

Volume LV Issue III

STUDENT PUBLICATION SINCE 1965





Anh Nga, 16, Sophamare

Ethnicity: Vietnamese City: Hanoi, Vietnam Hobbies: Playing soccer Favorite foods: Pasta

Favorite teacher: "Fr. Biju. He is funny."

What did you do over Thanksgiving break?

"I played a lot of video games."

What is your goal for this school year?

"To make the Dean's List."

How did you find out about SLS?

"My parents attended a conference."



Rem Quintin David, 15, Sophamore

Ethnicity: Filipino

City: Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Hobbies: Listening to music, drawing,

and running.

Favorite foods: Ice cream, steak, fries. Favorite teacher: "Ms. Peterson. She is

chill and understanding."



What did you do over Thanksgiving break?

"I went Black Friday shopping and did some bowling." What is your goal for this school year?

"To make Rector's List!"

How did you find out about SLS?

"Through my church and Claiemore Tango-an ('20)."



Harvey Nguyen, 15, Sophomore

Ethnicity: Vietnamese City: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Hobbies: Fashion and reading **Favorite foods:** Steak and salmon Favorite teacher: "Mr. Schultz. I love

politics."

What did you do over Thanksgiving break? "I did A LOT of shopping."

What is your goal for this school year?

"To make Dean's List!"

How did you find out about SLS?

"My dad's friend recommended the school to me."



gaudete

verb, Latin | rejoice (ye) /'gaudeitei/



Lovely Branches

Nathan Fernandes ('22)

he "Angel Tree" Project is an annually-held event in which children of prison inmates are given Christmas gifts in the name of their incarcerated parents. Its tenderness and humility parallels with the values cherished by Saint Lawrence Seminary. The "Angel Tree" Project is once again facilitated by Mrs. Margie Buelow, with the participation of the staff and students. The joy that the Hilltoppers acquired in the process of buying, wrapping, and delivering the gifts, as well as the happiness shown on the children's faces are the December miracles that motivate us to carry on with this lighthearted tradition. Nothing else is more fitting than this year's "Angel Tree" Program in representing the GAUDETE spirit for ISSUE III.

Christmas is almost here! As another year draws to a close, St. Lawrence Seminary prepares for the Christmas season and the Angel Tree Program. While numerous people around the country relish Christmas dinners and family reunions, there are numerous children who spend their Christmases seperated from their parents. Many children don't experience the joy of unwrapping presents on Christmas Day because their parents are in prison. These unfortunate children could use a bit of joy.

SLS has participated in the Angel Tree Program for 23 years, providing unfortunate children the opportunity to experience a Merry Christmas. The ministry, organized by Mrs. Margie Buelow, occurs every Christmas season. Mrs. Buelow goes all out to make every Angel Tree Program a successful one. When asked for her objectives for this year's Angel Tree, she responded, "We have a lot of children this year. Some are even from northern parts of Wisconsin; we've never had that before. With the help of many, I strive for a successful Angel Tree Program every year."

The Angel Tree Program at SLS is also an opportunity to provide ministry hours to students of all classes. Various eople making lists, buying special gifts, taking time to be kind to one and all. It's that time of year when good friends are near and you wish you could give more than just presents from a store. Why don't you give love on Christmas Day? No greater gift is there than love.

Give Love on Christmas Day is a Motown Christmas song originally performed in 1970 and made famous by the Jackson brothers, known as the Jackson 5. I first heard this song when I was in grade school. In fact, I sang it along with my fellow choir members as part of our school's Christmas pageant back in the 1980s. The song may sound simple to the ears, but its message is powerful; it reaches to the heart. The song reminds us of what Christmas is about.

Christmas is about giving. In the second chapter of Matthew's Gospel, we learn that when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, during the reign of King Herod,

three magi from the east arrived. Following a star that they had seen, the magi were led to a place where they saw the child with his mother. They prostrated themselves before the child and did him homage. Then Matthew tells us that the magi opened their treasures and offered the child gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But the most important gift is the child himself, for he is God's gift to humankind—Jesus Christ, the savior.

