



Know also that wisdom is like honey for you: If you find it, there is a **future hope** for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

**Proverbs 24:14**

## Yuma Catholic to add Agriculture Program

Yuma Catholic is excited to announce that in the 2017-2018 school year, we will be offering an Agriculture Program, which includes FFA. This is exciting, not only because we are able to offer such an amazing program, filled with leadership opportunities for our students, but also because we will be the first private school in the state of Arizona who has this program! We are lucky to have a seasoned certified Agriculture teacher, Mrs. Trish Rush. She is enthusiastic about making this program, not only the best in town, but in the state.

Agriculture education is a systematic program of instruction available to students desiring to learn about the science, business, technology of plant and animal production and the environmental and natural resources system. Through Agriculture education, students are provided opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and career success. Agriculture education instruction is delivered in three major components: 1. Classroom/laboratory instruction, 2. Supervised agricultural experience programs(work-based learning), and 3. Student leadership organization, FFA.

We will be having a parent/student informational meeting at 3:00p.m. on April 10<sup>th</sup>, where you will meet and hear from Trish Rush about the program, as well as, meet and hear from State Officers in the FFA Organization. Because our community is so rich in agricultural life, we are excited to offer this program to our students. We hope you will join us on April 10<sup>th</sup> to get more information about this new program!

**“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”**

*Matthew 13:23*



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## High School Placement Tests for incoming freshmen

**Final Testing Date!**

**April 22, 2017**

Tests will take place at **Yuma Catholic High School** and they will begin promptly at **8:30 am**.

**Pre-Registration is required**

**\$25 test fee**

Call Laura Cuen at 928-317-7902 to register your child today.

## 2017-2018 School Year Applications

We are now accepting applications online for incoming freshmen and new students.

If you have any questions please call Laura Cuen at 928-317-7902.

[Click here to start your application now!](#)

## Re-enrollment Changes!

Current Students and Parents

Re-enrollment will be done through our RenWeb online enrollment feature for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Registration fees will only be accepted via payment online.**

Going forward any parents requesting a payment plan will be required to set up a plan through the FACTS website for automatic withdrawal.

Payment Options Include:

Monthly

Quarterly

By Semester

Annually

# Students Building a Foundation for the Future

Working at Yuma Catholic High School is an inspiring opportunity to meet Christ in the faces of our students. Each one of the 378 students have feelings, with hope and dreams of a bright future as they continue their journey of life. We see daily how Christ works through them to create a positive high school community, grow in service, prepare for college and demonstrate their faith.

This newsletter has just a few examples of the amazing things these young people are achieving. There are great strides being accomplished in the classroom, in the extra-curricular activities and in service. These remarkable students need your support to continue to reach their full potential at Yuma Catholic High School.

Pope Francis calls us to enter “Lent as a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing them in the face of Christ.” Often the unfamiliar person will comment that private schools are full of the wealthy with no need of support. While we all are indeed privileged to study and work where Christ is valued, there are many families, supporters, and staff who

sacrifice and struggle to make this education a reality for our youth. Over 78% of the families need tuition assistance to choose Yuma Catholic for their children.

It is for those reasons, we ask **everyone** to support the annual fund each year in whatever amount they can financially afford. If you have already given to the annual fund, thank you! Could you help out again? If everyone could fill the enclosed envelope with a donation within their means this April, we can make our goal to keep tuition in the reach of more families, provide more financial support to families, keep the curriculum and instruction going strong and continue to add value to the Yuma Catholic experience through activities that develop well-rounded students.

We are less than \$10,000 away from reaching our annual fund goal for this school year. Please demonstrate your faith in our students and donate to make their dreams a reality.

Blessings to your families during this Lenten season! May your families see Christ in the everyday nature of your lives and relish the fleeting time spent together.

Yuma Catholic is filled with so many talented students. Our art program, led by Mr. Beck is no exception. We’ve highlighted two students who have worked very hard this year to improve their skills.

