



The Trinity Message



TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL • ALUMNI NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2020

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Trinity High School, Worth Every Sacrifice

When I think about Trinity High School, I truly believe in my heart that there are few high schools like us left. Many people have told me they really love the Horn Center, but there was just something special about The Barn—and I agree! I am forever grateful for the Horn Center and the opportunity it has brought to our schools, and it has been an absolute blessing in helping all of us get through this pandemic by allowing us to still attend both church and school. I appreciate The Barn, and played and coached many games there, but everything has its time. The Horn Center is 'OUR' place now.

I wonder: Why do people still long for The Barn a little bit? I think they long for that old-school feeling. Not that long ago, there were many small schools throughout this region, and many people played at those small schools. Most have shut down

and consolidated with others to build larger schools. Unfortunately, many Catholic schools have also shut down—for good—during the pandemic. I will say for certain, that just because we do not play in The Barn anymore, we still have that small-school feeling that you do not get just anywhere today.

Why are we special? Our parents and students work hard for everything we have! People ask me why it is so difficult to run Trinity High School, and why there has been such a turnover in administration through the years. I tell them it is not an easy vocation. I often tell other educators, imagine not only working to make a budget (which is complex enough) but also fundraising almost half of the budget to make it. That is what we do every year. Nothing is easy for us at Trinity! Everyone works, and the parents and students work to make this

place what it is! Our students know, from generation to generation, there is another crew of people that decides that this place, Trinity High School, is worth the work. People still ask me how long Trinity will make it. I believe Trinity will be here as long as God wants it to exist and the communities of Knottsville and Whitesville continue to choose Catholic education. I do not believe there is a more important mission than this! I have worked at other jobs through the years, but besides my vocation as a wife and mother, I cannot believe there can be a greater job than this. I am so thankful for the support of our Trinity Alumni and Friends for continuing to believe that Trinity High School is worth every sacrifice. I am deeply saddened to see other Catholic schools across the United States close, and I thank each and every person who has contributed to allowing us to get through these most difficult times when our normal fundraisers have not been allowed. You have stepped up in a big way, as the RAIDER NATION always does! Thank you!

Blessings to you and yours,

Emily Hernandez
PRINCIPAL

The mission of Trinity High School is to provide a spiritual environment, together with a comprehensive educational program, dedicated to faith formation in the Roman Catholic Church. Our goal is to prepare and empower students to become lifelong learners who are responsible members of the Church, their families, and the community.

How Trinity High School Has Impacted My Life

Madison Logsdon



Trinity High School is an amazing school; I could keep going on and on about all the good qualities that Trinity has. Trinity has impacted my life in many positive ways. When I made the decision to move to Trinity, I wasn't sure what the outcome would be. I was scared to start a new school my sophomore year in high school. My first day, I actually made my mom park in the parking lot and sit with me until I was comfortable about going into the school. Little did I know what Trinity would have in store for me.

The school was welcoming, and I fit right in. I felt like I belonged at Trinity. Last year, I faced many challenges. While being a new student was one of them, I also worried about being Baptist at a Catholic school and was nervous about attending Mass every Friday and scared that others would judge me for not being Catholic. I realized quickly that no one was judging me and there are other students who are not Catholic. I went to my first Mass my sophomore year. Although it was different, I absolutely loved attending Mass. I still look forward to going to Mass and hearing what Fr. Brian preaches to us each Friday.

I ended up loving Mass so much I recently talked to Fr. Brian about joining the Church.

I am currently taking RCIA classes and learning more each day about the Catholic faith and beliefs. I will be receiving some of the sacraments at Easter Vigil Mass.

While being at Trinity has made me feel closer to God, Trinity has also helped me figure out more interests that I never thought I would have. I am a Triple Threat Athlete at Trinity High School. I came to Trinity only planning to play softball. My first day of school I wanted to try out for volleyball to see if I liked it. I ended up really loving the game as well as my teammates. Then, I was asked by many people to join the basketball team. At first I said no, because I wasn't much of a basketball player, but I loved watching it because I had grown up watching my brother play. I changed my mind and gave basketball a chance. It was difficult trying to learn everything about basketball, but Coach Hernandez and Coach Morris helped me so much, and believed in me, and helped

me grow as a better basketball player. After basketball season, softball season came into play. Though we didn't get to play any games, thanks to COVID-19, Coach Melton helped me and corrected me to make me a better all-around player during practices. Even though Coach Daniel Morris, Coach Hernandez, Coach Krista Morris, and Coach Melton are my coaches, and their job is to coach me and make me a better player, they also referred back to God and taught me many things about God, even though we were playing sports.

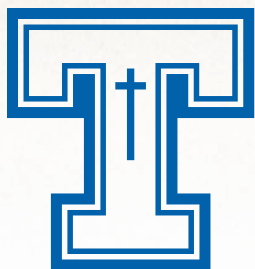
The thing I love most about Trinity is how involved the students and staff are with the Church and their faith. The teachers in Trinity teach me something new every day about the Catholic faith. The teachers are always answering questions and are not judgmental when I have a question. The Trinity staff is always thinking of the students and finding ways for us to have fun, especially during this scary time of COVID. The staff of Trinity have been working really hard to keep our school open and to keep the students in school, and it means a lot to us kids. If a student from another school were deciding to transfer here, I would definitely tell him/her it was the best decision I have made. I would also share my experiences at Trinity and how much I love it here. Whitesville Trinity is where I belong.

