

# IRISH REVIEW

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of O'Dea High School

Spring 2021 | ODEA.ORG





“The Brotherhood at O’Dea embodies the character and faith, energy, and love that the students share each and every day. Being a student at O’Dea has set me up to be the leader, achiever, and man in society that I want to be and will greatly serve me in my future.”

Hayden McDonald, Class of 2021



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear O’Dea Community,

During my time at O’Dea, I have heard it expressed in many ways, The O’Dea Experience, The O’Dea Difference, The O’Dea Way, and the often-referenced O’Dea Brotherhood. Regardless of how it is acknowledged, as you enjoy this edition of the Irish Review, I am confident that you will recognize and celebrate the many ways O’Dea has continued to provide exceptional programming in alignment with our mission of Catholic education in the Blessed Edmund Rice tradition.

Throughout this past year, I have received inquiries regarding how O’Dea has managed school operations during a global pandemic. Consistently and without hesitation, I have shared that O’Dea continues to perform at a high level and that I remain proud of our school community. I speak to how grateful I am to have invested in the infrastructure, devices, and competencies necessary to successfully pivot our educational model as Seattle’s first Microsoft Showcase School.

Such occasions have reinforced my appreciation for how, as a school community, we have continued to creatively innovate and lead the way in providing a meaningful high school experience. One of O’Dea’s great strengths is our commitment to building relationships centered in our core values of Character, Faith, and Service. Through these relationships, our sense of community is constructed, and a Brotherhood for Life is molded. I experience daily the heartfelt dedication to the young men attending O’Dea demonstrated by our talented and committed faculty and staff.

I am confident this edition of the Irish Review informs and celebrates our collective appreciation for all we have accomplished as a school community. We have much to be grateful for as we honor our legacy and envision our future. I remain humbled by the opportunity to serve as principal as we advance our shared mission of providing a quality Catholic education to the young men of O’Dea. Thank you for your continued support. I wish each of you continued blessings.

Live, Jesus, In our Hearts, Forever!

Peace and Roll Irish,

Jim Walker  
Principal  
O’Dea High School

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Irish Review  
Spring 2021

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# BEYOND 802: THE STORIES THAT CREATE THE O'DEA BROTHERHOOD

The O'Dea community spans over 93 zip codes in the greater Seattle area. Students travel from as far as Everett, Tacoma, Bremerton, and Issaquah, with multiple ferries, buses, and carpools in between. The magic of O'Dea is the 500 individuals that come together to make one Brotherhood.

The term "Brotherhood" can be hard to define. Many students say you can't explain brotherhood until you experience it. Some say it's the indescribable bond between the students. While both ring true, this Brotherhood also lies in the experience, backgrounds, stories, and diversity of the students that bring our building to life each day. Here, six current O'Dea students from all over the Puget Sound area share what brings them together through their unique stories.



**Sam Lipscomb '22**  
Blue Ridge, Seattle (98117)  
*A Unique Learning Environment*

"My days are usually pretty long. Although O'Dea isn't too far from my house, I leave around 5:00AM to workout with Coach P in the morning. After school I'm either at basketball, football, or track practice or working at my local QFC. I also am involved in BSUE, Rhythm & Poetry, and SAFE. Outside of school, I really enjoy hiking and I also play for a select travel basketball team. O'Dea was and is, the perfect fit for me. It is very easy to make friends and there really is a strong bond between everyone. Not only are the students very welcoming, but the teachers are too. **The different backgrounds of each student not only make them unique but make our school environment unique.**"



**Cormac Dunstan '22**  
Bainbridge Island (98110)  
*A Sense of Community*

"My morning starts pretty early.... Around 5:30AM. I catch the bus that takes me to the ferry terminal around 6:15 for the 7:05 crossing to Seattle. Depending on the day, I'll either walk up to First Hill or catch the bus. At O'Dea I'm involved in the Technology Club, am a Student Leader, part of the Good Morning O'Dea Team, and I play soccer. **I wanted to attend O'Dea to experience something different.** Growing up on Bainbridge Island, there was not a lot of diversity in my schooling experience. Being a part of a community like the one at O'Dea has helped broaden my horizons, being exposed to students with different backgrounds and stories."



**Nicholas Pruitt-Escobar '21**  
Mountlake Terrace (98043)  
*A Strong Bond*

"My drive to O'Dea takes about 40 minutes, depending on traffic. In the mornings I carpool with my grandma and take the city bus home. Since freshman year, I have been a part of the Drama Club at O'Dea. Drama has become a staple in my life and I really enjoy it! Growing up in a co-ed school, I was very interested in the idea of just being around boys. That, coupled with wanting a high school that would prepare me for college made choosing to attend O'Dea easy. **While the students at O'Dea cover 93 zip codes, we all have the same home.... O'Dea.** Some of my closest friends live at least 20 minutes away from me (or more) but we still have built that common connection and I make time and plans to see them outside of school. I consider them more than just my O'Dea brothers... they're my actual brothers and it is a strong bond we will share forever."



**Richard Barkley '22**  
Bellevue (98006)  
*Connection & Lifelong Memories*

"I live in Bellevue and have been in this area my whole life. O'Dea is pretty close, just a short trip on I-90 from my house and only takes about 10-15 minutes to get there depending on traffic. I typically drive myself but I also have 7 other boys in my neighborhood that also attend O'Dea so we can ride together. At O'Dea, I am both a Student and Technology Ambassador, a part of Good Morning O'Dea, and in the Chess Club. I also am on the baseball team. Outside of school, baseball is the biggest part of my life, and I play for a select team with a few of my O'Dea brothers. **I wanted to go to a high school where I would make lifelong memories and connections and having a sister that attended Holy Names, I knew I could do that at O'Dea.** Being in Bellevue my whole life, O'Dea was a huge difference from what I am used to. Having the geographical diversity that we have has helped strengthen the brotherhood because we are able to learn so much from one another."