Freshman Geoffrey Ponce is a member of the art and design class. Mr. Beck has these students focused on researching and finding a famous artist they relate to and creating a reproduction of one of their pieces. Geoffrey (picture left) chose Ken Marshall. Mr. Marshall is famous for his paintings of famous ocean liners.

Junior Romeria Kelly is the only Painting III student. She chose to do an independent study to further her skills. Romeria (picture right) was encouraged by Mr. Beck to find a style of painting that interested her and she chose impressionism. Impressionism is a 19<sup>th</sup> century style made famous by Claude Monet. The painting pictured here is a Romeria original.

The students in the art program are encouraged by Mr. Beck to “take a look at art/design through many different angles so the student can find something that they (learn to) enjoy art.”

[To see more of our talented art students and their creations scroll to page 3](#)



Submitted by: Mr. Dean Cain

On Saturday, March 4th, Yuma Catholic entered two teams for the Yuma County Mock Trial competition sponsored by the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education, the Arizona Bar Association and the Yuma County Bar Association. There were seven teams entered to compete in four rounds. Each team had to make presentations to a Superior Court Judge to either prosecute or defend the defendant in the case. The Yuma Catholic team of Eduardo Felix, Kaden Peace, Jakob Curry, Nini Hernandez, Andrew Gregory, Joshua Rodgers and Mitzy Castro earned third place in the competition. Also Jenna Casares, Anny Zhen, Lily Imai, Zeke Rios, Jake Dempsey, Keyana Hass, Ileanazul Arrizon and Edgar Morales competed for YC. Eduardo Felix and Anny Zhen were chosen by the judges as members of the All Star Team. The teams were coached by teacher Dean Cain and Attorney Richard Edgar.



## YC Band and Choir @ Anaheim

The Choir and Band competed in the World Strides Heritage Performance Festival this past weekend in Anaheim. The Band earned a rating of Bronze and the Choir earned a rating of Silver. The groups also earned the prestigious "Spirit of Anaheim" award for their spirited passion for music and their spirited respect and treatment of everyone at the festival. Congratulations and praise God for their accomplishments!

## End of the Year Concert

Monday, May 22, 2017

6:30pm

Yuma Catholic Cafeteria

# More from Our Talented Art Students



# Alumni Spotlight: Allyson Seale

Allyson Seale graduated from Yuma Catholic in 2007. She then attended Arizona State University obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. She currently resides in Yuma as a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Ronald Reagan Fundamental School.

Allyson describes the lasting impression of YC as a "tight knit community. It was a safe, comfortable place to grow into a young adult." She still keeps in touch with many friends, especially fellow alums Lane Spencer and Ann Ferguson (Nakaswa), plus she attended school with her sister Laura Weyenberg (Seale) a 2005 graduate. "One of my most memorable moments was my last home softball game my senior year. It was such a wonderful experience working with Tuffly and the girls on the team for four years. Softball had such a positive influence on me."

As a valued member of the Yuma community, Allyson explains, "My time at Yuma Catholic taught me how to work collaboratively with others and that hard work and determination will pay off in the future." She encourages current students, "Enjoy your time in high school, it will fly by! Work hard on things that are important to you; other people will notice the effort you put forth! Don't feel like you have to have it all figured out the time you graduate."

We are so proud to announce Allyson is nominated as Primary Teacher of the Year at Ronald Reagan. Congratulations and thank you for being a tremendous educator, Allyson Seale!

Submitted by: Elizabeth Williams Class of 2005



## Students Putting Their Faith Into Action

By: Ana Lupercio-Class of 2017

How often do people take risks? How many times do people do things without knowing what the outcome may be? This past November, nine seniors were sent to go experience a Kairos Retreat without knowing what to expect. We did not know what we were going to do, but we did know that we would experience this retreat with students from Salpointe Catholic High School.

