



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

1 Thessalonians 5:18
"In all circumstances give thanks"

A Message from Principal Stallworth



Yuma Catholic Family,

We are off and running despite a few setbacks. The COVID-19 virus has been difficult to manage since last spring. With that being said, I want to extend our sympathy and prayers for all those that have been adversely affected by this pandemic. I know this is a difficult time and the faculty and administration at Yuma Catholic understands and have kept you and your families in our prayers. In spite of the pandemic, our enrollment is once again at an all-time high. This is the 5th year in a row with a waiting list. Our current enrollment is 444. Our teachers and students are persevering through troubled times with flying colors. We have instituted many precautionary protocols and through the grace of God we have been blessed. At this point we are controlling what we can and we will deal with the rest as it comes and continue to pray that God will provide for our school.

Once again we have increased the number of students taking dual credit college classes on our campus. This semester Yuma Catholic students are taking 340 college classes. These are all core classes that will transfer with them to the universities that they attend in the future. We are very proud of these students for pushing themselves and for our teachers, for getting the credentials to teach these classes and ensure that our students are getting the very best education possible. Yuma Catholic leads the rest of Yuma County by a mile when it comes to dual credit core classes.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have postponed our traditional shadow day that welcomes students from both the private and public schools onto our campus for a day of shadowing our students. We will work to reschedule these opportunities for the 8th grade students in town. We will also have to postpone the annual Rachel Determan Memorial Rib Cookoff. We have some dates in mind but we are at the mercy of state and local regulations. We will continue to work on holding this event, but it is uncertain if we will be able to actually hold the event.

Our sports teams are off to a great start this year. Cross Country has had several individuals place at meets. Volleyball is on track to host a playoff game and football is off to a 4-0 start and a number 2 ranking the state. These students are doing a great job managing their time juggling their academic commitments with their after school practices and road trips. If you haven't seen it yet, you need to come see our new scoreboard on the football field. Alexander Ford was generous to donate a new state of the art Jumbotron Scoreboard for our school. It is amazing! In addition, Mark Rodriguez has donated two new digital scoreboards for the gym. They will be installed soon. They will be a great addition to the other upgrades we made in the gym over the summer.

Finally I would like to thank all our teachers, parents, and community members who continue to support our school so that students may reach for the stars and accomplish all that they do here at Yuma Catholic. If it wasn't for your support, our students would not be able flourish like they do. I know this last year has been very trying for all of us. Keep the Faith and keep Yuma Catholic in your prayers.

Respectfully,

Rhett Stallworth-Principal Yuma Catholic HS

The Shamrock Family loves our Yuma Community and prays
for a healthy and safe holiday season.

Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas

Upcoming Calendar



Visit us online @ yumacatholic.org

Nov 9th
Applications for incoming students are available!

Nov 12
Poinsettia Sales Due for FFA!

Nov 20
FFA BBQ 6:30-8:30pm
Ricky Gwynn Stadium

Dec 1
The Day of Giving
A 24 Hour Online Giving Opportunity

Dec 7 *tentative
Winter Music Festival
6:30pm YC Cafeteria

Dec 17
Last Day of Exams

Dec 21 - Jan 5
Christmas Break

Jan 6
2nd Semester Begins

Jan 31 - Feb 6
Catholic Schools Week

**Nov 14, Dec 5,
Jan 16, Feb 5**
Placement tests for incoming Freshmen

Ricky Gwynn Stadium Makeover

If you haven't noticed, it's been quite the summer for Ricky Gwynn Stadium. Gone are the chain linked fences that used to surround the perimeter of the stadium and the scoreboard, which has been here since the unveiling of the stadium some 18 years ago. In their place is a beautiful brick wall, with wrought iron fencing inserts (to be completed soon) and a state of the art video board, sound system and scoreboard.

