



Visit us at yumacatholic.org or call us at 928-317-7910 for more information

“Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.”

MATTHEW 5:42



The 18-19 school year has been fantastic so far with the first quarter in the grade books! We are blessed with 424 students on campus, which is the highest number to date! We've hosted two future Shamrock days for 8th graders with historic attendance. Our wonderful students have shared what it means to be a Shamrock with their prospective peers. Our entire Yuma Catholic community will also get a glimpse into our school day and what it means to be a Shamrock on **Tuesday, November 27, 2018 for the 3rd Annual Day of Giving.** The Legacy Team students will be producing Facebook Live videos that day in hopes that our families, friends and community members will support them with a donation. Please log onto Facebook on Nov. 27th to watch and demonstrate your heart for the Shamrocks. The Day of Giving proceeds support the annual fund drive. This is the best way for YC supporters to contribute to

the success of our students right now. Your investment will help enrich academic programs, faculty development, and student activities. **We have a goal of 250 donors on a single day.** We pray that you will give what you can and every amount is significant. We have leadership gifts lined up from some very community minded businesses that want to make a difference in our student's lives and community. Thank you to our leadership donors, for helping us reach our goal of 250 donors. Show you care now by donating either on-line at www.yumacatholic.org/support/dog.cfm. You can drop by YC with a check, cash or give us a call and we will come pick it up! *Please say thank you to the wonderful businesses and individuals supporting our students with a lead gift this year.*

THE
SMITH FILA
LAW FIRM



**DRS. GEORGE AND
GOWAN DECKEY**

High School Placement Testing Dates

Yuma Catholic High School will be administering the High School Placement Test on the following dates

Saturday October 20th 2018

Saturday November 3rd 2018

Saturday December 1st 2018

at Yuma Catholic High School

The test will begin *promptly at 9:00 am.*

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start of test to sign in.

Test will last approximately 3.5 hours.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

\$25.00 cost for test

Call Laura Jewell Cuen at 928-317-7902 to add your child's name on the list.

Visit www.yumacatholic.org

click on "apply now" under the Admissions tab

Applications for the 2019-2020 school year are now being accepted online. If you have any questions, please call Laura Jewell Cuen Enrollment Director at 928-317-7902 or via email at lcuen@yumacatholic.org

A Message from the Principal



Yuma Catholic Family,

We are off to another great start this year. Enrollment has grown for the 5th year in a row. We are now sitting at 424 students. Our freshman class has 120 students. This is the biggest freshman class ever. We have 40 additional students on a waiting list to join the freshman class. Our growth over the past few years has been steady.

On October 26th we will host a Future Shamrock Day for all the public schools students in Yuma County. We are expecting big turn outs from our public schools. We have already hosted a Future Shamrock Day for all the students currently enrolled in private middle schools on September 28th. There was close to 100 students in attendance. These students are allowed to experience high school life for a day. Students that attend our

Future Shamrock Days will attend classes, partake in the Pep Assembly, and rub elbows with their future peer leaders. We have already begun the process for all 8th graders that are interested in attending Yuma Catholic to come take the high school placement test. *(See front page for times and dates of placement tests)*

I am excited to announce that we have two QuestBridge National College Match Finalists, Eduardo Felix and Jose Mojardin! The QuestBridge National College Match is a college and scholarship application process that helps outstanding high school seniors gain admission and full four-year scholarships to the nation's most selective colleges. College Match Scholarships, which are provided by participating colleges, cover the full cost of tuition, room and board, are loan-free, and require no parental contribution. Congratulations Eduardo and Jose!

YC is proud to say that we have made some considerable security upgrades on our campus. Over the summer we erected a fence around the entire perimeter of the school. This fence has already proved to cut down the number of people cutting across our campus considerably. We have also hired a full time security officer on campus. Kenny Nelson comes to us with over 30 years of law enforcement experience. He recently retired and is now serving as our full time security officer on campus.

Our Faculty and Administration is continuing to align our curriculum with not only the State Standards but also the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. We are very proud of the fact that we have exceeded the state average in all categories of the ACT. There is a national trend of declining scores in the Math portion of the ACT, however, YC continues to show growth over the past couple of years. We believe this is proof of our efforts to stay aligned with the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards. Roughly 10% of our senior class scored a 30 or higher on the ACT this last spring. We couldn't be more proud of those students.

Finally, I would like to thank all the community members who have stepped up and helped support Yuma Catholic. Without your support, our students would not be able to flourish like they do. Roughly 85 percent of students are receiving some type of financial aid to attend our school. Thank you to all of the Yuma Community for your efforts to help make this type of education a reality for our students.

God Bless

Rhett Stallworth
YC Principal

**“Our Traditions Never Graduate,
But Our Students Do!”**



Alumni Spotlight: Megan (Graham) Kuechel



Our alumni spotlight shines on 2008 graduate, Megan (Graham) Kuechel. After leaving Yuma Catholic Megan attended the University of Arizona, her field of study was nursing. Her educational journey led her to the graduation stage two more times, Bachelors in Nursing in 2012 and in 2014 she completed her Masters in Nursing. Asked how YC impacted her journey, Megan replied, “YC did help me pursue

my career. Sr. Jan made anatomy class fun and furthered my love of the health sciences.”

