

RAMS

Founded on Faith. Rooted in Tradition. Growing in Excellence.



Garces Memorial High School
2021-2022 Annual Report & Honor Roll of Donors



GARCES

MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Lou Ann Durrett
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Contributor

Tonya Abbott
Director of Advancement

Photographs

Trevor Horn
Sports Information Director

Mr. George Ayonyon

Garces Yearbook Staff

Matt Reynolds



2021-2022 Annual Report Table of Contents

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Meet Garces President, Kent Hickey.....	3
Community Service.....	5
Engineering Pathway.....	7
Student Highlights.....	9
Athletic Highlights.....	11
Garces Stats.....	13
Thank You Msgr. Perry Kavookjian.....	15
Happy Retirement Mr. Scott Smith	16
Class of 2022.....	17
Garces Memorial Hall of Honor.....	21
Garces Alumni Scholarship.....	23
Hail Mary Club.....	24
Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation.....	23
Fall BBQ.....	27
Monsignor Leddy Golf.....	28
Garces Gala.....	29
Financial Report.....	31
Honor Roll of Donors.....	32

Mr. Kent Hickey

Garces Transitional President

In May 2022, the Diocese of Fresno announced that it hired a transitional president, Kent Hickey, to lead Garces through its transition back to the president/principal governance model. Kent has worked in Catholic education for 33 years, starting in 1989 when he left practicing law to become a theology teacher at Marquette High in Milwaukee. For 23 of these years, Kent served as head of two Catholic high schools in Seattle: 15 years at Seattle Prep and 8 years at Bishop Blanchet.

Kent led three campaigns at Seattle Prep, two focused on capital improvements and one on tuition-assistance endowment. Under Kent's leadership, the endowment grew from \$11 million to \$35 million and over \$50 million was raised for capital improvements, including a new chapel, six-story academic building, multi-purpose center, athletic hall of fame, locker rooms, six science labs, a pastoral center, renovation of the learning resource center, and an athletic field. Kent also initiated an overhaul of student pastoral programs with a renewed emphasis on spiritual reflection and service. The school's enrollment grew by 100 students with an average annual freshman class waiting list of 110.

Similarly, while at Bishop Blanchet, Kent raised funds to significantly increase tuition assistance and led capital campaigns to build a new chapel, athletic stadium, science wing, music center, black box theater, and strength room. Kent also initiated a new Learning Resource Program to assist students with learning challenges, overhauled Blanchet's retreat program, and led admissions efforts that increased enrollment by 150 students with a freshman waitlist each year.



Q and A with Kent

What brought you to Garces?

Last year I had been asked to join a Catholic leadership consulting group that was being started by a friend of mine. In spring I found out the launch was delayed, and my availability was communicated to the search firm that was conducting the Garces president search. This led to good conversations and the Diocese offered the transitional president position to me, the "transitional" part of the title indicating the role I was to play in helping the school shift to the president/principal model.

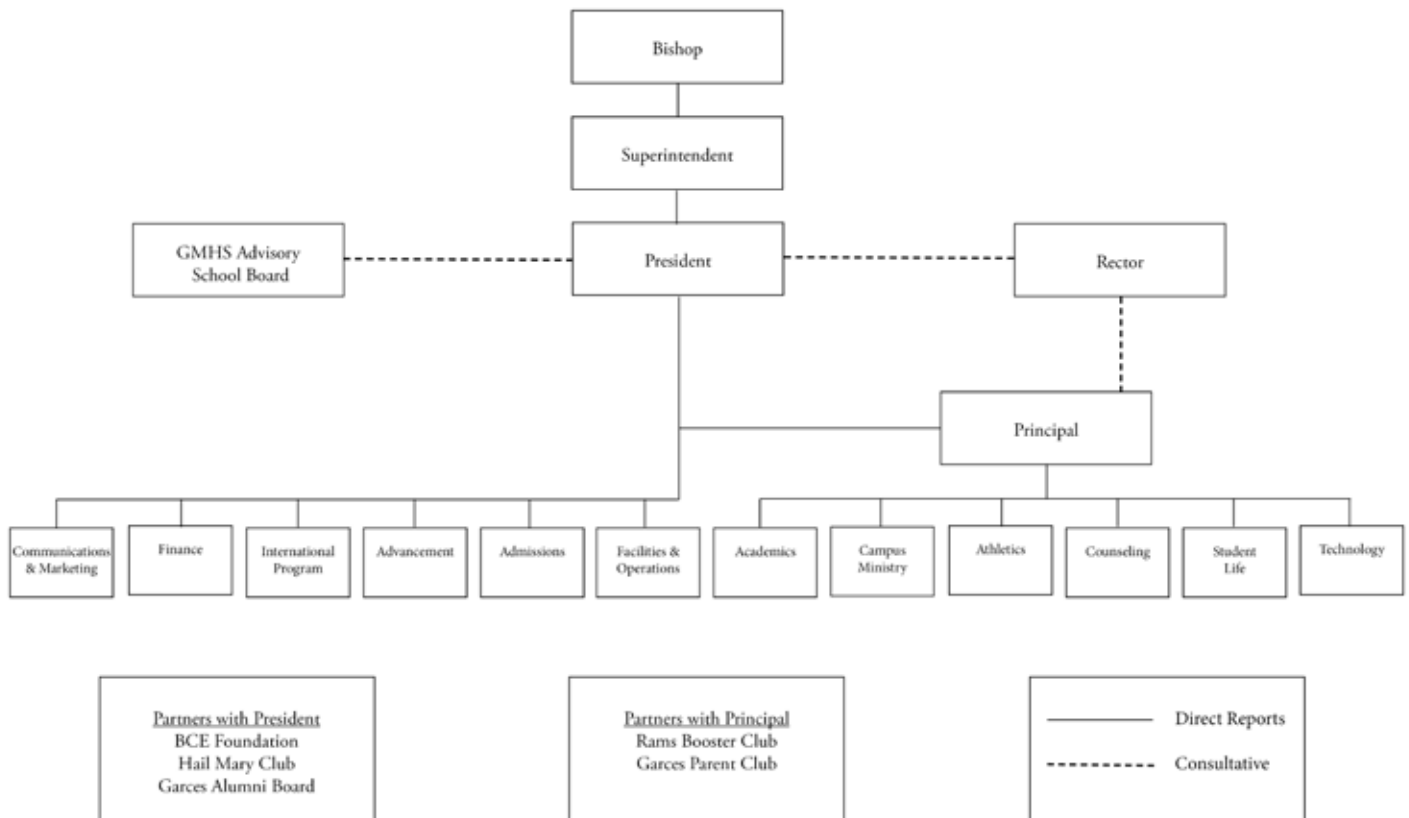
What are your impressions of Garces?