The scoreboard was made possible by the generosity of a single donor, Alexander Automotive Group and its owner, Mr. Ryan Hancock. Alexander Automotive Group has been a consistent supporter of Yuma Catholic for many years, helping sponsor major events like the Rachel Determan Memorial Rib Cook Off and our Pasquinelli Shamrock Open Golf Tournament. Their generosity affords us the opportunity to enhance our campus without affecting our school budget. This allows us to continue to

help all students and their families who seek financial aid to attend YC.

The pursuit of this project began in early 2019 with the goal of being in place for graduation in May of 2020; however, as is the case with many things these days, COVID-19 slowed the process to a near standstill. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our construction partners, D&H Electric and Penn Signs, and the board manufacturer, Daktronics, we successfully launched the scoreboard on October 9th for our home game versus Pusch Ridge Christian Academy.

Daktronics is the leader in video and scoreboard technology in the entire country. If you watch professional or college sports and you see a video board, it's most likely Daktronics equipment. Our students will benefit from this partnership in two very specific ways.

First, Daktronics provides a detailed curriculum for use in a classroom setting. We have combined this curriculum with a sports marketing curriculum to create the Sports Media class here at YC. Learning the Daktronics system, which includes running the scoreboard, creating video content for the board, operating the replay system and 3 camera TV Studio, will open up opportunities on hundreds of college campuses across the country to earn

scholarships or be a part of work study programs that will allow the students continue to be hands on in a very lucrative career field and pay for school at the same time.

Second, the students will develop a marketing plan for the video board, which will allow the school to raise funds through advertising opportunities for our local business community partners. The long term hope is to have several levels of marketing electives. This will help students interested in pursuing degrees in business to not only take part in creating the plan, but eventually be the ones pursuing leads, presenting the advertising opportunities and closing the deals.

The spillover to the school is more revenue to assist with tuition and general fund needs, a more visible community presence and a recruiting tool to help market the benefits of Yuma Catholic to both potential parents and students.

-Mr. Schiller,
Sports Media
Instructor



Catch the Spirit— Campus Ministry News

YC's RCIA program has begun! It is for YC students interested in entering the Catholic Church.

Weekly classes with Theology teachers will prepare them to receive their sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil this coming April. Please pray for the success of the candidates and for their teachers!



We're also excited to announce that our Senior Kairos retreat has been scheduled, and our senior leaders have already begun training and planning for it. Please keep the entire retreat- seniors and leaders- in your prayers.



In honor of The Feast of the Archangels, Campus Ministry provided Angel Food Cake to all! What a treat!

Even in the midst of the unpredictability of these present times we go forward with confidence knowing that Jesus is our ROCK!



Mass is back!

The Mass is the source and summit of our Christian faith – a personal encounter with Jesus. It is something that has been part of the fabric of life at Yuma Catholic High School from the very beginning – the school opened with a Mass in August of 2000, and almost every week since then, the whole school has gathered for Mass.

However, due to the current state of affairs this was simply not possible at the beginning of the year, given the number of people gathered in close proximity. Yet because the Mass is so central to our identity as Catholics, we worked hard to ensure that we could resume our weekly Masses – and as of October we have! The only difference is that now only one grade level class attends each week to limit the number of people who will be in the gym. *But* parents are still welcome to attend – they would just need to check in at the front office before making their way over for our 9:34 am Tuesday morning Mass.

We look forward to you joining us!

There will be an Ofrenda in the front office for the month of November. Ofrenda, or altar, is composed of photos or objects of our loved ones who have passed. Join us as we remember and pray for the souls of our departed loved ones.



ROCKin' with Administration of Justice (Criminal Justice)

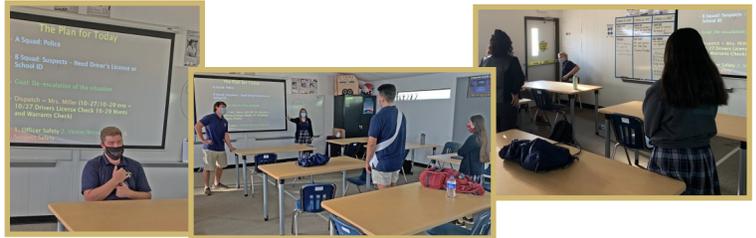
A new dual enrollment college credit class was added to YC this year, and it is a class like no other!

