



“As each one has received a gift, use it to **serve one another** as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

1 Peter 4:10

To the Class of 2023:

We are honored to congratulate you on becoming the newest members of Father Ryan’s established alumni network. Your desire to grow and challenge yourself, with our Tradition of Faith, Knowledge, Service as your compass, has resulted in an esteemed collection of Father Ryan graduates ready to positively impact communities across the world.

As you look forward and consider the incredible future that lies ahead, our charge to you is to remember the people who supported you in all endeavors:

The friends who built your fondest memories, the family units who supported you at your highest and your lowest, and the dedicated faculty and staff who strived to know and love you each day.

All of these distinct pieces form a larger idea that we want you to carry with you throughout your life: a strong sense of and appreciation for community, especially the Father Ryan community.

Every year, Father Ryan identifies a theme to serve as a guide and inspiration for the school year. Our school year theme of Community has reminded our faculty, staff, and students of the importance of connection in all things. It has been a joy to see the Class of 2023 learn, grow, and celebrate together as a community.

In the coming years, as you go your separate ways and explore what it means to be an experience of the living Gospel, remember the lessons you learned inside the doors of Father Ryan and the communities you formed. You have the opportunity to form a community for Christ with all you encounter and share the good news wherever you go.

The Class of 2023 left its mark on Father Ryan forever, and from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for being such tremendous ambassadors of the Father Ryan community, now and in the future.

Go Irish!

Paul Davis '81
Principal

Jennifer Anton
Academic Dean





“It is important to have a **reliable support system** that will stand behind you in the good times and the bad. I have been able to **continue my faith education** while at Father Ryan, which has given me a **strong foundation** going into life on my own.”

*Claire Maxwell,
Immaculata House*

A TRADITION OF

Faith

Faith based in the Catholic tradition is at the center of all we do at Father Ryan. We provide our students opportunities to deepen their faith as we challenge them to reach their spiritual, academic, and personal potential. The Father

Ryan family continues to grow as an inclusive and uplifting community where all are welcome. By encountering Christ in myriad ways, students embody our mission as a school to be an experience of the living Gospel in our world.



Grayson Brunner

Emerald House | Student Ministry Team

The Tradition of Faith at Father Ryan means sharing Christ through every interaction with others. Father Ryan has helped me find a new love for the Lord and have a faith-filled family to which I know that I can always return. I was known and loved by countless teachers who went out of their way to help me create an amazing place to spend the past four years. From Jesus Class with Coach McGee and Tech Design with Mrs. McClendon to English with Coach Kent, my fellow classmates and teachers have helped me make wonderful memories.



Addie O'Brien

Trinity House Chaplain | Music Ministry

Our Tradition of Faith incorporates prayer into everyday life at Father Ryan High School. I have been shown that faith-based environment firsthand with all of my teachers telling me they are praying for my mom as she battles cancer. Their care for my family and me goes beyond just that of a student. Music Ministry has enabled me to feel engaged in Mass, and I love being able to lead others in worship. Using my gifts for God's glory is very important to me.



Ryan Burns

Oak House Captain | SEARCH Leader

Father Ryan laid the groundwork for my faith life. It offers so many opportunities not only to practice my faith but to grow in it as well. Father Ryan's Tradition of Faith has been the most impactful experience during my time at Father Ryan. It has shaped me into who I am today. Ever since I stepped on campus for the first time back when I was a freshman, I have always felt known and loved. Whether it was the teachers who took the time to get to know me or the upperclassmen who helped me learn the ropes, the people at Father Ryan always make it feel like home.



Drew Tons

Norwood House | Altar Server

Faith is embedded in everything we do at Father Ryan. It remains an integral part of the school day, from the morning prayer and prayer before lunch to the Christ-centered classes. Monthly Masses, service opportunities, and faith-based learning are some ways faith is implemented. Not only have I learned about my faith through Theology classes, but I have also deepened my faith through the example Father Ryan sets for its students. The Tradition of Faith that Father Ryan sets into its mission is also set in each and every student.



“I have learned more than I ever thought possible and accomplished things I would never have dreamed. The Father Ryan community is loving, caring, supportive, and encouraging and has made an everlasting mark on my life.”