E-NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive our e-newsletter, visit the alumni page on our website at <https://trinityhs.com/alumni/>

CHARITABLE DONATION INFORMATION

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was enacted on March 27, 2020. In order to encourage charitable contributions in 2020 (for any charitable purpose, not just contributions to charities related to the COVID-19 crisis) the CARES Act increases the maximum 60% of AGI charitable contribution limit to 100% of AGI limit for 2020. This means that you can get a charitable contribution deduction for the full amount of your Adjusted Gross Income. Charitable contributions in excess of this amount can be carried forward for five years subject to the 60% of AGI limit in those years. The higher 100% of AGI limit applies to cash contributions made directly to charitable organizations, not to contributions to donor advised funds, supporting organizations or private foundations, if you itemize your contributions. Individuals will be able to claim a \$300 above-the-line deduction for cash contributions made, generally, to public charities in 2020. This rule effectively allows a limited charitable deduction to taxpayers claiming the standard deduction.



TRINITY
High School

*Your gift will
change lives!*

Please prayerfully consider giving to this year's Trinity High School Give Back Campaign.

GIVE BACK, GIVE TRINITY!

My 2020 gift is:

☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other: _____

Please include the following for our record keeping:

Name: _____ Class of: _____

Please make checks payable to Trinity High School, or you may donate securely online by visiting www.trinityhs.com and by clicking on Give Back, Give Trinity!

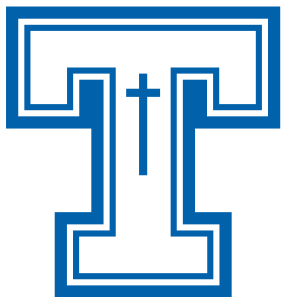
Trinity High School works diligently to be excellent stewards of all funds raised, utilizing donations at the point of greatest need during the year the gift is received. However, if you wish to designate your gift to a specific area of school life, such as tuition assistance, technology, textbooks, or athletics, please know we will honor your request. Every gift is appreciated and needed and will greatly benefit our students and families. You may also donate securely online by visiting www.trinityhs.com and by clicking on Give Back, Give Trinity!

Fundraising During a Pandemic

We have had to completely rethink fundraising at Trinity High School due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Almost half of the operational budget for Trinity High School is generated through fundraising. Raising that much money is tough in any year; this year's pandemic has made the task nearly impossible, but we hold fast to the truth that nothing is impossible with Christ. This is proven year after year that He continues to work through each of you! We sent an appeal letter back in June to help us recoup from Bingo shutting down and to replace the fundraisers, the Alumni BBQ and the Thanksgiving Social, that were cancelled. Our goal is to raise \$100,000. We have received over \$47,000 so far! Thank you! Despite the changes this year, our parents, alumni, and friends of THS, have continued to support us when we need it most. Thank you for showing up and supporting our Catholic school!



Administrative Team Pictured: Principal Emily Hernandez, Assistant Principal Jill Payne, Bookkeeper Christina Huff, Guidance Counselor Heather Howard, Assistant Principal Nathan West, Fundraising Coordinator Andrea Aud, Athletic Director Christina Rhodes, Advancement Director Anna McDaniel

BETWEEN 
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& Grace
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RAIDER REPORT

While sports are certainly not what they used to be, I am happy our THS and SMWS athletes competed in fall sports, and I am hopeful the winter season will begin soon, even if later than we'd hoped.

From March through July, athletic directors and coaches read through much research-based information about how to bring sports back to our communities. We have moved forward with socially distancing players and fans, staggering ingress and egress times for practices and games, sanitizing equipment and hands, and wearing masks when not actively playing a sport.

Though the fall season started a little late (for every team except golf), after months at home, with little exercise or sports-related camaraderie, seeing our students on the practice floor and playing games was a great reward, even if things looked a lot different.

Last week, we were prepared to start our winter season, but we learned in a November 18 KHSAA meeting that basketball games and wrestling meets would be on hold until at least January 4. We hope to hit the ground running that week with the first round of the All A Tournament.

One of the most heart-breaking restrictions in sports this year has been the limitation of fans at our games, both at home and away, and that practice will really hit home for our Raider Faithful when basketball season starts. Depending on the state of the county (i.e. red zone status) and the number of teams playing on a given night (boys team, girls team, or both, with or without cheerleaders), the number of fans will be limited to a certain number for each family with a player or cheerleader on a team. The basketball games, like the volleyball games, will not be open to the public.

We have had to cancel Blue/White Night, and I don't know yet what homecoming will look like, but I know it will look different. We have been working on getting games posted online for the fans, but that process has been slow and not always

effective. Thanks for your patience as we figure this out.

I appreciate your support and understanding as we continue with the season. I know we all have a lot to gripe and complain about as we move through a COVID-19 world, but please join me in being thankful our athletes are playing, even if we can't all be there in person to watch. This year, more than ever, will be about letting the kids play, with or without us. And let's pray this trouble passes us soon.

God bless! Make good choices, and stay well!

Christina Rhodes
ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

**Receiving mailings for your children
who no longer live in your home?**

Please contact the advancement office to update their information at 270.233.5533 or anna.mcdaniel@trinityhs.com.