I really like this school a lot. I have met so many good people who are committed to the school and our students. This includes core constituencies such as the Advisory Board, Foundation Board, Hail Mary Club and Alumni Board. These volunteers love Garces and dedicate many hours to helping the school, especially our students. And I think the faculty, staff, and leadership are wonderful as well – there is so much goodness and dedication here. It has been an enjoyable experience so far.

What are the challenges?

Garces runs very lean, too lean in some cases. For example, due to budget constraints, employees here have received raises of only 3% every other year in the past few years. That's unfair and needs to change. There's also significant deferred maintenance and unfunded upgrades that are necessary. These can be best addressed through substantial increases in Annual Fund giving, which is currently much lower than it should be given our long history, family resources, and standing in the community. I've likely rubbed some the wrong way with this example, but I will share it here anyway: I believe in athletics and appreciate contributions to our programs. But I also believe in upgrading campus security systems, fair pay for employees, and tuition assistance for needy families. We need to shift to a more comprehensive perspective regarding what school support means.

2022-2023 Garces Organizational Chart



What do you enjoy about being a head of school?

I've always enjoyed fundraising, admissions, and management, all interesting and purposeful work. But the best thing about being in a Catholic school is the people. I'm so appreciative of the colleagues I've worked with over the years – Marquette High, Bishop Blanchet, Seattle Prep, and now Garces Memorial. I do not think that those outside Catholic schools know just how special the work is that goes on in the inside. And that's all about the people – so much joy, goodness, and passion. I've been lucky.

What's next for you?

I will be here at least through the next school year as we continue making this transition and work on upgrading our various operations and systems. My plan had been to pursue Catholic leadership consulting, but I had an experience over the summer that is prompting me to explore a different path. It was a spiritual director internship with a truly good and holy man, Fr. Bill Creed SJ. I feel myself being pulled in that direction, though I am uncertain about what that means. At this stage in my life, living within that uncertainty feels like a good and healthy space.



Serving Others Before Self

Community Service Projects

Interact Club Community Service Projects

Boo Bags for Seniors

The Garces Interact Club brought a smile to the faces of the patients at Parkview Julien Convalescent Hospital by providing Halloween Boo Bags filled with candy and personal notes.



Duffel Bags for CASA

Teens in the CASA program are often forgotten when it comes to giving during the holidays. The Garces Interact students wanted to make sure they were remembered. They donated over seventy duffel bags filled with gifts and some basic essentials.



MARE Spruce Up

The Garces Interact Club spent a day to help spruce up the MARE Therapeutic Riding Center in preparation of their annual client horse show. Before the clean up started, the students met the amazing horses who provide therapy for so many.



Canned Food Drive

The Canned Food Drive has been a long standing tradition at Garces. During the month of November, we ask our students and their families to donate non-perishable food items. The items are collected through our homerooms and then donated to the St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Center's food pantry. Last year, Garces donated over 6,800 items for average of almost a dozen cans per student.



NICU/Pediatrics Pajama Drive

The Future Medical Professionals Club collected pajamas and onesies for the Pediatric and PICU departments at Dignity Health's Memorial Hospital. Following COVID guidelines, the students met with the nurses outside the hospital for the hand off. The students wanted to give back to children and the medical workers who care for them during their hospital stay.



“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”
~ 1 John 3:18

National Honor Society Community Service Projects

Christmas Toy Drive

The National Honor Society students partnered with the Garces Alumni Board and supported the Bakersfield Homeless Center’s Toy Drive. NHS students selected toys for a variety of ages for children living in the homeless shelter to help those children celebrate Christmas.



Support for Ukraine Refugees

The National Honor Society students raised money through their Pi Day fundraiser with the intention of supporting a local non-profit. Then Ukraine was invaded and the students decided to pivot. They opted to support the refugees fleeing Ukraine by making a donation to World Central Kitchen.