Kylie Armstrong, Norwood House

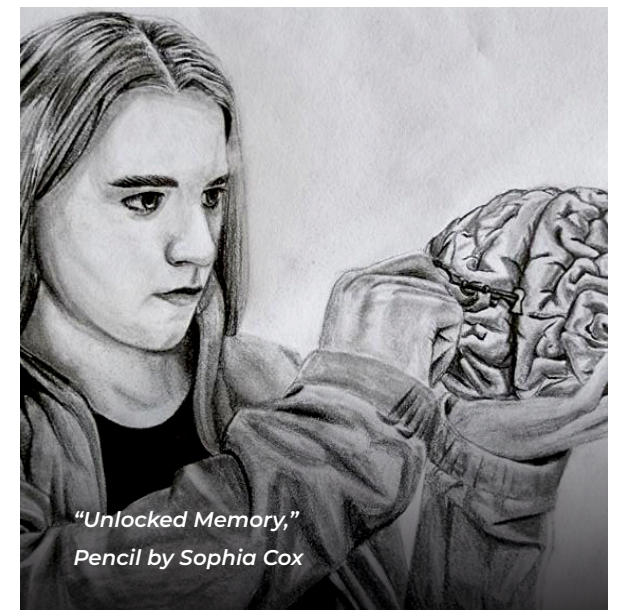


A TRADITION OF

Knowledge

Every day at Father Ryan, our students experience success, challenge, and growth through all academic endeavors to help them reach their full potential. We believe in the importance of offering a rigorous curriculum for students of all learning levels in a

supportive environment for the development of hearts and minds. By inspiring our students to engage in a variety of challenging courses, Father Ryan graduates are ready to take the next step as well-informed, global citizens.



“Unlocked Memory,”
Pencil by Sophia Cox



Kemi Tela
Emerald House | Princeton Prize in Race Relations
Award Winner | Yale University

To me, Father Ryan’s Tradition of Knowledge signifies the school’s desire to best support, accommodate, and challenge each of its students academically while preparing them for a successful future. I believe this commitment to students’ academic success is best displayed in Father Ryan’s academic learning levels, which provide each individual student with a learning plan catered to their strengths and weaknesses, ultimately helping them grow and excel. Father Ryan instills in its students a desire to pursue academic excellence, and the supportive learning environment has developed my linguistic, mathematical, and analytical skills and expanded my academic interests.



Matteo Ward
Immaculata House | National Merit Scholar
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Father Ryan has given me the opportunity to have teachers who are very experienced and knowledgeable and want to see me grow academically. In addition, I have been able to take many rigorous courses and AP classes to prepare me for college. As students, we pursue academic excellence. Father Ryan teachers have made me feel known and loved, especially Mr. Harden. During the year of COVID, he made an effort to truly know me.



Brody Moran
Elliston House | University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Father Ryan’s Tradition of Knowledge means a tradition of challenging yourself academically. Father Ryan’s teachers and my classmates push me to challenge myself in the classroom, whether that be taking a harder class or reaching out to a teacher to better understand a concept so that I become the best student that I can be. My teachers’ enthusiasm for their classes as well as their devotion to helping their students allowed me to flourish in their classrooms and to better understand the subject material.



Faith Geshwiler
Trinity House | National Merit Scholar
Oregon State University

When I came to Father Ryan as a freshman, I knew I was coming to a school that had a long history of academic success. I had full confidence that I would receive a very high level of instruction and that I would have many opportunities to explore academic areas that were of interest to me. Also, I felt motivated to put forth my best effort to succeed because I wanted to be a part of Father Ryan’s legacy of academic achievement. I have been prepared for my future by being given guidance on what I should focus on during my college search and by keeping me on track during my college application process.

**Knowledge by
the Numbers**

54%

**Seniors Took One
or More AP Courses**

487

**AP Courses Taken
by Class of 2023**

7,771

Credits Earned



Grace Darke
Oak House | St. Vincent de Paul Service Society

Service at Father Ryan means reaching out to vulnerable parts of our community and helping them in any way we can. For me, this means volunteering at Room In The Inn, Relay for Life, Safe Haven, and more. In every experience, you form relationships with people – some of whom you would never have made without that service opportunity. I played a major role at Room In The Inn at Christ the King, and it grew my relationships with many other students and the guests we served. It developed my compassion for those around me and taught me the importance of helping those in need.

A TRADITION OF

Service

At Father Ryan, one of the most distinctive and influential ways to connect with God is to serve others. Our students have the opportunity to improve the lives of their Nashville neighbors and effect positive change in their community through

our service-learning curriculum. By developing a heart for service and engaging with those in our community who need it most, our young men and women become an experience of the living Gospel.