**Ryan Johnson '22**  
Federal Way (98023)  
*Strength in Diversity*

"I typically would commute into the city with my dad. Our drive would take anywhere between 30 minutes to one hour, depending on traffic. When I'm at O'Dea, I wrestle, run track, and am involved with Black Students United for Excellence (BSUE) and Student Advisors for Equity (SAFE). Outside of school, I'm very interested in art... all mediums! Painting, sculpture, music, film, fashion, photography, visual arts...all of it! I knew O'Dea was meant for me since both my dad and uncle attended the school. **Being born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, diversity is extremely important to me. Seeing people who look like me as well as people who don't look like me is very important, especially at an institution like O'Dea.** Having students from all backgrounds and areas only makes the school better."

98117

98006



98110

98023



# CHARACTER. FAITH. SERVICE.

## RICARD FAMILY NATIVITY SCENE

Andre Ricard '22 and his family participated in the St. Luke Parish traditional live advent story. Due to health and safety restrictions, this year's event became a drive-by viewing of different scenes depicted throughout the St. Luke's parking lot. Andre and his family recreated the Nativity scene.



## O'DEA HOSTED MASS

This past December, O'Dea students joined Archbishop Etienne at St. James Cathedral to host the Mass of the Immaculate Conception. While the capacity of the Cathedral can currently only hold a fraction of our student body, our school community at large was able to tune in online to watch together. The mass featured O'Dea students as altar servers and eucharistic ministers as well as two students from the O'Dea choir singing.

## REFLECTIONS FROM OUR SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

"As we enter Spring 2021, it's so strange to look back on all that this last year held! Although we may have felt alone during this past year, something we can remember is that we always have the Lord at our side. He never abandoned us. Not once! During those times last year, I would often re-read the bible verse Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." That verse has always made me feel so comforted and does so especially now. We are so blessed to begin the safe return to school, and it is so wonderful being able to see all the staff and students together. It really proves how strong the O'Dea community is. We are now more connected as a community because of what we endured together."

-Gino Morella '22



## STUDENT SERVICE SPOTLIGHTS

As we celebrated Catholic Schools Week this past winter, we honored the top student in each grade level that logged the highest number of service hours to date. While service opportunities are different this year due to health and safety guidelines, our young men are still taking time to serve their friends, family, and community in safe and unique ways. Way to go, gentleman!



**Gabe Del Cielo '24**

During this last year Gabe volunteered at the Holy Rosary Tree Farm at Christmas, picked up trash on the beach, and assisted his elderly neighbors with yardwork tasks. Gabe appreciates the community aspect of service, especially when doing it with friends!



**Luke Harrell '23**

Luke's service this past school year has included doing housework, tutoring his younger sister in school, assisting his neighbors in a move, and gardening. Luke loves giving back to the people that he loves, especially his family.



**Colin MacLaughlin '21**

Colin spent his summer volunteering at Fishline Food Bank & Comprehensive Services in his hometown of Poulsbo, providing those in need with food each week. He enjoys seeing how immediately helpful it is for those who patronize the food bank.



**Solden Stoll '22**

This year, Solden is volunteering at Snoqualmie Pass, working with individuals with disabilities and teaching them how to ski. He also spent this past summer volunteering at Mt. Hood Summer Ski Camps. Solden appreciates making an impact on programs that survive only with the help of volunteers.



# STUDENT LIFE

## BIKE LAB

This past fall, six freshmen (Tate Nicholson, Matthew Linares, Seku Sanders, Amen Ephrem, Joseph Lynch and Corbin Kuhn) participated in O’Dea’s first ever bike maintenance and refurbishing workshop, led by faculty member Dr. Ryan White ‘97, in conjunction with Wheel Lab. Working from a trailer in the O’Dea parking lot the boys learned to disassemble, repair and refurbish used bikes. Upon completion of the workshop, the group donated these “like new” bikes to kids in need. Great work, gentleman!



## MAKERSPACE WORKSHOPS

As we continue to advance our technology and innovating ways to teach and engage our young men, O’Dea students now have the opportunity to take part in MakerSpace workshops at Seattle Makers alongside faculty member Dr. Ryan White ‘97. Students are given the opportunity to learn design and fabrication skills, laser cutters, 3D printers, and more.



## BROTHERHOOD DAYS/FIELD DAYS

While the pandemic didn’t allow for in-person instruction at the start of the year, we created other opportunities to bring our students together safely in smaller groups. Students participated in House activities and bonding during Brotherhood Days, and grade levels came together in our Irish Field Days. These days provided great opportunities for students to take a break from the screen, interact with their friends and classmates, be active, and be engaged in social fun.