Feeding the Homeless

The Helping Hands Club was one of the most active clubs on campus. They met monthly and made sack lunches for the homeless in our community. They met in MLH during enrichment and made PBJ sandwiches and filled up lunch bags with sandwiches, granola bars, cookies, fresh fruit, string cheese, and bottled water. The sack lunches then made their way to the St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Center. They also provided socks and hygiene kits..



Supporting Families at the Ronald McDonald House

The Meals with Love Club continued its mission of supporting families who are staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House offers a place for families to stay while their children are hospitalized at Dignity Health’s Memorial Hospital. The club prepared homemade dinners for families throughout the school year.





Garces Engineering Pathway

When Garces applied for and received the designation of an official Project Lead the Way School, we began an Engineering Pathway for our students. The Engineering Pathway offers our students opportunities to step into the role of an engineer, adopt a problem-solving mindset, and make the leap from doers to thinkers. The pathway consists of Introduction to Design, Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering & Architecture, and Digital Electronics. We also offer a robotics competition team program, Garces Rambotics.

Last year, we celebrated Engineering Day on our campus with a “Canoe Race”. Students in the Engineering Pathway built canoes out of cardboard and raced across the pool. Although some of the boats sank - most of them made it across. The race happened during lunch and almost the entire student body turned out to root for the engineering students.

“Our Engineering Pathways program exposes our students to different types of engineering – electronic, civil, and computer. It also prepares students for life because it teaches them that they need to work through problems and that problems can be solved in more than one way. In Spring of 2022, we started Engineering Day which included a cardboard canoe race, similar to those done at universities across the United States. The canoe race allowed for almost 100 students to participate. Next year we are happy to open it up to non-engineering students and maybe even some parents.” – Jaima Cook, PLTW teacher

“I love being in the Engineering Pathway because of the people I’m in it with. We go on little “nerd” tangents and have some great conversations. It’s my safe space. And Mrs. Cook is great! I have really enjoyed being part of the Robotics team. The competitions are so much fun and getting to know all the robotics clubs from all over Bakersfield has been such a positive experience. Every club competes hard against each other, but there are no hard feelings.” – Allison Barker, Class of 2023



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." - 1 Peter 4:10-11

**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD
STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

At the 2022 Robotics State Championships, Allison Barker and Isaiah Chrisco recieved the Sportsmanship Award for the kindness they displayed in assisting other robotics teams.

GARCES RAMBOTICS



Judge's Award
Last Chance Tournament
Troy Lake & Brooke Hunter



Innovate Award
Cal Poly Tournament
Allison Barker



League Tournament Finalists
Carolyn "CJ" James, Matthias
O'Reilly, & John Selvidge

2021-2022 Student Life

Homecoming King Logan Bowers & Queen Eleni Zaninovich



School Rallies



Band Concerts



2021 Homecoming Court



Fall Play - Alice in Wonderland



Dances

Aloha
Garces Quad



Sadie Hawkins
Garces Gym



Formal
Elements - Ice House



Prom
The Belle Rae



Garces Student Traditions

Junior Step- Up Mass

The Garces Step-Up Mass is unique to Garces and we are so proud to continue the tradition of bringing the junior class and their parents together for a special Mass to celebrate them becoming upperclassmen on our campus. Along with Mass, our teachers who are also Garces alumni, pin each junior with a with a special Garces pin and the class rings are blessed before being distributed.



Ash Wednesday

Garces students enjoy the Holy Days of Obligations with Masses on our campus and one of our favorites is Ash Wednesday. Our students wear their ashes with such great pride. Celebrating Holy Days are a unique blessing on our campus.



The HERD

The Garces student section has transformed over the years, but for the last ten years, it has been known as The HERD and it is an amazing display of school spirit! Our Garces Rams are known for being one of the best student sections in town.





Garces Memorial Athletics

The 2021-22 school year was a huge success in and out of the classroom for Garces Memorial Athletics. Four teams won Central Section championships. Three won individual section championships and an amazing 15 senior student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent to play their sport at a four-year university. Along with that nearly 50 Garces Memorial student-athletes were honored as All-Area selections by The Bakersfield Californian during the school year.

Volleyball Wins D-IV Title

The Rams were seeded No. 8 in the Central Section Division IV playoffs and defeated East for the first championship in four years for the program before advancing to the D-V CIF SoCal regional championships for the first time in 25 years.



Girls Tennis Wins D-I Title

In front of one of the largest girls tennis crowds in recent memory the Rams defeated San Luis Obispo for the Central Section Division I title. It was the first D-I title for Garces in 10 years. The Rams also advanced to the CIF SoCal regional tournament for the first time in school history.



Boys Soccer Domination

The Garces Memorial boys soccer team won a fourth consecutive Central Section championship and went on to win the CIF SoCal D-III state championship. The second state title for the program in four years.



Boys Basketball Wins Section Title

The Garces Memorial boys basketball won the Central Section Division IV title on the road at Rosamond. The first title for the program in a decade.



Girls Tennis Doubles Champions

For the second consecutive year, Kylee Limpas and Jocie Sala won the Central Section girls tennis doubles championship.



Bowers D-IV Wrestling Champion

Senior Logan Bowers won the Central Section Division IV boys wrestling 195-pound championship.



"I can do all this through him who gives me strength." ~ Philippians 4:13



Football Advances to D-I Playoffs

The Garces Memorial football team went 6-3 in the regular season (missed a game due to opponent sidelined to COVID-19 restrictions) and advanced to the Central Section Division I playoffs for first time in program history..