The students in Mrs. Miller's A Period get to learn about the components that make up our Criminal Justice system, which are Police (Law Enforcement), Courts, and Corrections.

Mrs. Miller is a retired police investigator and due to her experience in Law Enforcement, she is able to bring first hand knowledge to her class through the many different topics that the students will be introduced to, and participate in, such as: the History and Evolution of Law Enforcement, Criminal and

"I took this class because it interested me the second I heard about it. I've always been really interested in Criminal Justice, and had even considered going into the police force to be a detective when I was younger. Because of that, I knew I would love this class." -Breanna Gongaware, Junior

Traffic Laws, Culpable Mental States via Serial Killer Analysis, Communication Skills/De-escalation tactics, Response to calls for service, Search and Seizure of persons, property, and locations, to include knowledge of individual Constitutional Rights, Crime Scene Investigation, Traffic Stops, learning about how our court and corrections systems work, as well as learning about Specialized Units such as S.W.A.T., K-9, and much, much, more!



"The most fun and engaging class I have ever been in!" - Wesley McDonald, Senior

Advancement - Day of Giving

The calendar year is quickly coming to close. We imagine that most of us will be grateful to close the chapter on 2020. We hope and pray for a healthier and happier 2021. Love wins! Yuma Catholic High School provides an opportunity for you to share the love with our students and meet your charitable giving goals before the tax year ends. The 5th Annual Day of Giving is on Tuesday, December 1, 2020. On that day we will be recognizing all donors that make a contribution on our Facebook page. Students will be sharing some videos that feature what their school day is like and what makes YC so special. It will be a social media feast right after Thanksgiving! The Day of Giving donations are tax deductible. They support all areas of Yuma Catholic and help us to balance our budget. This giving impacts every student! You may give on-line at www.yumacatholic.org, or text to give at 928-362-3199, or you may drop a donation off at school. We would like to thank our Leadership Donors this year: George and Gowan Deckey, The Smith Fila Law Firm, Four Little Devils Farms, Naquin Precision Earthmoving and Davin S. Rich Roofing. Please thank them for their support by making a donation of your own!

The 18th Annual Rachel Determan Memorial Rib Cook Off has tentatively been moved to Saturday, January 30, 2021. We will be assessing what is best for the health and safety of our community and let you all know how we will move forward with this iconic event that our whole YC family and community looks forward to each year. We would like to share our deep gratitude to Dr. Tom and Sarah Determan for their continued support and guidance on this event. Stay tuned for RIBS!

Please call Bobbi at 317-7924 with questions. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas! We love our YC family and community. Be safe!



Drs. George & Gowan Deckey

Please demonstrate your faith in our students by donating Dec 1st
Join these Lead Donors and make a difference!

To Give-Text **Shamrock** to 928-362-3199
or go to www.yumacatholic.org/support/dog.cfm



#BustItOutForChrist!



The Yuma Catholic Drum Line made its debut last year in 2019. This year the Drum Line continues to perform at assemblies, home sporting events and community events. This would not be possible without the aid of new Pearl Marching Drums. Thank you to Donal Drayne for his generous donation to the Music Program here at Yuma Catholic High School.

Alumni Spotlight: Layne Compton Class of 2014



Our alumni spotlight shines on class of 2014 graduate Layne Compton. Layne had a lot to say about her path from being a YC Shamrock and what has inspired her career choice. She is honored to share her journey as an Alumni of YC:

Yuma Catholic gave me a strong foundation on which I have built my strengths, developed my passions, and challenged my character.