Christmas is all about love. Saint John, the Evangelist, in the third chapter of his Gospel, tells us the reason for this holy season. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:16-17) The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ—his coming to us in the flesh, his assumption of human nature—conveys not only the depth of God's love to humankind, but also the love of Jesus to his heavenly Father and to all people that on earth do dwell.

As we make our journey into the Christmas Season—the season of love and giving—I would like to invite us to reflect on God's enduring love for all of us. I would also invite us to celebrate this season by giving ourselves—loving and attending to one another, especially those who may find the Christmas Season difficult to bear—those who are experiencing hardships, the lonely, the sick, the abandoned, the bereaved, the incarcerated, and many others. That is the greatest gift that we can give this Christmas. In so doing, we not only fulfill the will of the heavenly Father, we also share in the life of Christ and experience the favor, the joy, peace and blessings of being instruments of God's love and grace to his people.

responsibilities are assigned to the students of each class at St. Lawrence. The juniors purchase presents for the children. The sophomores wrap the gifts, and the freshmen write letters to the parent in prison. The seniors have the opportunity to deliver presents to the children. Freshman Washinton Thor stated, "I really enjoyed helping the community and those in need. It was a great experience."

Before the gifts are delivered, a special blessing is recited by all staff and students at SLS, to ensure a safe and joyful Christmas for all the children. Together, with the cooperation of the students and staff at St. Lawrence, children of prison inmates get to experience Christmas with a whole lot of joy, and hope for a better life.





ECTOR'S CORNER

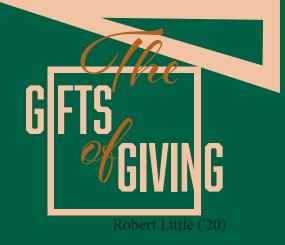
Aaron Villegas (21)

ollowing the Halloween festivities reported in the last issue, a prayer service was held in the evening of All Souls' Day. This special evening prayer was dedicated to remembering all friends and family members of students and faculty that have passed away. Any student or faculty member that desired was given the opportunity to write their deceased loved ones in the book of the dead. On the evening of All Souls' Day, these names were read at evening prayer. When the name was read, the student or faculty member lit a candle on the altar in their memory. After a while, there were so many candles lit on the altar giving off a glow that illuminated the dimmed chapel. It gave off a feeling that even though the lost loved ones are no longer here, their memories can still forever be cherished. Junior Aaryan Studden said, "Seeing all the candles lit in the dark chapel helped me remember my lost family. I remembered all the good times I had with them and I was happy to have the school pray in their honor." Overall, the All Souls' Day celebration was a touching ceremony that was deeply cherished by all.





t is that time of year again when everyone gets together with family to eat turkey and watch football. At SLS, Thanksgiving is celebrated early with a banquet on Monday evening. The kitchen staff served a traditional Thanksgiving meal of turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and mashed potatoes with gravy. The banquet was a great time for the students, which allowed them to connect with each other in a relaxed atmosphere. Before dinner, prayers were said before the actual meal started. The students and staff were invited to think about what they were thankful for and express their gratitude to God. Most students at SLS, when asked, said Thanksgiving is about spending time with family. Senior Julio Perea said, "Thanksgiving is a great time for me. My family gets together and eats a mix of traditional food and Mexican food." Mr. Phil McCabe said, "Thanksgiving to me means spending time with family. We simply have a small dinner that allows our family to spend quality time together." No matter how Thanksgiving is celebrated, it is simply a great time for all to come together to give thanks for what God has given.





WHERE THE MARE CONCE

Benjamin Bartlett ('21)

nnually, retreats are held in November, accentuating a Hilltopper's reunion with God while also focusing on class bonding. David Meza, president of the sophomore class, said of this year's retreat, "It brought my class closer together. Ever since the retreat, we feel like a family rather than separate individuals." All four classes had sessions that bonded them and taught them to act as members of the Church.