## BEARDS FOR BROS: FIGHTING IRISH, FIGHTING CANCER!

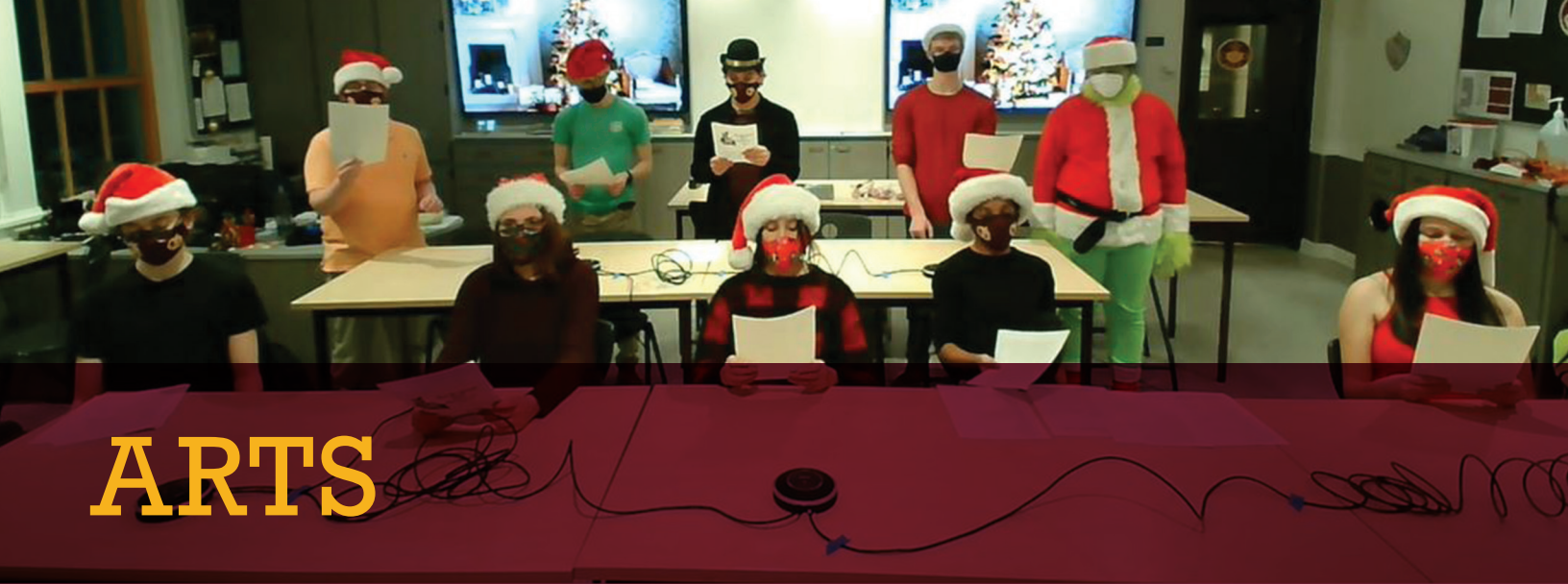
O’Dea’s student leadership continued to initiate creative ways to execute school events and activities to keep students engaged this year. The 7th Annual Beards for Bros Assembly kicked-off virtually in February. The “Beards for Bros” fundraising campaign, led by the O’Dea Fighting Irish Fighting Cancer Junior Guild, is inspired by past and current members of the O’Dea community who have been affected by cancer. Funds raised during Beards for Bros support the Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Program at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Thank you to our student leaders for providing opportunities to help us serve our community and have fun while doing so!



## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

O’Dea’s Black Students United for Excellence (BSUE) along with the Diversity & Equity Committee provided an opportunity for O’Dea students to engage with esteemed alumni, Maurice Murphy (’00) and Nick Andrews (’99), during our Martin Luther King Jr. Virtual Assembly in January. Maurice and Nick shared their professional history and discussed racism, materialism, militarism, and implicit bias. Thank you to Maurice and Nick for sharing your experiences with our students as we continue these important conversations.





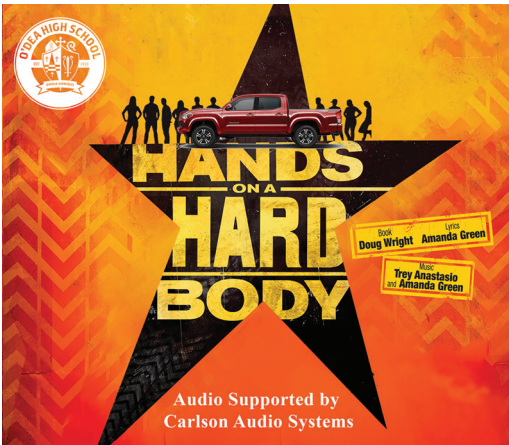
# ARTS

## VIRTUAL HOLIDAY BROADCAST

O'Dea Drama once again kept the holiday spirit alive with a Virtual Holiday Broadcast. The program featured an original Christmas Poem, a dramatic reading of Dr. Suess's *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and two socially-distanced performances from both the O'Dea Band and the Choir. The Broadcast premiered on the O'Dea High School YouTube Channel in December.

## LESSONS & CAROLS

In December, the O'Dea Choir participated in a virtual concert, along with 250 other students from Catholic High Schools in the Seattle Area. *Lessons & Carols* streamed live to the Archdiocese of Seattle Facebook page and featured the O'Dea Choir singing "We Three Kings." All songs were recorded remotely and pieced together with audio editing software by Paul Marengo, Choir Director.



## SPRING MUSICAL

While social guidelines could have caused someone else to cancel the 2021 Spring Musical, Michelle Traverso, Drama Director, rose above the challenge in choosing "Hands on a Hardbody." This musical, based on the 1977 documentary of the same name, is the story of an endurance contest in Texas, where contestants must keep one hand on a truck until only one person is left standing, and wins the truck! The production was professionally recorded with the help of Carlson Audio Systems and filmed on-site at Toyota of Seattle.

## DIGITAL ARTS & PRODUCTIVITY

Beginning in Fall 2020, all freshman students began a new course at O'Dea, Digital Arts and Productivity. Under the direction of faculty member Alex Lara, students learn Adobe Products such as Adobe Spark, Photoshop, and Premiere. Additionally, students gain an understanding of how to navigate Microsoft Outlook, utilize proper email etiquette, and manage an online calendar. These tools

enhance the creativity of school projects as well as boost productivity. All students at O'Dea receive the full Adobe Suite and all Microsoft Office products on their Surface devices. Thanks to this Digital Arts class, students are learning how to navigate professional-level software in a fun and functional way, preparing them for life beyond high school.



