to Cece Wagner for all of her help with permits and paperwork.

**REMINDER...**If you want to buy Barclay's tickets, they are \$50 each for all 6 days of the tournament. Contact Donna Bunsu at (908)696-0301 or [FDBunsafam@verizon.net](mailto:FDBunsafam@verizon.net)

*"Shoppers from the neighborhood and beyond commented on how well organized the sale was and what great stuff we had to sell. Thank you for your donations!"*

## Little Flowers Truly Blossomed by Mary Hom

At the Little Flowers Girls Club meeting on March 4th, we learned about the virtue of piety. The girls enjoyed performing a puppet show based on the scripture Luke 38-42 (Martha & Mary). Marissa Debrot made extremely cute costumes for the three main puppets. The girls received a miraculous medal and made flower clip holders for various prayers to be recited during Lent.

At April's meeting, the girls came adorned with their favorite hair bands! The virtue taught was Humility. They heard the story of St. Catherine of Laboure.

In May we honored Mother Mary with prayers and flowers as we gathered by the Blessed Mother statue in the Don Bosco building. The girls learned about the virtue of Industry. They performed a skit about Industry which was written by Mrs. Skrzyniarz.

Our final meeting for the year will be a picnic at Watchung Reservation Park on June 13th. The girls have worked very hard and will have earned their entire Wreath I badges: Faith, Hope, Love of God, Love of Neighbor, Obedience, Piety, Humility, Industry and Truthfulness.



*Little Flowers truly blossomed in their devotion to Jesus and the Blessed Mother*

## Inaugural KA Honor Roll (3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period)

### 7th and 8th Grades

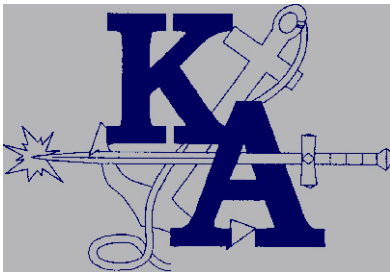
Thomas Allen  
Gabrielle Apuzzo  
Catherine Floyd  
Sebastian Gallic  
David Hom  
Hannah McCracken  
Katie Peregrin  
Matthew Ransom  
Bernadette Rutz  
Catherine Troisi

Martin Buganski  
Ella Bunsu  
Grace Bunsu  
Marissa Debrot  
Anna Filoramo  
Susanna Floyd  
Benjamin Guerin  
Maria Ireland  
Christine Miller  
Xiomara Munoz  
Hannah Quense  
Katherine Quense  
Rebecca Ryan  
Mark Skrzyniarz  
Therese Skrzyniarz  
Catherine Touhill

### High School

Theresa Allen  
Laura Appert  
Mark Apuzzo

*Congratulations to the honorees on the first Koinonia Academy Honor Roll! To be on the KA honor roll, the students must have a 90 or above average in every graded class, and good or excellent character evaluations in all classes.*



Jesus is Lord!

Koinonia Academy  
1040 Plainfield Avenue  
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Phone: (908) 668-9002

Fax: (908) 668-9883

E-mail:

office@koinoniaacademy.org

Newsletter POC:

Marites Allen  
(908) 604-6855

Marites62@verizon.net

Editor:

Gregory Allen

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For Donations or Information

We're on the Web!

[www.koinoniaacademy.org](http://www.koinoniaacademy.org)

## Student-Faculty Volleyball by Patrick Conant

On Monday May 23 the annual Student-Faculty Volleyball Game took place at Koinonia at 7:30 PM. The student team consisted of thirteen eight graders while the Faculty team consisted of the Headmaster, the school secretary, two grade school teachers and Koinonia's very own basketball coach.

Many students, friends, parents and other family members came to cheer on their favorite team. The match began

with both teams running out with the crowd pumping up the players. Then the games began. In all, three games were played and the eighth grade team lost all three. Despite this, the games were close and the second game was won by the Faculty in a close score of 12 to 10. Even after this defeat the eighth grade had a great time playing, and gave the crowd an entertaining evening.

## Shop to Earn & Shop Amazon.com by Rich Stein

Help KA to meet its fund-raising goals by shopping online through the KA website ([www.koinoniaacademy.org](http://www.koinoniaacademy.org)). On the left-side of the home page, there are two links (shown here), one for Shop to Earn and one for Shop Amazon.com. By starting with these links, an average of 7% of the cost of everything you purchase will be given to KA, at no additional cost to you. Just search for the name of the store on the Shop to Earn website (use Sears for Land's End), click on the link, and shop as usual.

For more info or assistance, feel free to call Rich Stein at 908-377-6160.

SHOP  
amazon.com  
To Support KA

SHOP to  
Support KA



## June 2011 Events



Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – Senior Dinner

Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ascension Thursday, no school

Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Full day,

High School Graduation - St. James Church, Basking Ridge, 7 pm

Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup> – Half Day

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – Half Day

Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – Half Day, High school exams, Move up Day, Eighth

Grade Graduation, KA, 7 pm

Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – Half Day, High school exams, Spirit Day

Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> – Half Day, Last Day of school, Teachers' Dinner

Have a blessed summer vacation!