The freshman class learned several types of prayer, taught by their teachers and a few Franciscans. New to the retreats, the students were apprehensive at first, but by the end, they enjoyed it. Freshman class President Gerard Trinh said, "We didn't think we'd enjoy it, but the retreat brought us together in the end." Headed by Spiritus, an organization that creates and coordinates retreats, the sophomore class was involved in both personal reflection, such as the letter they wrote to their future selves, and in group activities, such as the "Hurt Circle," where students came forward and forgave those who had hurt them. The underclassmen had their retreats on campus, as opposed to the upperclassmen who had theirs off campus.

Run by Dr. Rick Voell, the junior class spent their retreat at the peaceful Mount Morris Retreat Center in Wautoma, Wisconsin. They did group activities to see the Holy Spirit, the focus of the retreat, in action, and Dr. Voell taught the juniors the theology behind the third person of the Trinity. The class bunked in seven small groups, one per cabin, and these groups reflected together on their growth as a class. Aaryan Studden, the junior class president, said, "It was a good class bonding experience that helped bring all of us closer together. The past two weeks were hard on us, and the retreat helped us to forget our problems." The seniors stayed at St. Anthony Retreat Center in Marathon, Wisconsin. They meditated on their vocations, as well as, perfecting their class as a family. One of their activities was called "Tap on the Back." This involved classmates sitting in a large circle with their eyes closed, and their backs faced inward. A group would be called to tap on the backs of those who fulfilled the prompt, like "those who make you happy," or "those who are leaders." Senior class president Khang Chau said, "The 'Tap on the Back' activity packed the emotional punch of the whole retreat. It's amazing for any one of us to know that we mean a lot to our classmates." The upperclassmen took what they experienced previously and implemented it into their retreats, blooming as a whole and in their separate relationships with God.

Classmates laughed and cried, sang and danced. The retreats tested their resilience and challenged their unity. All four classes came out understanding each other better and loving each other more. The brotherhood of SLS is formed by these reflections on self and community, forged in the fires of spirit and knowledge. When they returned, they came with an energy thriving and pumping through them that cemented their classes together and formed a Church out of them, acting as its foundation, structure, and community worthy of the title "Catholic."







"...Classmates laughed and cried, sang and danced.
The retreats tested their resilience and challenged their unity. All classes came out understanding each other better and loving each other more..."

n a laid-back Friday afternoon Fr. Zoy Garibay and Br. Brenton Ertel took a few SLS students to Family Fun Night at Mt. Calvary's very own firehouse. At the event, the students not only received some delicious food, but also some fundamental information about how the firefighters operate. This included multiple demonstrations, such as how to use a fire extinguisher properly, how to gear up and a tour of a firetruck. Instead of the looming threats of danger, an atmosphere of hospitality and festivity surrounded the usually quiet firehouse.

One of the many attractions of the event was the chance to use a fire extinguisher. Nearly forgotten as they hang around

Andrzej Kielar ('22)

campus, students rarely get to use them. Yet, as the opportunity arose, many were excited to try, breaking the rule of "for emergency purposes only." As students recounted, it took a few solid minutes to put on all the protective gear that makes them so effective in fighting fires. Finally, some students were able to ride in the fire truck as it took a trip around the village.

Fr. Zoy enjoyed the open-house as much as the students, if not more. As our Rector recounted, "It was a fun, family-friendly event and it gave us a glimpse at the volunteers' dedication. It was a good way to show support for our volunteer firefighters." He described the event as welcoming, informative, and, most of all, fun. Solomon Wagner was a student who attended along with his whole family. As he recalled the day's activities, he said, "It was funny to see Fr. Zoy and Br. Brenton dress up as firefighters themselves." The Mt. Calvary Fire Department indeed achieved its goal of providing fun for everyone, from the young children to Fr. Zov.











Dominic Nguyen ('20)

very weekend, many students at SLS tend to gather in the gym to Iplay numerous games of pickup basketball, volleyball and soccer. The tournament for the 2019-2020 winter

intramurals program at SLS is meant season. The students chose teams of to promote athleticism and fitness in up to seven players, six players and a students, and the volleyball intramural substitute. There are two courts on which program is easily the most popular. Yet, the students will play. The tournament is the students who participated in it are expected to take place after the Christmas not the only students on campus who break. Senior Joshua Prado stated, "I would like to play volleyball. Thus, Mr. expect the tournament to be a hit." This David Trinh and a number of students program indeed will add a "spike" to the got together to discuss a volleyball Hilltoppers during this winter season.