Grace Holland
Emerald House | Relay for Life Co-Chair

Father Ryan's Tradition of Service goes beyond the requirement we are given as students and gives us a plethora of opportunities to live out our faith. It has allowed me to meet people who are outside of my normal circle of friends and get to know them on a deeper level. From the moment I came on campus, the faculty, staff, and students were very welcoming and made me feel that this was the place where I was meant to be. I decided to get involved early as a Father Ryan student, which allowed me to make my experience my own, and everyone was always supportive.



Joseph Jones
Norwood House
St. Vincent de Paul Service Society

Service is deeply rooted in Father Ryan's core principles. Father Ryan has encouraged me to pursue my passion for helping others in my community and through my volunteer work. Having the opportunity to work with organizations like GiGi's Playhouse, the American Cancer Society, and Room In The Inn has allowed me to meet and spend time with some amazing people. Simple acts of giving my time to assist others have provided me with lifelong memories. Helping and serving others have become traditions that I will carry with me beyond my time at Father Ryan.

"The Father Ryan **community** means so much to me. It is a community that is welcoming and **loving to all.**"

Anabelle Dragan, Trinity House



Grace MacLaughlin
Norwood House | *Mission Trip*

Father Ryan's Tradition of Service means focusing on helping those around us. I think it's really important to give back to our community whenever we can because through service we can develop new relationships and grow to be more Christ-like human beings. I was involved with the Urban Bicycle Food Ministry where we biked downtown and gave out water, burritos, and other necessities to the homeless. I had the opportunity to connect with the people I worked with, and I began to love the work I was doing. It wasn't just for service hours anymore; serving the people of my community really brought me joy.



Luke Wathen
Emerald House | *Eagle Scout*

Service at Father Ryan connects everything we learn about theology in school to the real world by uniting what we say about Christian love and its actual practice. Father Ryan and my time as an Eagle Scout have made me appreciate the value of service to the community. My greatest service experience was my journey to Eagle Scout which includes improving both myself and others. I have forged amazing relationships with the students and faculty at this school because we are all aware of our common purpose: to advance, to build, and to pray.



**Service by
the Numbers**

\$183,542

**Raised for
Relay for Life**

12,334

**Service Hours
by Class of 2023**



“The Father Ryan community means **pride** to me. There have been several times when I have been out and **alumni will say hi** to me because I’m wearing FRHS gear.”

*Sophia Rudolph,
Immaculata House*



IRISH

Pride

Since 1925, Father Ryan has been rooted in strong traditions of Catholic faith, academic excellence, and hearts of service to challenge students to reach their spiritual, academic, and personal potential. For almost a century, Father Ryan has upheld these traditions, while evolving to meet the needs of our

community. By exploring diverse extracurricular opportunities, students are challenged to reach their spiritual, academic, and personal potential while connecting with the sense of pride associated with being Father Ryan students and alumni.





Clay Moscardelli
Trinity House
Purple Masque Players

My time in the arts program impacted my Father Ryan experience by providing an outlet where I felt my presence and work were valued every day during rehearsal. The theater directors made it known that my dedication to the program was appreciated, making it more than just an extracurricular activity but an experience I truly cared about. Theater was a place where I met people across all grade levels, making our large campus feel small. I knew that I was known and loved at Father Ryan through the care that my teachers showed when asking about my life both inside and outside of the classroom. My teachers would often remember specific conversations with me about my personal life, which represents how I was known as an individual, not just as a student.



Elia Rodriguez
Immaculata House
Marching Band, Dance Team

When I think of Father Ryan’s Tradition of Irish Pride, I am proud of where I come from. I am proud to be a student here. I didn’t simply learn how to be a successful artist. Yes, I’ve excelled in the band and dance program, but I met so many amazing people along the way and had many impactful experiences through the arts program. These experiences led me to being not only a talented artist but a confident one as well.



Arin Nipp
Elliston House | *Student-Athlete, Peer Mentor*

Father Ryan’s Tradition of Irish Pride creates a community of constant support for my classmates and me. We are proud of our school wherever we go, and this pride in Father Ryan encourages us to represent ourselves the best we can. Father Ryan athletics helped me develop skills of discipline and time management while always being encouraged by those around me. Being a student-athlete has helped me mature and become more considerate of all people I encounter.