Boys Soccer Honored

After winning the state championship, the Garces Memorial boys soccer team was honored on campus by State Assemblyman Vince Fong, the Kern County Board of Supervisors and U.S. Congressman Kevin McCarthy for their accomplishments. time in program history.



Palmer Bank Honored

Senior Palmer Bank was one of just two dozen student-athletes in the Central Section honored as 2022 Scholar-Athletes.

College Signings

Logan Wimbish - Fresno State Women's Water Polo
 Stevie Reynolds - Cal State Northridge Women's Soccer
 Leah Weber - Murrieta College Softball
 Travis Plugge - St. Thomas Football
 Rory Begin - Navy Men's Water Polo
 Jordan Northcutt - UC San Diego Men's Water Polo
 Mary King - Cal Baptist Women's Water Polo

Palmer Bank - Stanford Men's Soccer
 Fletcher Bank - Stanford Men's Soccer
 Ian Jernagin - Friends University Football
 Blake Allen - Friends University Football
 Christian Chase - Cumberland University Men's Soccer
 Julia Hernandez - UC Santa Cruz Women's Golf
 Kamryn Lopez - Chaminade University Softball
 Angelika Stevens - Saint Rose University Women's Golf

BVarsity All-Area

Volleyball

Mia D'Amato - First Team
 Allison Martin - Second Team
 Emma Machado - Honorable Mention
 Aspen Chang - Honorable Mention
 Samantha Rogers - Honorable Mention

Football

Logan Bowers - Defensive Player of the Year
 Ian Jernagin - First Team
 Davis May - First Team
 Julian Smith - First Team
 Jayden Hollis - Second Team
 LeBron Jackson - Second Team
 David Smith - Second Team
 Palmer Bank - Honorable Mention
 Johnathan Lester - Honorable Mention
 Andrew Tobias - Honorable Mention

Cross Country

Fletcher Bank - First Team
 Mikaela Chapman - Honorable Mention

Girls Tennis

Kelsey Abraham - Player of the Year
 Jocie Sala, Kylee Limpas, Doubles Team of the Year
 Marc Gomez - Coach of the Year
 Taylor Crider - First Team
 Gigi Antongiovanni - Honorable Mention
 Olivia Tobias - Honorable Mention

Maddie Tobias - Honorable Mention
 Maia Cinquimani - Honorable Mention
 Gemma Eddy - Honorable Mention

Boys Water Polo

Rory Begin - Co-Player of the Year
 Jordan Northcutt - Co-Player of the Year
 Eric Marsh - Coach of the Year
 Peter Gonzalez - First Team
 Adam Gregory - First Team
 Levi McKay - First Team
 Johnny Mendiburu - First Team
 Kenneth Molina - First Team
 Johnny Starr - First Team
 Ayden Carballo - Second Team
 AJ Duncan - Second Team

Girls Water Polo

Abby Schechter - Co-Player of the Year
 Logan Wimbish - Co-Player of the Year
 Audrey Franco-Hill - First Team
 Gianna Garcia - First Team
 Gaby Guerrero - First Team
 Mary King - First Team
 Isabella Negre - First Team
 Cindy King - Second Team
 Isabella Petri - Second Team

Girls Golf

Angelika Stevens - First Team
 Julia Hernandez - First Team
 Malia Giumarra - First Team
 Tara Miller - Second Team

Bella Burks - Second Team
 Hailey Shaw - Second Team

Boys Basketball

Louis Duarte - Third Team
 Isaiah Perry - Honorable Mention

Girls Basketball

Reese Pasternik - Third Team
 Mia D'Amato - Third Team
 AJ Rivera - Honorable Mention

Boys Soccer

Fletcher Bank - Offensive Player of the Year
 Palmer Bank - Defensive Player of the Year
 Christian Chase - First Team
 Benji Jimenez - First Team
 Joseph Gutierrez - Second Team
 Jack Bordanave - Honorable Mention
 Nick Iturrria - Honorable Mention
 Quentin Lueck - Honorable Mention
 Anthony Melendrez - Honorable Mention
 Abram Villanueva - Honorable Mention
 Matthew Mendoza - Honorable Mention

Girls Soccer

Stevie Reynolds - First Team
 Gaby Guerrero - Honorable Mention

Boys Wrestling

Logan Bowers - Honorable Mention
 Isaiah Chrisco - Honorable Mention
 Davis May - Honorable Mention

Milo Mastrucci - Honorable Mention
 David Smith - Honorable Mention

Baseball

David Escobar - Third Team
 Liam O'Reilly - Third Team

Softball

Ryleigh Garcia - First Team
 Kamryn Lopez - Third Team

Track and Field

Travis Plugge - Second Team

Girls Swimming

Abby Schechter - First Team
 Claire Banducci - Honorable Mention
 Jillian Borba - Honorable Mention
 Gianna Garcia - Honorable Mention
 Mary King - Honorable Mention

Boys Golf

Palmer Bank - First Team
 Aidan Sorci - First Team
 Carson Sorci - First Team
 Bennet Michaud - Second Team
 Ryan Surgener, Second Team
 Grant Periera - Third Team

Boys Tennis

Nico Fanucchi - Second Team
 Brysen Limpas - Second Team
 Michael Garcia - Third Team

VOTED BEST PRIVATE SCHOOL IN BAKERSFIELD THREE YEARS RUNNING



THE ONLY APPLE DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL IN BAKERSFIELD



Garces is one of only six California high schools designated as Apple Distinguished. As an Apple Distinguished School, Garces has opportunities to collaborate with a network of the world's most innovative and creative educators as well as take part in countless digital curriculum trainings and seminars. Mr. Lacava, our IT Director said, "Our teachers' willingness to learn the iPad and push their curriculum into the virtual world not only prepares our students for college, but is the reason why Garces was the envy of every school in Kern County during the Covid 19 shutdown."