Ellison Juern ('21)

s red, orange and yellow leaves give way to cold air and snow, the SLS music department is hard at work. The band and choir are practicing and perfecting the music for the Christmas concert under the guidance and direction of Mr. John Ahlstrom. This year, there are quite a few first-time band members and they have been making great strides. "The beginners in band are doing very well, especially the clarinet section," stated Mr. Ahlstrom. In the last few weeks leading up to the concert, he is very happy with the progress the band and choir are making. As for the band, he is most excited for the excerpts from the Messiah, including the infamous Hallelujah Chorus. As for the choir performances, Mr. Ahlstrom said, "The sacred songs that the choir sing have profound truth in them." On Sunday, December 8th, the choir traveled to New Holstein and participated in the Chamber of Commerce's annual choral concert, which was a good trial run before the SLS concert. In the weeks leading up to the concert, a positive trend could be seen in the band and choir. Mr. Ahlstrom stated, "We are past the point of just playing; now we are making music."

Besides the highly-anticipated Christmas Concert, one can see the joy of the season through the various decorations put up around campus, which vary from pine trees, festoons, mistletoes, candles, wreaths, to glowing lights. The adept and cozy decorations is the fruit of the crew directed by Mrs. Mary Bink, SLS's Director of Environmental Services. Mrs. Bink said in excitement, "I am grateful to Fr. Zoy for letting me be a part of getting our campus ready for the birth of Jesus." She and her crew's dedication indeed lights up the Hill and wraps it in a cozy and festive coat, that the GAUDETE spirit can be felt in the air. To students whose homes are thousands of miles away, the warmth that the campus brings in this cold season reminds them more or less of their family's presence.



HO, HO!

Claiemore Tango-an ('20)

t. Nicholas is known around the world sometimes by many names, such as Kriss Kringle, Pere Noel, Father Christmas and of course Santa Claus. He was said to be born into wealth, despite being an orphan. He decided to help the poor and sick by leaving sacks of coins on their stoops. There was one poor family in particular, of a father and three young girls that he wanted to help. The father could not provide for his daughters, and in those days, a father was to supply a dowry, or payment, for his daughters to marry. Secretly, St. Nicholas left a bag of coins inside for the first daughter. When the second daughter was ready

to get married, St. Nicholas went to the house just to find the door locked. He left the gift of money through the window. When the third daughter was ready to marry, St. Nicholas found the door and the windows locked, thus, the man



went down the chimney to leave the gift. And that was how St. Nicholas transformed into the legendary and beloved Santa Claus.

The Feast of Saint Nicholas is a much anticipated event, not only around the world, but also on SLS campus. SLS celebrates the Feast of Saint Nicholas yearly in a unique way. The Student Council prepares an individual treat for each student on the Hill, and the seniors become Santa for a night, distributing gifts on the night of December 5th. Its sweet treats and a joyful feeling that every student has as they discover the gift bags in the morning is the reason why St. Nick's Feast is always a date to look forward to.



Nicholas Rodriguez ('20)

he feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is a very special day on campus as the students celebrated it as a whole with the Hispanic families. This is an important day in Mexican heritage as Mary is Mexico's patron saint. As the story goes, Mary appeared to Juan Diego on four separate occasions asking him to build a church on Teypac Hill. Juan Diego made the request to the archbishop of Mexico City, who asked for a miracle to prove Mary's appearance. Mary told Juan Diego to collect roses, and when he presented his idea of the construction of the church, the roses fell out of his cloak and an image of Mary appeared. That place is now the Basilica of Guadalupe.

This year, SLS celebrated the Feast Day on Saturday, December 7th. As in years past, some of our Hispanic student's parents, typically from the Milwaukee and Chicago areas, came to the Hill to celebrate the feast day with the Seminary community. The parents began by leading the evening prayer, where they told the story of Juan Diego and the construction of the Basilica. As a community, the Rosary is recited in Spanish. After evening prayer, there was a feast of various Mexican foods and beverages prepared by the visiting parents. Freshman John Bui was delighted, saying, "I have never had such great Mexican food before." The merry spirit at the heart of the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe served as a reminder to the faithfuls of the SLS community that the Blessed Virgin is here with her children until the end of time.