## LISTEN TO THE O'DEA CHOIR!

Our choir modified their performances this year, by recording themselves individually and then compiling those recordings. To hear the O'Dea Choir sing "Dear Theodosia" from the hit Broadway show *Hamilton*, scan the QR code to the right with your smart phone! Thanks to Paul Marengo, Choir Director, for your creativity in making this available for our community to enjoy





# ATHLETICS

## SPORTS ARE UNDERWAY!

The delayed Fall Sports Season (now known as Season 1) kicked off in early March allowing Football, Golf, and Cross Country to practice and compete. Although we are unable to safely have fans in attendance, the Fighting Irish Spirit is still high! Our new Sports Journalism class taught by Mr. Will Chambers has also given fans and O’Dea supporters an opportunity to keep up with the teams throughout their seasons. Below are student-written previews of each Season 1 Sports Season. Go Irish!

## GOLF

By Leo Poll ‘22

After a much-delayed start to the season, the O’Dea golfers have come out strong, starting the season undefeated with wins over Metro League opponents Garfield, Eastside Catholic, and Chief Sealth. This year, the team is led by second year head coach, Tyler McLaughlin and includes a strong roster of returning golfers. Three tournaments in, seniors Alex Knox and Dalton Dean are leading the way for the Irish. Not far behind are other contributing team members including seniors Arthur Weaver and Michael Arndt, juniors Wyatt Stubblefield and Zach Frankenberg, sophomore Brady Foster and freshmen Nathan Framer and Carter Gribble. Despite losing some seniors from last year’s team, Frankenberg says, “I think we will be even better this year. Everyone on this team has improved. I have nothing but high hopes for the upcoming season.”

## CROSS COUNTRY

By Dawit Mulat-Davis ‘22

The excitement and anticipation for the 2020-21 O’Dea cross country season has been building for longer than normal. COVID restrictions have delayed the start of the

season from the fall, instead having it span March and April. This postponement has only motivated the Irish to train harder and compete more fiercely to win. “It was a long off season. There was a lot of time to do our own [offseason training], but it’s just great to be back and finally race again,” said junior Zach Berta.

## FOOTBALL

By Damien del Fierro ‘21

Fighting Irish Football resumed March 5th after 454 days off with high anticipation for the upcoming season. Although it is a shortened season, the excitement is in the air! Senior Lineman Anitele’a Sevaio gave some insight into the team’s hopes for the rest of the season. “We’re excited to get back out there after so long and we plan on finishing out the season strong, like we know we can.”



## TRADITION INTERRUPTED – A LETTER TO THE O’DEA COMMUNITY



The long tradition of O’Dea football was interrupted this past fall. That, along with other high school sports, is an essential part of our O’Dea Community. It is one of the main ways that our community connects, but the Covid-19 pandemic has interrupted this tradition. It has been a long process to get to this point today, and consequently, coaches and athletes have been challenged in countless ways. The WIAA and the Metro League have been working determinedly to get our student-athletes back in action. Thanks to this combined persistence, high school sports have returned, and Friday Night Lights is back!

I believe we all understand the importance of high school athletics. It is not only important to the student-athlete’s well-being, but has an impact on our entire O’Dea community.

I have been dedicated to this effort for a long time and I recognize the inherent value that sports have on our coaches and our students. The connection also resides within our special O’Dea community, and after almost a year of consistent hardship, we are gradually returning our student-athletes to practice and competition. We thank the O’Dea faithful for your love and support, and we ask you to champion our coaches and students who are competing currently and those who will begin seasons later this year.

A strong academic focus remains undeniable. However, many of the student-athletes whose season was canceled reported feeling isolated and even questioned the necessity to attend school. Remote and hybrid learning bring considerable challenges and require students to engage with O’Dea in unique ways. We empathize with this unusual instruction but need your support in providing our young men the insights into the importance of academic rigor.

We understand the benefits high school athletics provides for students to engage with their teammates and coaches face to face, and we too, desire to connect with our student-athletes. We also recognize that high school sports bring a sense of dignity, honor, and brotherhood to our community, “Friday Night Lights” symbolizes pride in O’Dea High School. Remember, coaches need kids, and kids need coaches. It is also true that coaches and kids need their communities’ support, and their communities need their coaches and kids to be happy and healthy.

