



The Minstrel

NEWSLETTER OF GREGORY THE GREAT ACADEMY

Graduation 2024

Dear Friend,

As you can imagine, graduation is a busy time for us at the Academy, when everything seems to happen all at once. But every year, somewhere amid all that controlled chaos, I often have an unforeseen experience that puts our mission into clear perspective.

At this year's graduation, as I was moving through a sea of smiling faces in the bright sunshine, I came across the mother of one of our new graduates: a quiet, intelligent young man who entered as a junior. I paused to talk to her about the last two years. What she had to say struck me.

She wanted me to know that, before coming to our school, her son had definite ideas about college and the career he wanted to pursue. (I hoped she hadn't concluded that his attendance made those plans difficult, as our Liberal Arts education isn't calculated towards careers!) Some few weeks before graduation, she went on, her son called and said he wanted to change his college plans. She was surprised and asked why.

"I want to go somewhere that offers beautiful liturgy," her son said. "That's the most important thing for me in choosing what college I attend."



Luke Culley
Headmaster

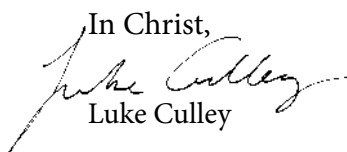
The mother thanked me, with tears shining in her eyes, that her son held the Mass with the priority it deserves. She told me how moved she was that her son found this truth at our school—a thing she could hardly imagine happening anywhere else. I believe my gratitude at hearing this was almost as great as hers. While she thanked me for such a school, I thanked her just as profusely for sending such a boy.



That is what this school is here for—for changing perspectives and lives like this young man's. Make no mistake, this is what you provide and help create through your support. By your gift, however small, you are contributing to and participating in the awakening of minds to the highest truths in the Divine Liturgy of the Church, that pinnacle of all the good works we must both do and choose to do.

Please be generous to us this summer. Much important work is underway to restore the building after a century of exterior wear and tear. We need **you** to help us secure this fortress, especially our chapel, so it can be a place where the Divine Mysteries are discovered and cherished above all. Make your tax-deductible donation **today** and make a life-changing difference in the lives of the boys who will be back soon for another year. Thank you and God bless you.

In Christ,


Luke Culley





Symeon Clark

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Confessions of St. Augustine

Prefectship: Classrooms

Favorite Song: "The Old Churchyard"

Thesis: "Isolation and Modernity in T. S. Eliot"

Next Year: Hillsdale College



Ben Bateman

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Till We Have Faces

Prefectship: Stairwells

Favorite Song: "The Old Churchyard"

Thesis: "The Distance Between Gods and Men in *The Iliad*"

Next Year: Belmont Abbey College



Gerard Cummings

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Odyssey

Prefectship: Refectory

Favorite Song: "Raglan Road"

Thesis: "*Beowulf*: A Conflict Between the Individual and His Culture"

Next Year: University of Dallas



Colin Bennett

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Quo Vadis

Prefectship: 3rd Floor Bathrooms

Favorite Song: "The Green Fields of France"

Thesis: "Roland's Pride"

Next Year: University of Dallas



Marco D'Anselmi

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Lord of the Rings

Prefectship: Farm

Favorite Song: "Raglan Road"

Thesis: "Music and Memory: Divine Presence in the Works of J. R. R. Tolkien"

Next Year: University of Dallas



VALEDICTORIAN

Szymon Figurski

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Quo Vadis

Prefectship: 2nd Floor
Hallways

Favorite Song: "The Town I
Loved So Well"

Thesis: "Huckleberry Finn:
A Journey from Selfishness
to Selflessness"

Next Year: Thomas Aquinas College



Benjamin Kingery

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Till We Have Faces

Prefectship: Farm

Favorite Song: "Auld Lang
Syne"

Thesis: "*The Power and the
Glory: The Reconciliation
of the Whiskey Priest*"

Next Year: University of Dallas



Fred Fraser

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Quo Vadis

Prefectship: Lost and
Found

Favorite Song: "Streets of
Laredo"

Thesis: "Frodo's Failure"

Next Year: Gap Year



Milo Klopp

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Beowulf

Prefectship: Dishes

Favorite Song: "Parcel o'
Rogues"

Thesis: "The Controversy
of Creation"

Next Year: Franciscan University



Martin Irwin

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Odyssey

Prefectship: Kitchen

Favorite Song: "The Foggy
Dew"

Thesis: "Telemachos'
Growth from His Own
Odyssey"

Next Year: Benedictine College



Luke-Xavier Lang

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Quo Vadis

Prefectship: Gym/Weight
Room

Favorite Song: "Go Dig My
Grave"

Thesis: "*Manalive:*
Innocence Restored"

Next Year: Ireland Rugby Academy



MEET THE CLASS OF 2024

Etienne Malandain

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Inferno

Prefectship: Outside Areas

Favorite Song: "Adoremus
in Aeternum"

Thesis: "Prudence and
Pride: Beowulf's Downfall"

Next Year: The University of Navarra, Pamplona,
Spain



Philip Sladky

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Lord of the Rings

Prefectship: 2nd Floor
Bathroom

Favorite Song: "Parcel o'
Rogues"

Thesis Title: "The Proper
Use of Philosophy as an
Aid in Ordering Our Lives"

Next Year: Carpentry Apprenticeship



Robert Moorman

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Quo Vadis

Prefectship: Hallways/
Auditorium

Favorite Song: "Four Green
Fields"

Thesis: "Sacrosanctum
Concilium, the Novus Ordo
Liturgy"

Next Year: New England Conservatory of Music



Kephas Stender

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Song of Roland

Prefectship: Refectory

Favorite Song: "Streets of
Laredo"

Thesis: "Communism: The
Death of the Father"

Next Year: University of Texas



Felix Prieto

Favorite Curriculum Book:
The Lord of the Rings

Prefectship: Commons

Favorite Song: "Four Green
Fields"

Thesis: "Odysseus'
Despairing Hope"

Next Year: University of Dallas



Augustine Wright

Favorite Curriculum Book:
Till We Have Faces

Prefectship: Chapel

Favorite Song: "My
Comrade"

Thesis: "The Role of
Intellect in St. Augustine's
Conversion"

Next Year: Franciscan University