Phillip Nguyen ('21) - an A in Biology II Minh Nguyen ('20) a new ligament and **IHOP** giftcards





Martin Pham ('21) -Zebra Yeezys Mr. Schultz - for the MKE Bucks to win the championship Angel Pagan ('21) - an ugly sweater



Philip Zampino ('20) -Nintendo Switch Irving Miranda ('22) -Air Jordan 1s Aaryan Studden ('21) - FIFA 20

Nedum Osuala ('23)

- a gaming laptop

Pio Nguyen ('23) -

Fr. Pushparaj - to

win in ping-pong

the Note 10



Mrs. Muten - for

everyone to be

Nelson Regalado

('20) - a free trip to

healthy

Canada

John Yoo ('20) - a warm fur coat Jarod Luna ('22) - a new tennis racket

Ekin Her ('22) -Pokémon Sword James O' Neill ('23) & Shield - new headphones

Andrew Nguyen ('21) - Airpods Pro Mr. Van Asten -

bike parts

Hunter Braund ('20) - a scholarship

Mrs. Daane

a vacation

warm

somewhere

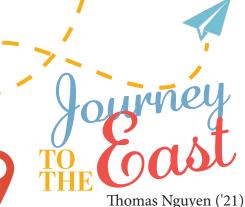






Andrew Tran ('21)









n the month of November, Fr. Zoy traveled to Saudi Arabia to attend a boarding school fair to assist in recruiting new students to St. Lawrence Seminary. Fr. Zoy stated, the purpose of this journey was to, "create a pipeline for future students."

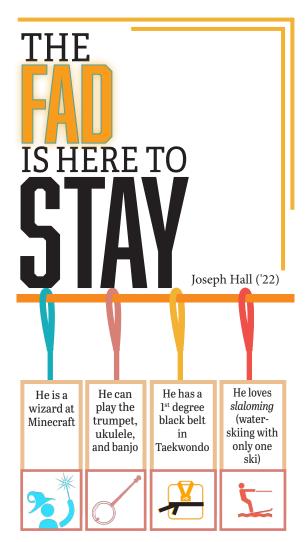
A Saudi Arabian Oil Company, ARAMCO, pays up to 90% of a student's tuition to study abroad; therefore, it is an excellent market to promote

and make SLS an option for more families. Since Saudi Arabia places several restrictions on its citizens to express their religion openly, many families want to find an alternative to allow their children to study abroad without fear of persecution. During Fr. Zoy's trip, he was able to meet up with many interested families. Fr. Zoy also visited and partnered with current student and alumni families. After the boarding school fair, Fr. Zoy presided at Mass for the Filipino community and Rem David's ('22) family hosted a dinner. Overall, the purpose of the trip was to promote Saint Lawrence Seminary, a school that offers a safe environment for practicing Catholics, to different parts of the world. Fr. Zoy is very hopeful to return to Saudi Arabia to continue promoting SLS and meeting more prospective families in the future.









r. Tyler McFadzen left the Hill four years ago as a SLS graduate, and now he is back as one of the newest members of the staff. He has filled a position that SLS has been lacking for a few students who have any injury and get them back to full health and so far he has done just

8 a.m. Because Mr. McFadzen lives on campus, he has no commute and can begin his work right away. The first thing he usually accomplishes is bringing students to medical appointments that have been scheduled in the spends his time studying hard for his graduate exam, working out, making recovery plans for students. Around 3:00 p.m. during the student's study hall, he becomes available to the students to come see him with any injuries they have. After school, he watches the sports practices and ensures that the students stay safe and healthy.

that.

Mr. McFadzen realized he wanted to go into athletic training during his time as a student at SLS. He recalls that the athletic trainer at the time, Jeff Barnes, was very knowledgeable. Mr. McFadzen stated, "I would point to a part of my body that hurt and he would know exactly what was wrong McFadzen knew he wanted to go into an orthopedic career, but this gave him a clear direction. He graduated from SLS and went After his final year, he was looking at the job boards for athletic trainers in Wisconsin and saw that Saint Lawrence was by far the best dream started.