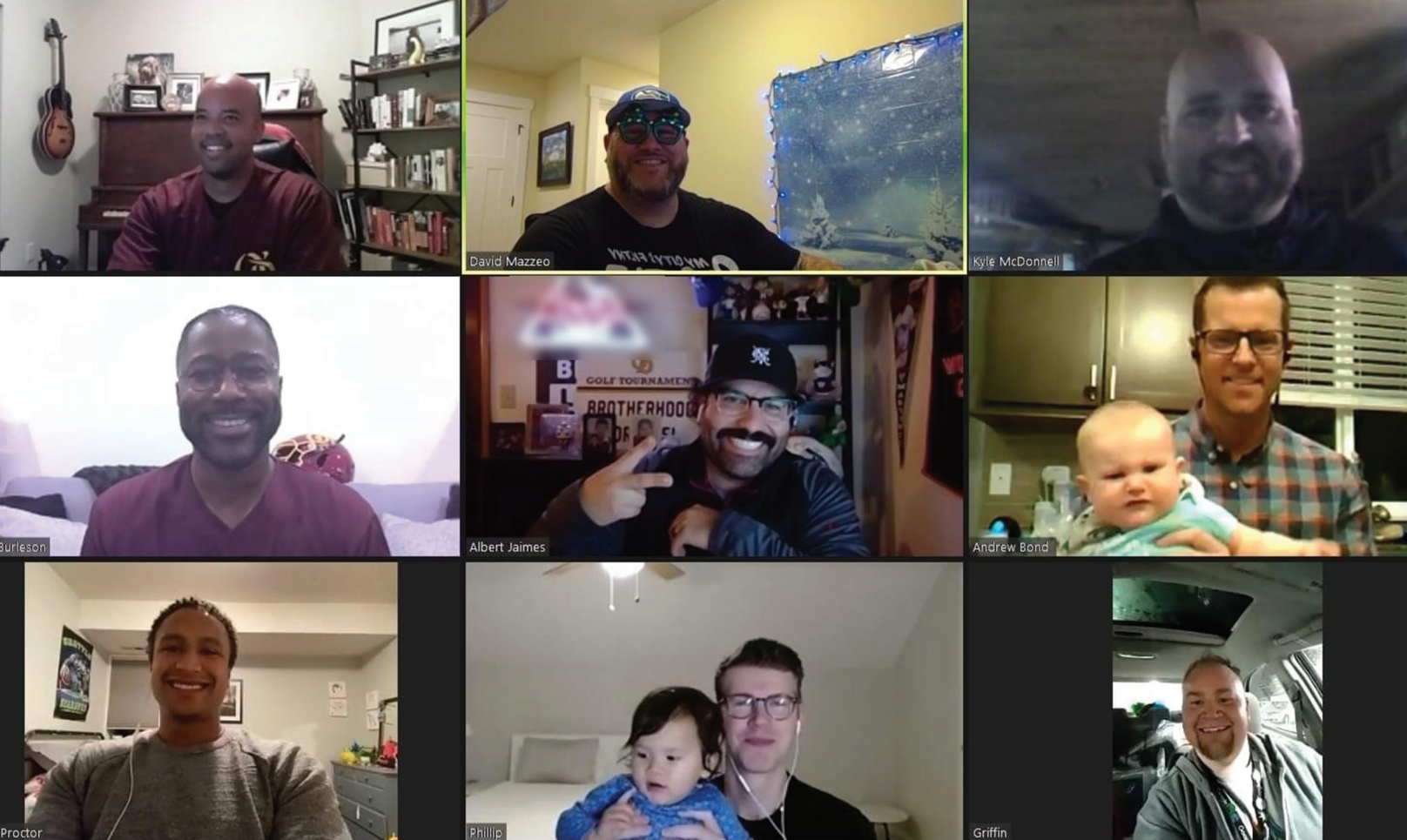
Thank you for your unparalleled encouragement, and we ask, as we move forward, that you continue to support O’Dea and keep us in your prayers.

Sincerely,

Coach Kohler



**Congratulations to Paolo Banchero ‘21**, named the 2021 Rotary Youth of the Year by the Boys and Girls Club of King County. Paolo has spent 13 years playing basketball at Rotary and has continued to be a strong leader for younger generations of athletes. Paolo was also awarded the title of O’Dea’s first McDonald’s All-American player. Paolo has signed his National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Duke University next year and we cannot wait to watch! Congratulations Paolo!



## ALUMNI: BROTHERHOOD FOR LIFE

### ZOOM CLASS REUNIONS

The O'Dea Class of 1999 kicked off the first ever zoom-class reunion on December 9, 2020. This is a great alternative to postponing your class reunion or just to get the guys together for a social hour! If you would like to coordinate a Zoom Class reunion, contact David Mazzeo '99 at [dmazzeo@odea.org](mailto:dmazzeo@odea.org).

Pictured above, Top Row: Joe Brazier, David Mazzeo, Kyle McDonell,  
Second Row: Nate Burleson, Albert Jaimes, Andrew Bond  
Third Row: Kevin Proctor, Phillip Conover, Griffin Pomada

### ALUMNI SPEAKER PROGRAM

We now have over 165 alumni who have volunteered to be a part of the Alumni Speaker Program! This is a wonderful opportunity connecting our current students and teachers with alumni in various fields of work. One example of this was when Michael Rittman '01 and Chandler Gayton '09 met with the O'Dea 100 Club, a club honoring the history of O'Dea in preparation for the upcoming centennial. Thank you, Michael and Chandler, for taking time to connect with our students! If you would like to be added to the Alumni Speaker Program list, please contact David Mazzeo '99 at [dmazzeo@odea.org](mailto:dmazzeo@odea.org).

### SALUTE TO SERVICE

In collaboration with the O'Dea House Team, student leaders arranged a Veteran's Day Assembly entitled "Salute to Service." This program included esteemed alumni representing the US Navy, US Coast Guard, and US Marines. Thank you to Dominique Gates 2017 (Cadet at Naval Academy), Major Ryan Hough USMC '95, Commander Leo Danaher 2000, and Lt. Cmdr. Adam Hudson 2001 for discussing their active-duty experiences and what the brotherhood taught them that prepared them for life in the military. We thank you, and all of our military alumni, for your service and for spending time with our students!



### O'DEA GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Annual O'Dea Golf Tournament was a success this past summer, safely bringing together over 100 alumni and supporters of O'Dea at the Golf Club at Newcastle. Thank you to those who participated—we look forward to seeing you **Monday, June 14th for the 2021 Tournament!**



ANNUAL  
**GOLF**  
TOURNAMENT



Scan the QR Code  
to Register today!