While at YC Megan enjoyed being a member of the cheer squad for all four years and she also enjoyed singing in the show choir. “Mr. Snyder was a wonderful teacher!” Her time on the cheer squad was highlighted by a 1st place finish at the state championships. Megan was also a member of the retreat team where she was a part of organizing and executing class retreats for the school.

Megan and her husband Kyle live in Yuma. “When I left for college I never thought I would return to Yuma. Now that I have, I

enjoy the sense of community and being able to make a difference in the city that I grew up in.” Mrs. Kuechel works at Yuma Regional Medical Center in the ICU. She is currently in her sixth year there and last two have been as the Resource Coordinator and Charge Nurse for the ICU.

Besides YC, Megan points to her parents as role models who set her on the right path. “They are the most hardworking and caring people I know. I am very proud to be their daughter.” Their relationship has a new twist as she and her parents Melinda and Tim occasionally cross paths and patients while working together in the healthcare community.

Looking back on what she has done so far, Megan stated, “My most significant accomplishments have been becoming a nurse and continuously advancing my skills and knowledge, as well as becoming increasingly involved at YRMC to help improve services and care for our community.”



Shamrocks Shining, In and Out of the Classroom

Chess Team Takes Home Region V Championship

By the end of a four-round competition at Cibola High School held on September 29, YC's chess team had earned four victories against four YUHSD teams and won its first region championship, earning an automatic berth in the team competition of Arizona's state chess tournament to be held on November 2-3 in Tucson. Yuma Catholic's chess team had played so well throughout the season in head-to-head competition against YUHSD opponents that they didn't even need to win the last round of play to earn their Region V crown, but they still defeated Gila Ridge in the last round for good measure.

Jose Mojardin and Saul Silva have provided the senior leadership this fall for YC's mostly-underclassman team, which also lists one junior, five sophomores, and three freshmen on its roster. Together, they compiled a 9 - 1 record, suffering their only defeat at the hands of top-rated and senior-laden Kofa on September 8. The Shamrocks turned the tables on Kofa, however, on September 29 in a convincing 3.5 - 1.5 win at Cibola.

On Saturday, October 20, in a state individual-qualifiers tournament held at Kofa High School, the Shamrocks took three of the

top-six individual spots in an event that featured more than thirty local high school competitors. Jose Mojardin won the tournament and, in the championship round, had to outplay his sister, YC sophomore Beatriz Mojardin, in order to claim his medal. Jose has automatically qualified for individual state tournament play in Tempe; however, it is possible that Beatriz and another Shamrock or two may also be awarded spots in the individual state tournament due to their high placings in the Kofa tournament. Regardless, the Shamrock chess team will accompany Jose to Tempe on November 16-17 and will--for those not awarded spots in championship play--compete in a tournament for alternate players.

"I'm really proud of the team for what they've accomplished so far," said coach Bill Mork. "The kids are challenging each other and they're having a good time doing it. The underclassmen are playing so well that it's tempting to dream of what they can do in the coming years, but there's no promise of going to state next season. We need to do what we can do this year."



Food Bowl Threepart & #NicoleStrong

The Yuma Catholic Student Council led two of our biggest community fundraisers this year. The KEY Food Bowl was held in support of Crossroads Mission and the students gathered over 9,000 pounds of food. The sophomores led the way with over 5,000 pounds. The school once again beat out all the area public schools for the victory.

Another fundraiser near and dear to our heart was for sophomore Nicole Laughlin who is in a battle with leukemia. The students sold wristbands, had a dress down day and held a raffle at a football game. The games gate money for the night was also donated. She is never far from our thoughts, please keep her in your prayers as well.



NHS Supports Boxes Of Joy

Box of Joy is a Catholic Social Outreach project that provides Christmas gifts to those children who are less fortunate. Box of Joy is a program that is associated with Cross Catholic Outreach, whose mission is to help assist the poorest of the poor around the world. This ministry is an annual program that sends boxes of toys, clothes, school supplies, etc. to kids around the world who are in need of such items.

Yuma Catholic High School has begun to collect these items to support this mission as a part of National Honor Society for Campus Ministry to be good stewards for those around the world. If you would like to help out you can drop off items at the school office until November 6th.

To find out more about the Catholic Social Outreach and Box of Joy go to their website:

www.crosscatholic.org



Senior Class Reminders and a Fundraiser!

The Senior Class trip to Disneyland will take place on Friday, May 17th.

The cost of the trip is set at \$150 per person.

A payment plan has been set-up to help families with this cost.