CLASS OF 2022 COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University
Bakersfield College
California Baptist University
California Polytechnic State University,
San Luis Obispo
California State Polytechnic University,
Pomona
California State University-Bakersfield
California State University-Chico
California State University-Fresno
California State University-Long Beach
California State University-Monterey Bay
California State University-Northridge
California State University-Sacramento
California State University-San Marcos
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Colorado School of Mines
Creighton University

Cuesta College
Cumberland University
Franciscan University of Steubenville
Friends University
Gonzaga University
Grand Canyon University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago
Marietta College
Montana State University
Oklahoma State University
Saint Joseph's University
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Stanford University
Syracuse University
Texas Christian University
The College of Saint Rose

United States Naval Academy
United States Naval Academy
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Davis
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California-Merced
University of California-Riverside
University of California-San Diego
University of California-Santa Barbara
University of California-Santa Cruz
University of Hawaii
University of Mississippi
University of Nevada-Reno
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of St. Thomas



GARCES MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL 2021 QUICK FACT SHEET

FINANCIAL AID

48% OF OUR STUDENTS
RECEIVE
FINANCIAL AID



MEMBERSHIPS

National Honor Society
California Scholarship Federation
California Interscholastic Federation
American Association for
Advancement of Science
California Mathematics Council
Future Farmer's of America
Recognized as an Apple
Distinguished School



ACCREDITATIONS

Western Association of
Schools and Colleges: WASC



Western Catholic Education
Association: WCEA



GRADUATION/COLLEGE STATS

100% graduation rate
Of those attending college, 67% attended
a 4-year university and 33% attended a 2-year college.



INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Average Class Size: 16

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

53% of students are
enrolled in a visual/
performing arts course.



ATHLETICS



68% of students participate in athletics.

129 CIFCS Team Championships

2021 Central Section
Boys Soccer Champions

11 Class of 2021 members received
college athletic scholarships

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry
Activities Regularly

Weekly Adoration,
Confession, Mass

Class Retreat Days



FACTS

Voted "Best Private
School" in 2020 and 2021

1:1 iPad Program

3 Full-Time
Counselors

Enrichment Period



CAMPUS SECURITY STATS

Security Guard on-campus from
7 AM to 4 PM

EXTRACURRICULAR

3 ACADEMIC PATHWAYS

Biomedical
Engineering (PLTW)
Agribusiness

ACADEMIC TEAMS

Mock Trial
Robotics

FINE ARTS

Dance
Band
Theater
Art
Broadcasting



Thank You Msgr. Perry Kavookjian Garces Rector

Reverend Monsignor Perry Kavookjian was appointed the Garces Rector in spring of 2013. During his time as rector, he oversaw a new organizational structure with Garces going from a Principal-President model to a Head of School model, worked with three different principals and three different superintendents all while building a new church in northwest Bakersfield. He ushered Garces through four different campus ministers and two bishops – Bishop Ochoa and Bishop Brennan.

Garces Memorial made a change in its by-laws and went from a school and Advisory Board supervised by a rector to one supervised by the superintendent out of the Diocese of Fresno Office of Education which allowed Fr. Perry to focus on the spiritual growth and faith formation of our students.

Father Perry was here almost weekly to say Mass with our students. He worked closely with Campus Ministry to offer adoration and confession on a weekly basis. He opened his parish for our student retreats and when we were finally able to worship together once Covid restrictions were lifted, he held an outdoor Mass for Garces students and families at his church, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Every fall, he held a faculty and staff retreat, sharing his thoughts and inspirations about what it means to work at a Catholic school. He emphasized each fall the shared responsibility everyone at Garces had to positively impact the faith formation and personal growth of young people.

As a rector, he was kind, thoughtful, insightful, funny, and a joy to have on campus. His homilies were inspiring, and the students looked forward to hearing from him. His unselfish service to Garces Memorial and its families and staff is appreciated more than he knows. He was a light for many and we are grateful to have had him as our rector for nine years.

"I always felt inspired by Monsignor Perry's homilies and walked out of Mass with much hope and joy to face adversity. Joy is one of his best gifts from God." - Nubia Sierra, Theology Teacher

"I loved his Garces homilies. They were always on point and relative to the students. I always left Mass knowing he got through to some of the students." – Kelly Olson, Dean of Students



Happy Retirement Mr. Scott Smith Garces Band Director

Garces Band Director, Mr. Scott Smith retired after 21 years at Garces. He was a blessing on our campus to so many students and families. He managed to find the time to teach music in the classroom, train the students on the finer points of being a member of a marching band along with training them on marching formations, leading them as a pep band at the football games, and putting on music concerts at least three times a year – all the while managing a full-time family business. His energy and passion knew no bounds. He was a wonderful ambassador for Garces while interacting in his role as the Band Director– always sharing with others in the community what a wonderful school we have.