James Hinson III
Norwood House | *Student-Athlete*

Father Ryan’s Tradition of Irish Pride has impacted my actions and commitment through the representation of our school. For athletics in particular, by wearing the Father Ryan jersey you come to realize you are playing for an entire community, not just yourself. My experience with athletics at Father Ryan put into perspective that every team is more important than an individual. The lessons I learned through every sport I have played at Father Ryan will help me throughout my life.



Kate McDonnell
Elliston House Captain | *Dance Team*

Irish Pride to me means being engaged in our Irish community by contributing our individual gifts, as well as cheering on and learning from others. Most notably, the leadership positions within the House System have had the greatest impact on my high school experience. Each of the positions in leadership involves different skills and provides experiences that are applicable to our lives beyond high school. I was most known and loved by my teachers, who were so willing to get to know me beyond the classroom and help me to succeed in every aspect of life.



Nolan Armstrong
Norwood House | *Student-Athlete, Mentor Group Leader*

Father Ryan’s Tradition of Irish Pride makes me proud of who I am and who I am affiliated with. I am a proud student of Father Ryan and proud of what Father Ryan stands for. Faith, integrity, and service are all values I strive to follow, and I am glad to go to a school that encourages them. Each season on the Soccer team, my coaches have pushed me to become a better player on the field, and, because of this, I have become a better person off the field. They have taught me lifelong habits of hard work, discipline, and leadership. Father Ryan Soccer has transformed me into the student and person I am today, and it has better prepared me for the future.



Throughout their Father Ryan experience, our students are known, loved, challenged, and supported in all of their endeavors to reach their full potential. Through relationships with peers and mentorships

with faculty and staff, our students are known and loved every day. In their words, the Class of 2023 describes the true meaning of the Father Ryan culture, “You will be Known. You will be Loved.®”



“To be **known and loved** means that every person at Father Ryan has a **special place** here.”

Joey Maffei III, Oak House



“I have found so many places where **I am known and loved** at Father Ryan. From my amazing experiences with my friends and teachers in the classroom to the **constant love and support** from my teammates and coaches, I know that there is always someone on campus I can easily turn to for **unconditional support and comfort.**”

Caitlyn Auberson, Oak House



STUDENT

Spotlights

RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

One of the following top-achieving students will be named 2023 Valedictorian.



Katie Cummings

Norwood House Captain | *University of Michigan*

Father Ryan's Tradition of Knowledge is an education that extends to the development of self. Along with learning in the classroom, Father Ryan's dedication to faith and the entire person has helped me to grow in honesty, humility, and courage and has helped me realize my potential to change the world around me for the better. Additionally, my teachers supported me through challenging coursework, and my education in the classroom has helped me discover my interests and identify potential future careers. I feel fully prepared to tackle the demands of college coursework.



Mark Ciampa

Immaculata House | *Vanderbilt University*

Father Ryan's academic experience is rooted in its rich history of guiding every student to their full potential. From the minute students walk through Father Ryan's doors, they immediately become a part of that tradition, and Father Ryan becomes a part of them. Father Ryan's rigorous curriculum augments students' minds while training them to always be learning, exploring, experimenting, and creating. Those lessons will stay with students long after graduation.



Raymond Hmuifoo

Oak House | *University of Notre Dame*

Father Ryan's Tradition of Knowledge prioritizes the pursuit of comprehension and mastery over attaining positions, titles, and awards. I seek the important things in life. Put simply, I want to learn. Not only did I discover what I want to devote my life, I acquired the necessary skills to succeed. Not only did I grow as a scholar, I developed as a humanitarian. I've learned you can have everything in the world from possessions, money, and fame; but at the end of your life, you are not going to be able to keep it. Living your life is about the connections you make and the people you impact.



Fiona Mikhail

Oak House | *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

To me, Tradition of Knowledge means passing on lessons. I have had mentors throughout my Father Ryan experience who have helped me navigate high school and learn how to learn along the way. In my experience, many of my teachers were more than willing to offer help to me or anyone else who needed it, even if it meant getting to school very early. My classes challenged me academically and taught me many lessons about the importance of hard work and how to ask for help. Throughout my four years here, I always felt that there was a place for me.