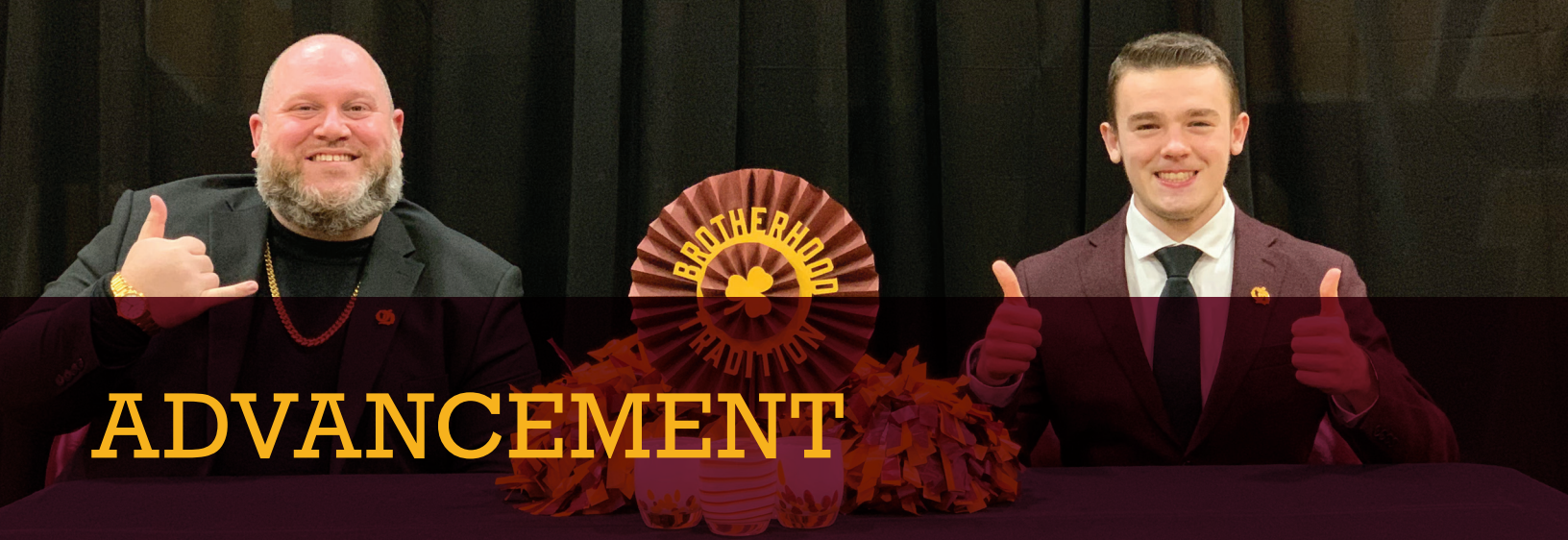
### ALUMNI MEMORIAL MASS

The O'Dea Alumni Memorial Remembrance was held this past February virtually as a special video tribute honoring our deceased alumni. We appreciate all who tuned in to watch together and May God bless all our deceased O'Dea loved ones.



### STAY IN TOUCH!

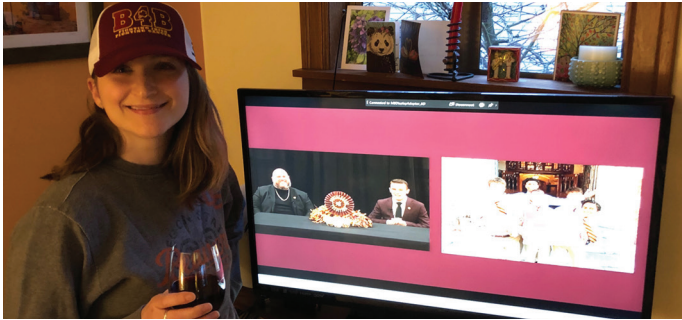
To update your contact information, host an alumni affiliate event, or find out how you can be involved at O'Dea, please email Alumni Director, David Mazzeo, at [dmazzeo@odea.org](mailto:dmazzeo@odea.org).



## CELEBRATE O'DEA VIRTUAL AUCTION

**Thank you to the O'Dea Community for celebrating with us, virtually!** What a special evening coming together to support the mission of O'Dea and helping us prepare for when all of our students are back on-campus. We had 515 registered guests from all over the country! This year's auction was a weeklong celebration including online silent and live auctions, an in-person drive-thru tailgate, and a live program featuring hosts Dave

Mazzeo '99 and Jason Fridge '21 live from the Bishop Thomas Gill Gymnasium. Together, our community came together to raise over \$550,000 for the students of O'Dea High School. A special thank you to our 2021 Auction Committee and our 2021 **(and 2020!)** Auction Co-Chairs Rhonda Banchero (Paolo '21) and Julie Prentice (Owen '21) for their hard work and dedication in helping our annual auction be a success!



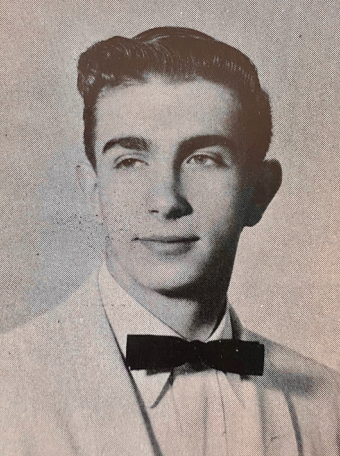
## GIVE GOLD

Thank you to the O'Dea community for your generous support of our 4th annual Give GOLD Day. Together, we raised \$220,000 from 527 donors in just 24 hours! We appreciate everyone's generosity, including that of Roy F. Simperman for his continued encouragement through his matching gifts. Our results far surpassed our goals of \$150,000 and 400 donations. Despite being unable to join together on campus, we felt the community rally together more than ever! Funds raised are being used to ensure we provide the best possible Catholic education to the young men at O'Dea High School.



## FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORTING STUDENTS

O'Dea is dedicated to helping qualified young men receive a Catholic education even when their families face economic hardships. We appreciate all our donors who support this effort.