Every time we asked Mr. Godbout or Mrs. Meade what we would be doing on this retreat, they would tell us to just wait and see. It was all so secretive which made us anxious and second guess ourselves about going. At the same time, it was all this secretiveness that made the retreat so appealing. Why was it so secretive and why could we not know a lot about it?

On the day we left for the retreat, it became real and the most dreaded moment in any teenager's life was approaching, we had to give up our phones. It wasn't like giving up your phone for a few hours or a day, it was several days. Once Mr. Godbout said, "okay, time to give up your phones," all of us took one last look at our phones, sent our last snapchats, tweeted our last tweets, texted our parents that we were giving up our phones, and handed them in. It was painful, but once inside the vans, things changed. We started to talk to each other more and we bonded instantly. It was at this moment when I realized how much teenagers are so attached to their social media that we sometimes forget to live in the moment and cherish it as much as we can.

Hours later, we finally arrived at the camp and

Kairos 252 officially started. Four days later, Kairos 252 ended and it was time to head back home. In my nineteen years of life, I have never had such a beautiful and spiritually uplifting experience. Whenever I look back on everything that we did on Kairos, I get a warm feeling inside of my heart and a strong sense of peace and joy. Kairos is definitely something that cannot be explained, it is something that has to be experienced. Now I understand why Mr. Godbout and Mrs. Meade couldn't answer our questions. We had to experience it for ourselves.

Kairos makes you appreciate life a lot more, it makes you really focus on yourself, others, and especially God. The one thing that is great about Kairos is that anybody can experience it. You do not have to be Catholic in order to attend a Kairos Retreat. All you need it to have the willingness to go, an open mind, and an open heart. Personally, Kairos was an experience that I will never forget. Thanks to Kairos, I was able to make a lot of new friends, grow closer with my current friends, and most of all grow closer to God.

You can only live Kairos once, and once it is over, you cannot live it again. Kairos is a beautiful experience that cannot be described in words. Kairos is about learning more about yourself and your friends. Kairos is about making new friends and most of all, learning more about God's love for every person and especially you. Kairos is about going into the unknown and trusting that God will lead the way. To all the people going on Kairos 1, all we, the leaders, have to say is to be ready for some very intense three days. We have worked hard on this retreat and are super excited for all

of you to experience it. Kairos 1 is definitely going to be one to remember, so please come prepared to experience something you may have never experienced before. Kairos 1 attendees, get excited because you do not know what awaits you.

*To read more from our students experiences and see pictures from the Kairos Retreat, just turn the page !*

**St. John Paul II Youth Awards** given by Bishop Kicanas to three YC seniors:

**Michael Nicholls for:**  
Catechesis and Evangelization

**Bethany Johnson for:**  
Prayer and Worship

**Jaime Hernandez for:**  
Community Service and Social Justice

Pictured Below: Mrs. Meade, Mr. Stallworth, Jaime Hernandez, Bethany Johnson, Mike Nicholls, Bishop Kicanas, Fr. Emilio



# Kairos 1 Retreat



My experience at Kairos was unforgettable. I only knew two other people going to the Kairos retreat in Oracle, so you can imagine how anxious I was on the drive up. I was questioning my decision of choosing to go on this retreat. Upon my arrival, my feelings of anxiety did not die down; I was separated from the only two people I knew when I was put into a group. Even with all of these circumstances, I felt completely at home within the first hour. Everyone was extremely comforting, and Kairos is set up for everyone to come closer together. I was a complete stranger with everyone at the start of Kairos, and at the end I can honestly say that I had honestly become great friends with everyone there.



Hayden Gerber

Class of 2017

Kairos 253 Participant and Kairos 1 Leader



# Student Spotlight: Emma Edwards

“Shamrocks are known for being lucky, but Yuma Catholic Shamrocks are known for making their own luck.” That’s a quote from senior Emma Edwards, our student in the spotlight this quarter. Emma is a member of the National Honor Society and a four year member of the cheer team, where she has been the captain the last two years. Emma is also active in the Golden Shamrock Choir. Emma has spent the last four years at Yuma Catholic creating a resume’ for herself that would allow her to reach her childhood goal of attending the University of Michigan this fall. A goal that she says was fostered by stories of her family member’s experiences there and the “glories of being a Wolverine.”