His wife, Margaret, has been an integral part of the music program as well and for years she worked with the tall flags students and was responsible for the annual Dinner Concert each year, adding all her personal touches to make it a memorable evening. Along with working with his wife, Scott also worked closely with Mr. Chili Ortega. Over the years, the three of them have had a huge impact on our school and our ability to offer an exceptional music program to our students.

Scott and his wife Margaret sent both their boys to Garces. Sean Smith graduated in 2014 and Evan Smith graduated in 2018. Both boys participated in the music program during their four years at Garces.

Scott was instrumental in the decision to build the beautiful music complex which was a gift from the Berchtold family. The music room is a very special place on our campus and allows for our students to learn to love to play music and to share their God-given talents.

Scott shared that it's time for him to assume a more active role in his family business Sun-Gro Commodities. He will be missed, but he will always have a home at Garces.

“Scott Smith and his wife, Margaret, were a blessing to our campus. Scott devoted hours of his time to rework music to fit the talents of our students so they could shine. And his wife, Margaret, was an integral part of the music program. The two of them were an unbelievable team, clearly loved and supported our students, and made our music program one of the best in Kern County.” - Lou Ann Durrett, Director of Communications



Class of 2022 Graduation Awards

Graduated With **Honors**

Cumulative GPA 4.5 - 5.0

*Renee Aralar
Fletcher Bank
Palmer Bank
Mackenzie Bomar
Aspen Chang
Sophia Curutchague
Remington Duke
J.P Etcheverry
Rey Thaddesu Guerra
Antony Melendrez
Tara Miller
Audrey Nail
Matthias O'Reilly
Travis Plugge
Cleo Remotique*

Cumulative GPA 4.0 - 4.49

*Reece Aralar
Rachel Bangasan
Rory Begin
Vienna Bertolucci
Raffi Bouldoukian
Jordan Cachu
Mikaela Chapman
Will Dobrzanski
Hayden Duncan
Ava Dykes
Gabriella Guerrero
Harkirat Hansra
Julia Hernandez
Nick Iturriria
Mary King
Ava Kirkorian
Patrick Kleier
Ella Luque
Stevie Reynolds
Nicholas Tsang
Ryan Villicana
Peter Zaninovich
Sophia Zaninovich
Reagan Zimmermann*



Jean Pierre "JP" Etcheverry The Garces Award

The Garces Award is Garces Memorial's highest award and is given to a senior who, in addition to general excellence, most nearly personifies the Christian ideals embodied by the patron of our school, Father Francisco Garces. The Class of 2022 selected Jean Pierre "JP" Etcheverry to receive the Garces Award.

It's easy to see why JP's classmates voted for him to receive this award. He has clearly loved Garces since day one on our campus. He has made the most of every moment. He was the class president his freshman year, sophomore year and junior year. His senior year, he was the ASB co-president. He has been a member of band, mock trial, the National Honor Society, CSF, and the Interact Club. He founded the Whistling Club and the Basque Culture Club. He played baseball and wrestled and participated in everything he could while a Garces Ram. But more than that, JP stayed true to who he is. He loves his faith and he loves his school. He treats everyone with respect and kindness and is beloved by all. His classmates have high hopes for him, they voted him most likely to become President.



Cleo Remotique

The Salutatorian Award

The Salutatorian Award is given to the senior who has attained a weighted GPA which ranks the student second among the members of the graduating class.

Cleo excelled at Garces with a cumulative GPA of 4.94. He took 14 honor classes and five AP classes. He was a member of the National Honor Society, a CSF gold seal bearer and the recipient of the Garces Science Award. He was a member of the Earth Club and the Whistling Club.



Fletcher Bank

The Valedictorian Award

The Valedictorian Award is given to the senior who has attained a cumulative GPA which ranks the student at the top of his or her graduating class.

Fletcher excelled at Garces with a 4.96 GPA. He took 13 honor classes and five AP classes. He was a member of the National Honor Society, a CSF gold seal bearer, a Project Lead the Way Scholar, a Jim Burke Education Foundation Dream Builder, and the recipient of the Dante Alighieri Scholar Athlete Award. He was a member of the cross-country team and made Garces history by winning not one, but two state championships as a member of the boys soccer team.

Fletcher Bank

The Jim Burke Leadership Award

The Jim Burke Leadership Award is given to the senior who has been most distinguished as a leader both academically and in extra-curricular activities. The class of 2022 voted for the recipient of this award and they selected Fletcher Bank as the recipient of the Jim Burke Leadership Award.

Fletcher was a leader since his first day on our campus. He has excelled in the classroom, on the playing field, and in the community. His classmates will tell you he is quick to help others. His teammates will tell you that he is a leader by example. His teachers will tell you that he is a leader in the classroom through his participation and encouragement of others. Most importantly, everyone will tell you Fletcher is a leader in his faith and that he gives thanks to God for all He has given Fletcher.



JP Etcheverry & Sophia Curutchage

The Bishop's Awards

The Bishop's Awards are presented to the graduating male and female who in the judgment of their classmates best represent those characteristics for which Garces Memorial stands and who most closely manifest Christ's teachings in their own lives. The class of 2022 selected John Pierre Etcheverry and Sophia Curutchage as the recipients.

