I love the month of May - Mary’s month! We rejoice during this blessed Easter season with the entire Church and in our own school community at the Academy. Praying the Rosary, singing Marian hymns, and adorning the statue of Mary with fresh flowers in our chapel are all remind us that Mary, Our Blessed Mother, draws us ever closer to her son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

During the beautiful month of May it is also refreshing to see green grass once again, white apple blossoms, red and yellow daffodils and purple lilacs everywhere. Springtime at Holy Family Academy is heartily welcomed by students and teachers alike who hurriedly make their way outside during the noontime recess where they can play four-square, wiffle ball, basketball, and “parking-lot hockey”? Even the month of May’s rainy beginning has not deterred our students from spending as much time outside as they possibly can. On sunny days, several classes have even taken place in the outside yard. I know that some “Tree Stump Soliloquies” had been planned for Dr. Fugikawa’s Public Speaking classes.

It is in the month of May that our seniors give their Thesis presentations before their parents, friends, alumni, and faculty members. This year, twelve seniors worked throughout the year in preparation for their presentations, which were given at Ste. Marie’s Montminy Hall on May 6th and May 13th. I am personally always very impressed by their individually chosen topics, and also the manner in which they are each able to defend their papers! Senior Thesis Night is definitely one of the highlights that I look forward to every year!

On May 20th, the 12th grade American Civilization Class traveled to Boston for their yearly historical visit of the Freedom Trail. This has become an anticipated tradition for the 12th grade students. Another long-time 12th grade tradition, “Senior Donut Day”, compliments of Mr. Fortin, ended with Mr. Fortin’s “Donut Toast” in honor of the “soon-to-be” HFA Graduates, Class of 2011!

On May 23, Holy Family Academy was honored by a visit from Archbishop Gerald Lacroix, who was recently named Archbishop of Quebec. The Archbishop was born in Quebec but had spent much of his childhood in New Hampshire. Students and Faculty members warmly welcomed Archbishop Lacroix to the Academy and were given the opportunity to sing three sacred musical selections for him, including Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus. Archbishop Lacroix seemed very pleased with our singing and joined the choir in singing the Hallelujah Chorus.

Holy Family Academy is a “singing school” and this year our students and faculty have sung beautiful sacred music at various parishes throughout the Diocese of Manchester – Blessed Sacrament Church, St. Catherine, St.

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Summer 2011

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Anthony Church & Ste. Marie Church all in Manchester, St. Michael’s Church in Exeter, St. Francis in Litchfield, and the Precious Blood Monastery Chapel.

Miss Turner’s 7th grade English class was recently treated to a field trip to the Robert Frost Farm in Derry, NH. Students and teachers toured the Frost farmhouse and property, and learned about Robert Frost, the four-time Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet who lived in Derry around the turn of the 20th Century. I was able to be one of the chaperones for the trip and my group of students commented that they would have enjoyed living in the Frost farmhouse, though probably not having the responsibilities of all the chores!

Thanks to Mr. Kelleher, our 10th grade Art History students were blessed this month by a visit from Mr. David Clayton, Artist in Residence at Thomas More College in Merrimack, New Hampshire. Mr. Clayton brought with him two of his own paintings – he paints and draws in two Christian artistic traditions, Byzantine iconography and Western classical naturalism. Mr. Clayton spoke to us about art from the Catholic perspective – how liturgical art has been the source of our Catholic culture, as opposed to modern art which reflects the secular culture.

Regina Caeli…Continued on page 3)
The Class of 2011 at their Senior Banquet. Front row - Shawn Provost, Austin Levesque, James Brophy, Andrew Judd & David Paoni; Back row - Maria Girard, Katie Brophy, Laura Simpson, Rachel Roblee, Michelle Mazzaglia, Brittany Keefe & Ellienne Planchet.