Since freshman year Emma says that dream has “transformed into an actual goal of mine. I (am) no longer solely interested in having the same fantastic experience as my relatives, but more focused on the education and career opportunities that would be made available to me.” Ms. Edwards intends on completing a degree in developmental psychology, focused on becoming a child psychologist. “After volunteering for a summer at the Yuma Art Center helping with children in musical theater, I knew I definitely wanted to work with children.”

According to Emma the application process “was quite simple.” She needed to fill out the common application all students fill out and follow up with three supplemental essays directed towards the specific school she planned to attend. Emma’s essays focused on life in Yuma, why she thought Michigan was the right fit for her and finally an essay focused on her continued desire to volunteer to help the children at the Art Center. Early acceptance is generally considered a high honor and when you add into it the prestige that the University of Michigan holds in the

academic community it’s certainly clear recognition that students who are accepted early are the best of the best. Emma received her letter of acceptance this past December and will start this fall in Ann Arbor.

Emma credits Yuma Catholic for creating an environment that “not only prepares its students for their future education, but instills an attitude to pursue and attain any goal a student aspires to achieve.” Ms. Edwards specifically points to Mrs. Terra Stallworth for her guidance to her and every student at YC. Her individual focus on the entire college application process and experience are vital to the success of all students here at YC. Emma also sites band and choir director Mr. Brandon Coz for “his encouragement and genuine care for each of his students.” It inspired her to make him proud. In addition, Emma thanks her two cheer coaches Mrs. Denelle LoCoco and Mrs. Andrea Priest who have taught her “the value of responsibility, loyalty, commitment and self-determination; without which I would not have been able to call myself a Wolverine today.”

Finally Emma stated with Yuma Catholic, “No luck was ever needed.”



## Counseling

The year is almost coming to an end and is extremely busy for our seniors. There are many scholarships due in March and April, so please check in with your child to make sure that they are completing and taking advantage of these opportunities provided by our generous community. To date, our seniors have earned \$7.85 million in scholarships. I know many students have not turned in some of their scholarship offers, so I am confident that this number will grow significantly! This is a direct result of your child’s hard work and dedication in their academics and extracurricular activities. We are very proud of their accomplishments! The students will be recognized for their scholarship offers and other accomplishment on the Senior Award Night! Please make sure that they share their scholarships with us, so that they can be recognized that night.

## Two Shamrocks Sign Letters of Intent



James Stover signed a letter of intent to play football at Benedictine University in Illinois



Daniel Callender signed a letter of intent to play football at the University of South Dakota

## Shamrock All-Region Team

### Boys soccer

- Ramon Urbano (Jr)** 28 goals, 7 assists
- Eleuterio Gutierrez (So)** 22 goals, 19 assists

### Girls soccer

- Giselle Meza (Sr)** 11 goals, 5 assists
- Ezlie Perez (Sr)** 11 goals, 12 assists
- Natalie Camarena (So)**
- Bryanna Wiley (Sr)**

### Boys Basketball

- Jaylen Barnes (Sr)** 15.0 ppg, 5.3 rpg, 5.3 apg, 2.7 spg
- Daniel Callender (Sr)** 11.2 ppg, 10.4 rpg, 3.8 bpg

### Girls Basketball

- Emily Rowilson (Sr)** 6.5 ppg, 8.6 rpg, 1.8 bpg

### Wrestling

- Austin Blomquist (Jr)** 46-8, Second Place in State
- Richard Molina (Jr)** 53-4, Fourth Place in State
- Devon Madrid (Sr)** 42-19, Sixth Place in State
- Dawson Peterson (Sr)** 39-24, Sixth Place in State

Congratulations to our  
Varsity Boys Soccer Team  
2016-2017 3A State Champions  
#threepat