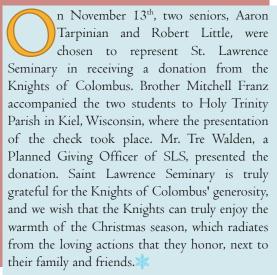
of the job was he responded, "I love working one-on-one with the students, figuring out what's wrong is like fitting together the pieces working with the students, it's clear from how gladly he serves them and how available he is to them.

Everyone is thankful that Mr. McFadzen has elected to become part of less than a year, his care for the students and enthusiasm toward the school is clearly to the well-being of the Hilltoppers, both and affection, Mr. McFadzen is the essential addition to the joyful 2019-2020 school year on the Hill.











KNIGHTS' CHRISTMAS MIRAGLE

Aaron Tarpinian ('20)



Henry's WORD SEARCH

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BELLS RUDOLPH
CANDLES SANTA
CANDY CANE SEASON
CARDS SLEIGH
CELEBRATE STOCKING
CHIMNEY TREE
CHRISTMAS WREATH

RUDOLPH ELVES
SANTA FROSTY
SEASON GIFT
SLEIGH GIVING
STOCKING GREETINGS
TREE HOLIDAY
WREATH JOLLY

JOY MERRY MISTLETOE NOEL NORTH POLE REINDEER

NORTH POLE REINDEER

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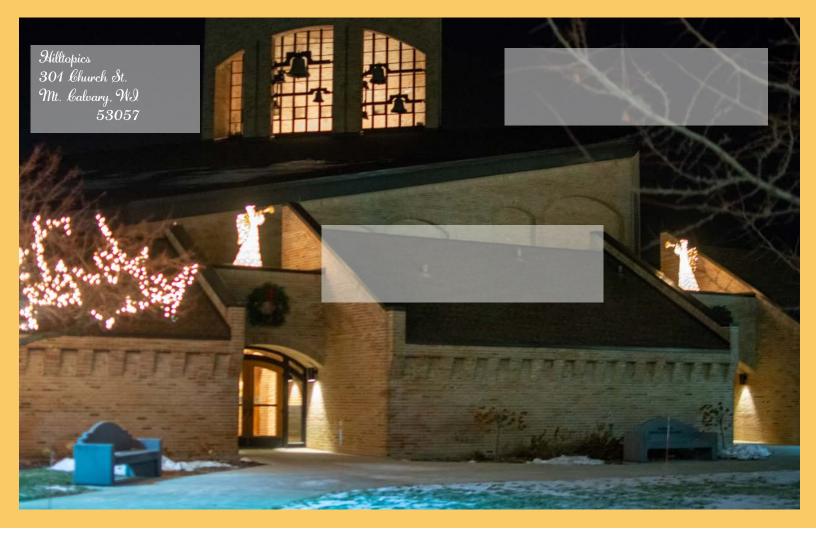


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Aaron Tarpinian ('20) Khang Chau ('20)



Christmas time for many people is the perfect opportunity to take a break from arduous responsibilities and recharge for the upcoming new year, yet, for the Hilltoppers, this holiday is much more than just a hedonic happiness. It is the time for the young men to reflect upon the virtues they have practiced during the past year, as well as the lessons they have learned in order to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. The joy that one can find in their reflection is ineffable: in the ability to bring warmth into the lives of the less fortunates and the realization that God and his saints are with us always, we truly rejoice as children of God. Our Issue III of Volume LV offers you a glimpse of this rejoicing moment that the Hilltoppers have had in their effort of sharing the Christmas' joy with others and acknowledging the divine presence in this world. As this issue marks the halfway milestone that we have arrived upon, we feel the immense joy and the gratitude to those that greatly assisted us for the past months. We hope that you, upon delving into Issue III, understand, sympathize, remember, love, reflect, and of course, GAUDETE.

ISSUE III THEME gaudete verb, Latin

rejoice (ye) /'gaudeitei/