### PAT BURNS '55 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Pat Burns '55, loved O'Dea High School. More than 60 years after he graduated, he was still an active class representative, a decade captain for the 1950's, and he loved to regularly call the alumni office to be brought up to speed on everything taking place at O'Dea. His belief in an O'Dea education was strong. Pat was also a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus, an organization that was also extremely important to him. After Pat passed away in September, 2020, the Knights of Columbus honored Pat by making an endowment gift to O'Dea to create the Pat Burns '55 Memorial Scholarship. This gift honors the Knights of Columbus recent goal to make donations to schools and parishes to support students in need while honoring longtime members. We look forward to using this gift, in combination with other memorial gifts made in Pat's name, to support a student with financial need in the 2021-2022 school year.



### KEVIN PATRICK CHANDLER '82 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Kevin Chandler was involved with O'Dea High School for over 40 years as a student, teacher and dedicated volunteer football coach. His great passion was working with student athletes and helping them to become all they could be, both on and off the athletic field. Kevin especially reached out to assist students who were facing personal challenges. He gave of his time, talent and treasure to further the mission of forming young men of character at his beloved O'Dea High School. After Kevin passed away, this scholarship was established by Kevin's family and friends as a means of helping to continue the work in his honor. Kevin was closely involved at O'Dea up to the time of his death. While we miss his presence, we are honored to be able to support a student with financial need in his name each year.

## SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

This year, students are receiving in excess of \$1.6 million in need-based financial aid. **This is approximately a 30% increase compared to the prior year!** You can help O'Dea support these students in the future by honoring a loved one or an O'Dea graduating class with a scholarship endowment fund in their name. Once the fund reaches \$25,000, O'Dea will award an annual scholarship to a deserving student with financial need. The award amount is 4% of the fund's value as of the end of each calendar year. Endowment gifts should be made to the O'Dea High School Foundation. For any questions about endowment gifts, please contact Allie Thomas, Advancement Director, at [athomas@odea.org](mailto:athomas@odea.org).

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We extend our gratitude towards our alumni who are working to support diversity, equity, and inclusion. Here are just a few of our many alumni making a positive difference in our world.



**Njuguna Gishuru '99 - Lab Leader of the People's Economy Lab and VP for Small Business Development at the African Chamber of Commerce**

Njuguna is a Seattle based community development consultant who specializes in developing restorative economic strategies for communities battling systemic injustice, building capacity, enhancing access to capital for entrepreneurs of color, and cultivating new economies that advance empowerment and social justice. Njuguna has spent the majority of his career in banking and serves on the Board of Trustees for the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Directors of Urban Family, One Vibe Africa, and African Community Empowerment.



**Ryan Liam '16 - Costco**

Ryan helped establish a critical Race and Ethnic Studies minor at Gonzaga University. According to Ryan, students of color at GU had been trying to establish this program for some time, and change occurred after a student-led demonstration his junior year. When he graduated in 2020, Ryan became the first graduate to minor in the program and is pleased to report interest is already rapidly growing.



**Bobby Alexander '08 - Assistant District Attorney in Bernalillo County, New Mexico**

After high school, Bobby graduated from Western Oregon University, the Evans School of Government at the University of Washington (MPA), and the Michigan State University College of Law (J.D.). At every academic institution Bobby was an executive member or president of the Black Student Union. Since then, Bobby has been active in the Seattle Martin Luther King Jr. Organizing Coalition, and Club ALPHA, a mentoring program geared toward young men of color.



**Wilbert Santos '99 - Sound Transit's Deputy Director for Community Engagement**

For the past 14 years Wilbert has worked to ensure Sound Transit equitably engages with the community to create long term partnerships. He is also the co-chair of Sound Transit's Equitable Engagement Committee, responsible for ensuring continued progress towards an inclusive and equitable agency.



**William Jackson '05, Principal at Nathan Hale High School**

During Will's time at Nathan Hale, he has advanced student leadership and built family engagement to lead for racial equity and social justice in Seattle Public Schools. Jackson began his career in education teaching humanities, economics, and leadership, but focused on social justice, racial equity, and economic equality. Will hopes to serve as Superintendent in the future, and believes that building equitable systems requires collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, a racial equity lens, and a desire to lead for systemic change.



**Juan Cotto '83 - Sr. Government Affairs and Community Engagement Officer at Bloodworks**

Juan develops and maintains relationships with minority and underrepresented communities to raise awareness about the life saving activity of blood donation and to encourage participation in blood drives. He also serves as Chair of the Bloodworks NW Diversity and Inclusion Council, champions a culture of inclusivity and fosters a climate for all to reach their full potential. During his tenure at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, he also implemented an internship program, with Technology Access Foundation, which helped start the careers for young emerging scientists of color.



**James Bush '93 - Seattle Public Schools Chief of Equity, Partnerships, and Engagement**

For the past two decades, James has served ethnically and linguistically diverse students, their families, and schools in various roles within and external to Seattle Public Schools (SPS). Prior to joining SPS, James served as the neighborhood programs manager at the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, where he managed a variety of community-building programs. He also served as a key leader for the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative under three Seattle mayors.