Seniors can be paid in full by 12/14 **OR**

Pay \$50 in three installments: 11/30, 1/11 and 3/1

Senior class shirts are still available for \$10

They can be worn EVERY Thursday

The Senior Panoramic Picture is November 15th

The Senior Class will be selling loaves of bread during November as a fundraiser. **Freshly baked bread is \$8.00 per loaf** and can be ordered from any senior. Orders must be in by November 20th. The bread will be individually wrapped and **available December 12th**.

These loaves will make great Christmas presents, housewarming gifts, or thank you gifts for your family and friends...or keep a few loaves in your freezer for your own enjoyment!

Flavors available are banana walnut, chocolate, lemon, and pumpkin.

Each senior needs to sell ten loaves, so help your favorite senior while completing some Christmas shopping!

Shamrocks Shining, In and Out of the Classroom

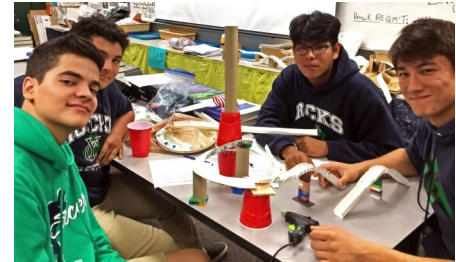
YC Students Combine Physics and Engineering Skills

Students in Yuma Catholic's Physics and Physics Honors are applying their knowledge and skills in a highly engaging lab. The project requires the application of higher-level thinking, team collaboration, and the utilization of their knowledge involving recently learned content from classroom instruction focused on motion and force. Creative engineering design application is the very first step in developing a functional, marble roller coaster. This lab effort is a very intense and engaging lab that requires the releasing of responsibility, effective collaboration, and the accountability of each student in teams of three. These students are juniors and seniors that haven't had prior experience in this type of Physics.

There is a high degree of relevancy and real-world application in this lab. It's an all hands-on lab and it requires "all hands on deck" participation. This occurs from the inception of the design process

application and continues throughout the construction and modification of the roller coaster course, culminating in the official lab timing of the marble's running of the course. Students collect pertinent scientific data such as the average speed, velocity, areas of acceleration, and frictional or gravitational influences. This is not an easy task, as the students must incorporate 90 and 270 degree turns, camelback hills, and other required course applications.

This type of lab is a great example in how Yuma Catholic prepares its students for the demands of college; collaborative teamwork, individual confidence and accountability. As Walt Disney said, "It's fun to do the impossible!"



History Class Projects

Each semester, students in Mr. DeDecker's United States History classes submit three-dimensional projects which they have made. These projects represent a major event or invention in our history. Students may work with their parents on these projects. The purpose of the project is to surround the students with reminders of their own creation which relate to our studies. It is also an excellent opportunity for parents to work together with their children.



Madyson Evans



Estefania Zuniga



Jordan Curry and Austin Pacewic

Free Enterprise Class Project

By: Mr. Bellisle Free Enterprise Faculty

The Free Enterprise senior classes this year will be participating in a fair trade fundraiser through Catholic Relief Services. The goal is to provide the public with knowledge of products made through prioritized ethical business practices which shows concern for the well-being of the human person. The goal of work is to glorify God and Yuma Catholic will be engaged in promoting it.

I hope this project helps these students to understand there are a set of moral principles which govern all behavior. Ultimately as Christians our behaviors are to be modeled by Jesus Christ who puts others before himself. The owners and craftsman of these businesses who are selling to us look at the dignity of the human being which uses work to fulfill their God given talents. These talents they use to provide a fair wage and living conditions which put families first not money. This work is at service to the human not human at service to the work. The work is centered on Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Social Teachings. Everything that is Catholic has its roots in the Bible which through the Holy Spirit the Church proclaims Christ's teachings. To learn more and participate in our fundraiser go to the business website at:

<https://www.serrv.org/category/about-us>

Robotics Kicking Off A New Year

This year our Yuma Catholic Robotics Club is named the "Leptechon". We started with our first-ever "First Tech Challenge" which has the theme of Rover Ruckus. This year's theme is based off the rover that landed on Mars. Teams score points by collecting the most cubes and spheres within the allotted time. After two months of building the base and the arm, the robot is ready to be programmed. Those two months consisted of meticulous work in design and engineering from everyone in robotics in hopes of finishing right on time to allow the programmers to do their magic. We are currently at the stage where we can move the robot via remote control; however, the arm has yet to function the way it was meant to. We are collaborating to solve this dilemma. Robotics is a place where students are united by the fields of math, science, and technology while having fun in an educational environment.

Music Department Dates To Remember

Golden Candle Fundraiser: November 5 –16, candles cost \$20 and the goal is to have each choir member sell 10 candles each.

Brewer's Takeover: Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 5-9pm. The choir students will be there busing tables and working hard to earn that 10% of the revenue generated. So come out for a great meal, great service and a great cause.

Holiday Concert, Monday, December 10th at 6:30pm.

Village Jazz Series Holiday Concert, Thursday, December 13th, from 6pm to 8pm

For more details about each of these events head to the webpage: <http://www.yumacatholic.org/student-life> then head to the music page.