Reagan Robinson

Emerald House Captain | Washington University in St. Louis

Father Ryan's Tradition of Knowledge has inspired me to look beyond just what is presented on the surface. Through engaging discussions and teachers who are willing to offer extra help, I have been able to discover new interests and excel in the classroom. The academic environment gives me the opportunity to explore my passions. This tradition has set a precedent for every Father Ryan class to always strive for their best and navigate their intellectual curiosity. I am extremely grateful for the teachers at Father Ryan who spend so much of their time helping me achieve my goals. Their passion, and Father Ryan as a whole, has established such a solid foundation for me academically that I am excited to build upon in college.

**Academic
Achievements**

100%

**College Acceptance Rate
of Seniors Who Applied**

253

Unique College Acceptances

\$34.8M⁺

**in Scholarships Offered
(as of April 27, 2023)**



Beyond

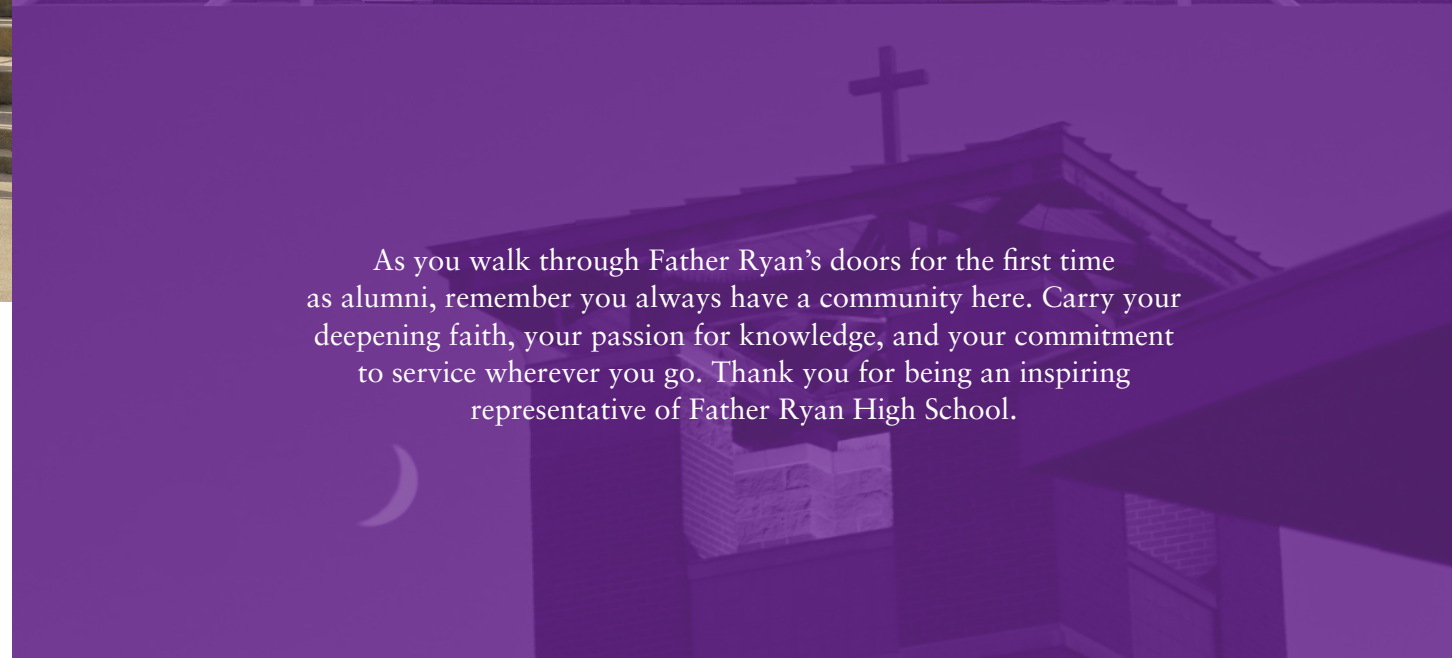
THESE DOORS

Throughout our 98-year history, Father Ryan has held three traditions in the highest regard: Faith, Knowledge, and Service. The exemplary students profiled in this book personify what it means to be

a Father Ryan student and excel in the classroom, in their faith, and in the community. Scan the code below to see where our seniors are headed.



As you walk through Father Ryan's doors for the first time as alumni, remember you always have a community here. Carry your deepening faith, your passion for knowledge, and your commitment to service wherever you go. Thank you for being an inspiring representative of Father Ryan High School.





Tradition Never Graduates.