# O'DEA MASKS AROUND THE WORLD



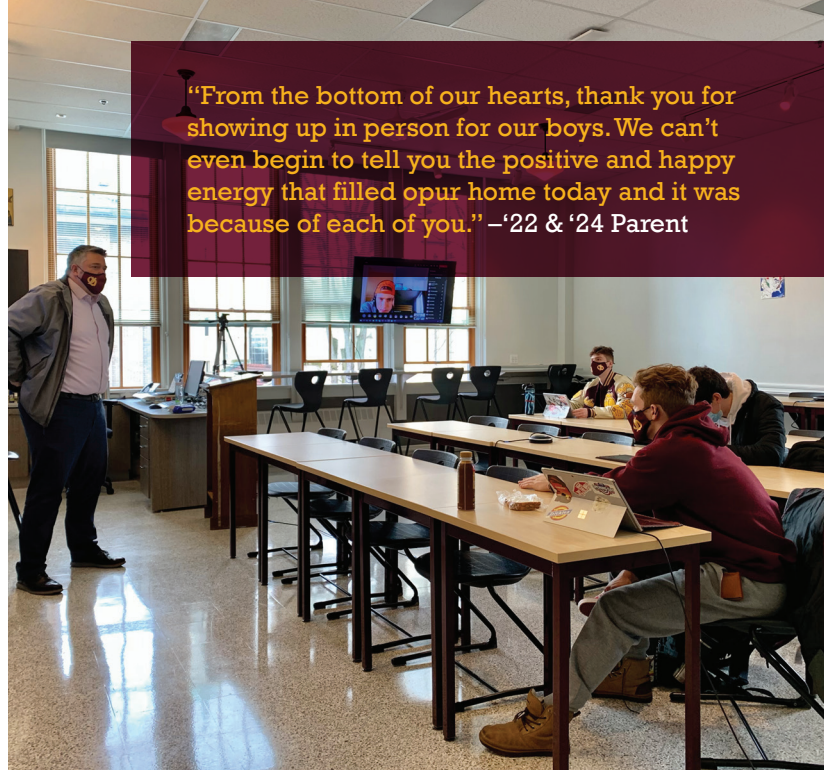
Check out **Dave Hoffman '94** and Joseph Adam (Director of Music) representing the maroon and gold for the Sunday Livestreams from St. James Cathedral. Go Irish!



**Eamon Sylvester 2000** showing off his O'Dea mask from his new office at O'Dea as Financial Aid Assistant and Student Support Specialist.



"Thank you O'Dea Staff and faculty!" You are showing true leadership and care for our boys! Grateful to be in the Irish family." –'22 Parent



"From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for showing up in person for our boys. We can't even begin to tell you the positive and happy energy that filled our home today and it was because of each of you." –'22 & '24 Parent



**Ian Wakefield '03** representing the Irish all the way down in Florida!



**Zach Hamilton '11** shredding the slopes at Snoqualmie Pass with **Aengus Adams '20**.

## HYBRID LEARNING AT O'DEA

At the time of publication, we are running a Hybrid Learning Model. In Hybrid Learning, a portion of our students come onto campus while the remaining students learn from home. All classes are performed over Microsoft Teams including both audio and video components of the class, so students can see and interact with one another no matter where they are learning from. Thank you to our parents, for their continued support of O'Dea and for their positive words about Hybrid Learning! We cannot wait to have all of our students back together on campus.



**Fred Dimalanta '82** showing spirit from the home office.



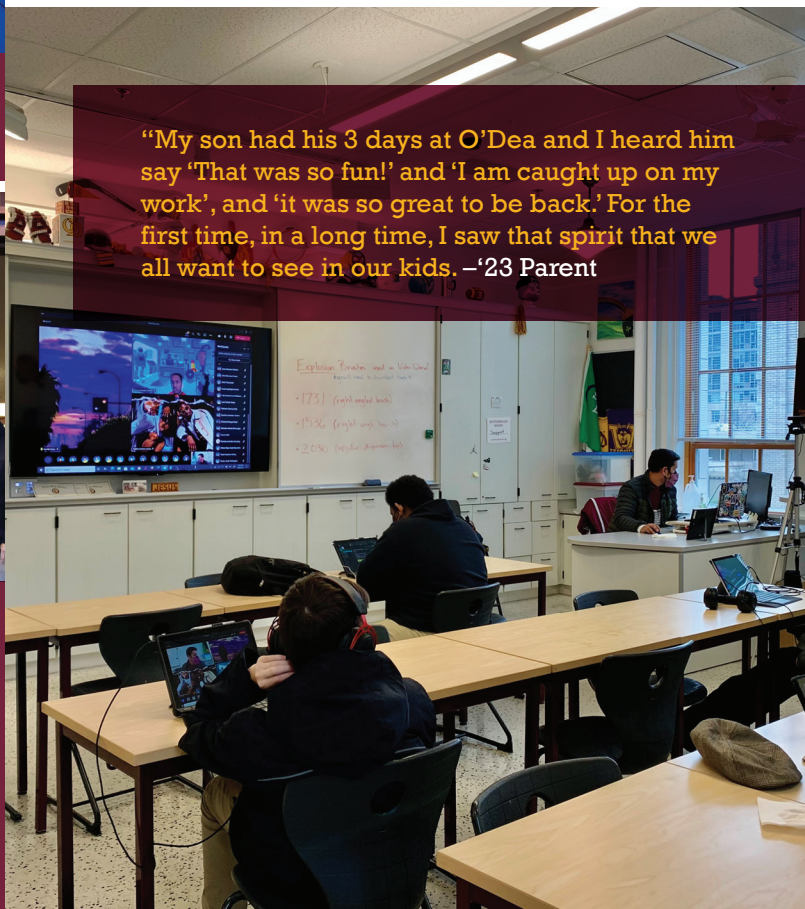
**Coach Kohler** sporting the Maroon and Gold from head to toe in O'Dea Courtyard!



**Tony Enders '72** taking the Maroon & Gold to elevation!



**Rev. Joseph Altenhofen 2000** serving Mass at Immaculate Conception - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Churches of Everett, WA while showing his O'Dea spirit.



"My son had his 3 days at O'Dea and I heard him say 'That was so fun!' and 'I am caught up on my work', and 'it was so great to be back.' For the first time, in a long time, I saw that spirit that we all want to see in our kids." –'23 Parent



"Thank you to our wonderful O'Dea staff/faculty! We are so proud to be a part of O'Dea and so thankful to have the boys get the option for hybrid learning! Go Irish!" –'23 Parent



O'Dea High School  
802 Terry Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

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Welcome to the Class of 2025  
to the O'Dea Brotherhood!

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