John Pierre, or JP as he is known around Garces, was one of our most faithful Catholics and has been a lector at almost every all-school Mass. He loves his faith and often talks about what it means to be Catholic. He says that he would like to be the Pope one day, and while that may not happen, it would not surprise his classmates if he became a deacon as he is truly a man of God who walks the walk and lives his faith on a daily basis.

Sophia is more quiet about her faith. She is one who lives out her faith by example. She organized several drives on campus to help those in need by collecting items and then donating them to worthwhile organizations. Sophia is truly a woman of God who lives her life as Jesus has called us to do. She wants to be a social worker and help others in need. Her classmates have no doubt that she will be a shining light for families in distress as Sophia is the epitome of the virtue of compassion.

Class of 2022 Valedictorian Speech



Fletcher Bank Class of 2022 Valedictorian

Good evening graduates, faculty, families, and friends! I would first like to offer a huge congratulations to the Garces Memorial Class of 2022! It is an honor and privilege being able to stand up here today and address such a talented, diverse senior class who has not wavered but stood true to the Garces motto of “founded on faith, rooted in tradition, and growing in excellence.” Graduates, please know that your recognition today is

a testament to your perseverance in the classroom and within our Bakersfield community. However, no student has done this alone. As Hilary Clinton once said, “it takes a village to raise a warrior.” Some might say that was the only smart thing they ever heard from her. With that being said, I would like to thank several key components who have made this journey possible:

To the Garces Administration, for working behind the scenes to create a special atmosphere for each and every Garces student.

To the amazing teachers, for giving up so much of their time and knowledge to not only educate us in their respective fields, but teach us how to implement these principles in a Christian manner.

To the custodial staff who work nonstop to make Garces the most beautiful campus in Bakersfield.

And lastly to the parents and guardians who not only financially supported our Catholic education, but have guided us and supported us in so many ways up to this point. We thank you, we thank you, we thank you!

Class of 2022, we’ve made quite the memories over these last four years. From battling voice changes and facial acne to studying during a worldwide pandemic, we’ve learned the true essence of success. We cheered in the Herd together, danced the night away at prom and formal, and together won a ton of league and valley championships. I know I’m going to the right school when my parents are telling my neighbors that they should have sent my sisters, who went to Bakersfield High School, to Garces. In fact, I go to such a prestigious high school that the Carpinteria Police Department knows us by name! One of my favorite high school memories was Freshman P.E. class. Athletes was a stretch, we were pretty much a band of hoodlums. One day in particular, Mrs. Chambers was taking an eighth grade student on a tour of campus with his parents. They opened the gym door to find thirty freshman boys, shirtless, screaming, and with dodgeballs in their hands. Let’s just say that wasn’t the best PR stunt. For those of you who don’t know, my twin brother and best friend, Palmer, is also here tonight graduating with us. Palmer is an amazing 4 sport athlete, he won Defensive Player of the year for soccer, was kicker for the Garces Rams football team, and quite the ladies man. So the fact that I’m up here giving the speech tonight came down to only one thing: I’m smarter. I’m a little disappointed because I feel as if I deserve two diplomas, one for myself and another for doing all of his work. But in all seriousness I think we can all agree that Garces has molded us into respectable men and women ready to take on any obstacle that awaits us in the future. As Mr. Detloff would put it, “Garces has not taught us what to think, but how to think.” We can firmly say that Garces has prepared us spiritually, academically, and athletically for the next step in our lives. Garces has given us lifelong friendships, lessons learned, and memories and I am forever grateful for it.

"If, then, you are looking for the way by which you should go, take Christ, because He Himself is the way." ~ Thomas Aquinas



This past week, when I first thought about what message I wanted to leave with the senior class some cliché ones came to mind, "stay true to yourself" or "work hard and dream big." Now, nothing is wrong with these ideas and in fact they are quite useful advice. However, they just didn't resonate with me. The truth of the matter is that I do not want to call on you graduates to pursue worldly success. If I've learned anything from high school it's this: Worldly success and validation from your peers does not satisfy you.

I stand before you today, valedictorian, a valley and state champion, and a future Stanford Cardinal. I've won a considerable amount of awards and accolades in the classroom, on the soccer field, and in the community. However, I regret most of them, because they were never able to truly satisfy me. They were a source of gratification for only a minute and gone before I realized it. Instead, graduates I plead that no matter what path you choose after tonight that you focus on the one thing that actually fulfills: A relationship with Jesus Christ. In turn, you can then use this relationship with your savior to positively impact the relationships you have with those around you. Looking back on high school I feel as if I failed to develop these meaningful relationships with my peers that are so important to our purpose here on Earth. Instead of hanging out with my friends in the student section of a basketball game, I chose to study for that math test. Rather than spending a meal with a teammate, I chose to rush home to read for a quiz. Again, don't get me wrong, success is a good thing and we should all pursue it. However, we must never sacrifice sharing the love of Christ to others in our relationships in order to obtain worldly success. I'll never forget my sophomore year of high school when during mass Father Perry said it so clearly. He said "When a person dies they will most likely not be remembered for being a good athlete, intelligent, or wealthy. Instead, they will be remembered if they were a compassionate and loving person." The problem is that we tend to put aside our obligation to share the Gospel to those we love in exchange for worldly pursuits. In the Gospel of Luke, an interesting thing happens when the disciples have an argument over who is the greatest among themselves. Jesus interrupts and proclaims in chapter 22, verse 26: "Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant." Please, graduates as you embark on the next chapter of your life today become a servant for the peers around you. Show your faith in Jesus by giving everything to the person standing next to you. Give your money, time, talents, knowledge, and most importantly give love. 1 Peter 4:8 states, "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." Graduates, thank you again for an amazing past four years. I am so proud of all of you! I see nothing but blessings and success for the class of 2022 and Garces Memorial High School! God Bless you all!