YC values creating holistic students who have the determination and ingenuity to succeed in whatever path they choose following high school. I was on many different teams while at YC from cheerleading to NHS, but the team environment at YC is all encompassing. The teachers who grew to be my mentors there were truly invested in my success and pushed me to do my best and achieve my goals. I am now looking forward to applying what I learned early on to my future role on the healthcare team to help ensure my patients receive the best quality care. Two of my favorite experiences from YC were placing at the track and field state championship in pole vaulting and being a TA for Mr. Cain's anatomy class senior year. My love for anatomy as well as my mother's mentorship as a nurse is what initially drove me towards wanting to be a healthcare provider. But it was the long-term relationships, focus on holistic care, and the prospect of helping others improve not only their mobility but their quality of life that drew me to physical therapy.

After graduation, I attended college at the University of Arizona, where I majored in Care, Health and Society and graduated with Honors in May 2018. Taking the dual-enrollment courses at Yuma Catholic helped me get ahead in some of my pre-requisite coursework and allowed me to focus my energy on developing my passions both inside and outside of the classroom. Some of my most pivotal roles were as the operations officer of the Army ROTC Wildcat Battalion, an athletic training technician for Arizona Athletics, and a physical therapy technician for the Campus Health Services. In my role as the operations officer I was challenged to step outside my comfort zone and hone my skills for problem solving, communication and critical thinking to ensure all cadets received the greatest training value from their didactic, lab, and tactical experiences. These skills were put into practice when I witnessed higher rates of injuries in ROTC cadets with no intervention system. I then stepped in as a liaison between ROTC and campus health and developed a volunteer physical

therapy/athletic training program with the help of two PT/ATs that would be conducive to providing effective and efficient treatments for my fellow cadets. The success of the initial program ultimately resulted in funding to staff a full-time athletic trainer, creating a sustainable injury management and prevention program for all ROTC programs on the University of Arizona campus. Helping facilitate the establishment and sustainment of this program has been one of my greatest accomplishments thus far.

After taking a gap year, I was accepted into my dream Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Duke University and now am in my second of three years. Duke DPT's accelerated structure allows students to pick tracks of study in which to focus. I am taking coursework that aligns with my interests of sports, health equity, and military healthcare. An impactful program I am involved with is the Duke Navigators Program which is an interprofessional healthcare student group that aims to help providers and patients be more comfortable with end-of-life conversations and decisions. By allowing students to shadow current palliative care providers and being paired with patients throughout their course of treatment I am developing the skills to broach these difficult yet necessary conversations while building trust and uncovering patients' values. As a student physical therapist, I aim to help patients achieve their greatest mobility potential regardless of where they are at in life. Next year, my terminal clinical rotations will help me define which physical therapy specialty I hope to pursue. I am currently hoping to be a civilian contracted PT for the military, and will be doing one of my rotations at Fort Bragg, NC with the US Army Special Operations Command, and another rotation will be at the VA in Palo Alto, CA where I will be spending my time in both acute care and inpatient rehab settings working with patients who have spinal cord injuries. I love to travel and am very excited to see where I end up, but Yuma will always be home and I am very blessed to have had my YC family always support me along my journey.



Student Council



In the midst of a pandemic how do you still promote school spirit and unity? Well, it wasn't easy. Technology was vital to navigating the challenging times of COVID-19. We held virtual Student Council meetings every 2 weeks. We discussed ideas for virtual spirit weeks, Instagram posts, how to honor the seniors, and many more virtual activities. The biggest challenge was making it feel "normal" while out of our normal environment. A big part of trying to make the school year seem "normal" was virtual spirit week. For prom, our solution was to have a prom spirit week via Instagram and snapchat!

To honor the seniors we made personalized Instagram posts with their photo and message to their class, so that our graduates would still feel celebrated. Another post we made was having members of student council and faculty make signs that collectively said, "Hi YC, we miss you very much and want you to know that you are loved." We also made a video with a similar message, so that our YC family would see some familiar faces, and hear some kind words. Over the quarantine period, STUCO put in a lot of

work to unite our YC family!