**Class of 2011**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valedictorian</th>
<th>David Paoni</th>
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<td>High Honors</td>
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<th>Salutatorian</th>
<th>Maria Girard</th>
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<td>High Honors</td>
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**Proud parents affirming their graduating student at the Senior Banquet. Above - Bill & Cheryl Provost affirming Shawn. Below - Bill & Caroline Judd affirming Andrew.**

**The Class of 2011 at their Senior Banquet. Front row - Shawn Provost, Austin Levesque, James Brophy, Andrew Judd & David Paoni; Back row - Maria Girard, Katie Brophy, Laura Simpson, Rachel Roblee, Michelle Mazzaglia, Brittany Keefe & Ellienne Planchet.**

**HOLY FAMILY ACADEMY GRADUATING CLASS OF 2011 IS SOARING!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>James Brophy</th>
<th>Bentley University</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Brophy</td>
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<td>Maria Girard</td>
<td>Franciscan University</td>
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<td>Andrew Judd</td>
<td>Norwich University</td>
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<td>Brittany Keefe</td>
<td>Rivier College</td>
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<td>Austin Levesque</td>
<td>NH Technical Institute</td>
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<td>Michelle Mazzaglia</td>
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<td>David Paoni</td>
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<td>Rachel Roblee</td>
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<td>Laura Simpson</td>
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**Right: Fr. Marc Montminy, Founder and Spiritual Director, at the Graduation Mass.**

**Below: Mr. Thomas Pietropaoli was the Keynote Speaker at the graduation ceremony.**

**Left: David Paoni gives his valedictory speech.**

**Right: Processing out after graduation are: Andrew Judd & Rachel Roblee;**
He talked about the light and shadow in his own paintings, and what each piece of art is trying to show the viewer. He explained how liturgical paintings reflect the “hierarchy of creation”, and that Catholic art was created to enhance our experience of worship, and to draw people to God and to worship Him. Mr. Clayton’s ending comment was that “All of art should point to man’s heavenly destiny!”

On Friday, May 27th, the entire school body and several 9th grade parents, enjoyed the spectacular 9th grade English class’s performance of Shakespeare’s *Comedy of Errors*. I always find it interesting to see how the students “come out of themselves” and perform so well in front of an audience. Congratulations to Miss Rennie and her 9th grade class for working as a team and succeeding in their efforts! We will look forward to seeing these actors and actresses again in 11th and 12th grade drama program.

As this school year quickly draws to a close and we move toward graduation weekend, I reflect and give thanks to God for blessing Holy Family Academy with such a dedicated faculty and so many wonderful students. It is a joy for me to come to school each day and to be a part of this place of classical, Catholic education. For this gift of God, I am truly grateful!

*Mary, Queen of Heaven, be joyful, Alleluia!*
*For he whom thou hast merited to bear, Alleluia.*
*He is risen as He foretold, Alleluia!*
*Plead with God our sins to spare, Alleluia!*

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*Regina Caeli ... (Continued from page 1)*

Mary, Queen of Heaven, be joyful, Alleluia!
For he whom thou hast merited to bear, Alleluia.
He is risen as He foretold, Alleluia!
Plead with God our sins to spare, Alleluia!
Field Day 2011: Lots of fun-filled activities and team building as faculty and students partake whole heartedly in this annual event.

Scene from Shakespeare’s Comedy of Errors performed by the 9th Grade and directed by Miss Anne Rennie. The whole school attended the production as well as several of the 9th grade parents.

Gaby Yahnian (2013) and Sarah Levesque (2013) dissecting a fetal pig in biology class and still smiling.
In order better to understand this sign, the students read and discussed the book of Jonah. One of the main questions raised in our discussion was whether Jonah was literally in the belly of a fish for three days. I mentioned to the students that some scholars seem to think that the story is not meant to be read literally. One student, Julia McKenna, was not satisfied by this suggestion, so she wrote a short essay in defense of reading literally the story of Jonah and the fish.

My second reason is that people have been swallowed by whales before and survived. One popular example is James Bartley. In 1891 he was sailing on the whaling ship The Star of the East when a whale was sighted. Two boats were sent to harpoon it. His boat was hit by the whale’s tail and capsized. His companions drowned and he disappeared. The other boat then successfully harpooned the whale and brought it back to the ship. A day and a half later, while cutting up the whale, Bartley was discovered inside. He recovered in three weeks and the only damage done is that he was bleached white by the juices in the whale’s stomach. Therefore, it is clearly possible that the same thing could have happened to Jonah.

My third reason for believing Jonah to have been in the belly of a whale has to do with the four senses of Scripture. They are literal and the three forms of spiritual, which are allegorical, anagogical, and moral. A simple way of explaining it is the medieval couplet, "Lettera gesta docet, quid credas allegoria, moralis quid agis, quos tendas anagogia." This translates to "the letter speaks of deeds; allegory to faith; the moral how to act; anagogy our destiny." My thought is that if one of our sacred senses of Scripture is literal, then we can take the Bible literally believe that Jonah was in the belly of a whale. I think that this is common sense.

My fourth reason comes from Scripture. We read in Jonah 1:17, "Now the Lord prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah." God made the fish a suitable place for Jonah to dwell. I believe that God has the power to keep Jonah from dying. If God can create life, he can preserve life. I think it is perfectly logical to think that he would do so.

My fifth and final point relates to the end of the story, Jonah being vomited onto dry land. A sperm whale is a type of whale which, unlike its smaller relatives, doesn’t filter feed. It actually swallows whole animals such as giant squid. Then, it is common for a whale to regurgitate its catch. That could explain the regurgitation of Jonah on land.

From this evidence, I can be assured that it is possible and actually likely that the story of Jonah is true. The scientific proof, Biblical backing, and the teachings of the Church all point me towards this conclusion. Therefore, I think that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.
The senior thesis represents the culmination of a student’s education at Holy Family Academy, the goal of which is the formation of a Catholic, liberally educated lady or gentleman. Beginning in the fall, each senior selected a disputed question of significant import within a topic of his or her own interest. The scope of the question was then rigorously defined and the sequence of the student’s response to the question was set forth over Christmas break, followed by initial drafts in January and February. In the final months of preparation, each thesis was further refined through a process of peer review and rehearsed presentations.

On May 6th and 13th each senior presented his or her thesis to a public audience which included the faculty of Holy Family Academy, parents, friends, and relatives. When presenting a thesis, each student demonstrated both the ability to search for the truth in a logical manner, and the ability to present and defend a position publicly. Each presenter delivered a thesis according to the Classical Scholastic Thesis Form. This is the form used and perfected by St. Thomas Aquinas. The Scholastic Thesis Form is as follows:

1) State the question.
2) Pose two or more strong objections against the proposed answer.
3) Appeal to a recognized authority in support of the proposed answer.
4) Give a well developed, logical argument in support of the proposed answer.
5) Present answers to the proposed objections.

While the senior thesis serves as a crowning summation of each student’s education in the liberal arts at Holy Family Academy, the senior thesis itself is to be understood as a lasting contribution to the intellectual life of the academy, which future students may view as a model for the pursuit of wisdom and the intellectual excellence they hope to achieve in their time at Holy Family Academy.

The Senior Theses of the Class of 2011

**Miss Kathleen Brophy:**

**Mr. Shawn Provost:**
“Whether Christianity should be Taught in Public Schools in the United States of America”

**Miss Maria Girard:**
“Our Lady of Sorrows and the Rwandan Genocide: Whether there was Any Benefit for the Rwandans in Heeding Mary’s Warning at Kibeho”

**Mr. James Stephen Augustine Brophy:**
“Should Individuals Surrender the Executive Right for the Sake of the Authority Above Them Before the Authority Gives Anything to the Individual”

**Mr. Austin Levesque:**
“Whether Veteran Status should be a Mandatory Requirement for the Presidency of the United States”

**Mr. Andrew Judd:**
“Whether the Colonists’ Revolution from England was Just, According to the Fourth Condition for a Just Armed Resistance to Political Oppression, as Seen from the Leadership of George Washington”

**Miss Laura Simpson:**
“Whether Animals Have Immortal Souls”

**Miss Brittany Keefe:**
“Whether Facebook Inhibits Communication Skills”

**Miss Elienne Planchet:**
“Whether Prophecy within Literature Necessarily Describes Certain Knowledge of Future Events”

**Mr. David Paoni:**
“Whether Human Life Can Have Any True Meaning Without God”

**Miss Michelle Mazzaglia:**
“Whether It Is Fitting to View Harry Potter as an Example of Morality and Virtue”

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**10th Grade Church History Students Reflect on THE PRINCIPLE AND FOUNDATION of St. Ignatius of Loyola’s Spiritual Exercises**

Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God Our Lord, and by so doing to save his soul. The other things on the face of the earth are created for man in order to help him pursue the end for which he is created. From this it follows that man is to use other created things as much as they help him on to his end, and free himself from them so far as they hinder him from it. For this it is necessary to make ourselves indifferent to all created things in all that is allowed to the choice of our free will and is not prohibited to it; so that, on our part, we want not health more than sickness, riches more than poverty, honor more than dishonor, long life more than a short one, and similarly for all the rest; desiring and choosing only what is most conducive for us to the end for which we are created.

**A Reflection by Bryan Peterson (2013)**

Saint Ignatius of Loyola is saying that the sole reason human beings were created was so they could praise, adore, and serve God, Our Father. By doing this man saves his soul, which means being in paradise with God for eternity. He then says that everything else on the earth, such as animals, plants, money, and so on, were created to serve human beings and help them get to their ultimate end, namely heaven. Men must then use these other things to help get themselves to heaven, but these things are also obstacles in getting to heaven and man must free himself from earthly possessions in order to reach heaven. Man has to disinterest himself from these obstacles, so that he may reach heaven. Saint Ignatius then says that we, as humans, should not be interested in earthly matters for they are trivial. Man should desire and choose only what helps us reach heaven for eternity with God.

**A Reflection by Sarah Levesque (2013)**

God made man to get to Heaven and be with Him. Man needs to love, praise, and serve God on earth and in Heaven. Although all things are ordered towards God, love, praise, and service to God are what will get souls to Heaven. All other things are made to help, but man cannot get too attached to these other things because they may bring one away from God, even though it is against what they were made for.

To keep from getting too attached to things other than the love of God, praise of Him, and service to Him, one must make oneself indifferent to these other things. If the mind is trained to be unaffected by all except love, praise, and service to God, these other things will not pull one from God, but will push one toward God. This is because one is ordered to God.

This does not mean everyone may disobey laws, rules, and authorities. These must still be followed, as they were put over men by God, who is the highest authority. But those things that are not prohibited or ordered, those in which one has total free will, should be repressed, and one should try not to prefer one thing to another. Again, this does not mean one should not prefer good over evil. On the contrary, good should always be desired, upheld, and done, whereas evil should always be condemned.

Therefore, as Ignatius of Loyola pointed out, wealth should not be desired over poverty, sickness over health. Thus if on does not desire one thing over another, as long as neither is bad, this will bring him closer to God. This is because he will not become attached to either option, thereby allowing both to lead him to God as they were created to do. Therefore, one should love, serve, and praise the Lord, but be indifferent to all other things one has options and choice over.

During Holy Week, the ninth-graders hosted a Seder meal as part of their study of St. Matthew's Gospel. The Seder is a version of the Passover meal that developed after the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. The Christian Seder recalls the Last Supper, the perfection of Passover, when Our Lord offered himself as the Lamb and delivered us from death.
As an independent school teaching in the Catholic tradition we are truly in need of your generous support in order to continue this work. We thank you and we are grateful!

Yes, I want to help Holy Family Academy to continue its' work of forming and educating young men and women who will make a difference in our world! Here is my tax-deductible gift:

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