2021 Hall of Honor

The Garces Memorial Alumni Board held its 13 annual Hall of Honor at Luigi's on September 8, 2022. They inducted five new members and honored one legacy family. In addition to the ceremony, the Alumni Board raised funds for the Garces Alumni Scholarship Fund through its Dessert Dash. They raised a little over \$17,000 to help alumni send their children to Garces. The Master of Ceremonies was Jim Sakowski and Maria Toretta did a fabulous job running the Dessert Dash. The Garces FFA Program provided the centerpieces for all the tables. Each inductee was introduced by an Alumni Board member and all of the acceptance speeches were a testament to all the things that make Garces the special school it is.

MARK BROWN

with John Moore & Gregg Gunner



At just 22-years-old, Mark joined the Garces family right out of college and never left. During his 42 years at Garces, he taught Art, ASB, Drafting, and Physical Education. He coached numerous sports teams and was named All-Area Coach of the Year for Boys Tennis and Swimming. Mark retired in 2020 and is the longest tenured classroom teacher at Garces. He taught and coached more students than anyone else in the school's history. The Garces community fondly knows Mark as the voice of Rams Football. For nearly 40 years, he came out to Sam Tobias Field on Friday nights and announced the football games and kept the crowd engaged and entertained. His signature "Holy Toledo Sports Fans!" has been heard by countless Garces fans under the Friday night lights.

VINCE FANUCCHI

with Tom Swertfager & Gregg Gunner



Vince Fanucchi graduated from Garces in 1967, and came back ten years later to teach at Garces Memorial. During his many years of service, he served a teacher, coach, and eventually as the Athletic Director. Under his direction, the Garces Athletic Department became recognized as one of the most successful and most respected high school athletic programs in the state. Vince has been recognized and received many honors. Among them are the Garces Memorial Man of the Year, The Bob Carroll Award, and Central Section CIF Athletic Director of the Year. Vince has tirelessly kept statistics for the school and student athletes for years. His contribution to the history, traditions, and legacy of Garces Memorial High School is unmatched.

DONNA JAMES

with Maria Toretta & Gregg Gunner



Donna first began as a volunteer in the Garces cafeteria and was asked to co-chair the Garces Gala. Donna took it on with the help of Marian Bowser and Sally Summers. The Garces Gala was extremely successful under Donna's leadership and helped to raise funds to cover the expense to build Monsignor Leddy Hall. Donna co-chaired the Gala in 1982 and 1983 and was the sole chair in 1986, 1987 and 1989. She served on the Gala Committee for a total of ten years. One of Donna's ongoing claims to fame is her famous chocolate chip cookies which are auctioned off at the Garces Gala – once going for over \$5,000 in a bidding war between Johnny Etcheverry and Cookie Bianco. Over her ten-year involvement with the Garces Gala, and her ongoing support of Garces Memorial, Donna has helped to raise millions of dollars for Garces.

“Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.” ~ Hebrews 13:7

KEVIN PASCOE

with George Clerou & Gregg Gunner



Kevin Pascoe was the second oldest of seven Pascoe siblings that attended Garces Memorial High School. While at Garces Kevin played football and served as a team captain his senior year. He was a gold seal bearer in CSF, and a member of the Letterman Club, the Ski Club, and Student Council his senior year. Kevin attended Bakersfield College where he played football for two seasons under Gerry Collis and then transferred to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where he acquired his Bachelor's of Science Degree. As a strong proponent of Catholic education Kevin served on the Garces School Board for 12 years. During his tenure as a board member he helped to shepherd visionary changes for our campus. Kevin helped to create The Garces 2010 Plan which served as a road map for the future of Garces, resulting in much of our campus as we know it today.

GORDON WESTHOFF

with Gregg Gunner



Gordon Westhoff is a cradle Catholic and attended Catholic schools from K-12. After retiring from corporate life, Gordon eventually came to Garces as a teacher. He was voted Teacher of the Year by the students in 2012. He was also an Assistant Coach for the Garces Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball Teams. In 2013, he was the Director of Admissions. During that time, he met Mrs. Leach who was leaving her estate to Garces. Thanks to Gordon being a good steward and a strong proponent of Garces, he became her close friend, confidant, and the Trustee of the Earl and Jean Leach Family Trust resulting in a \$10 million estate gift. Prior to becoming the trustee, Gordon was a board member of the Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation. Gordon stepped off the Foundation board and worked tirelessly to ensure the estate was well managed and that Mrs. Leach's wishes were honored.

THE SULLIVAN FAMILY

Vinny, Tim Sr., Jan, & Tim Jr.



If you are a Garces football, soccer, water polo, or swim fan, you have seen firsthand the love and support of Garces Memorial High School by the Jan and Tim Sullivan Family. The scoreboard at Sam Tobias Field and the scoreboard at the Salvucci Aquatics Center were both made possible thanks to their generosity. In addition to the scoreboards, they have been longtime sponsors of Garces events and the Sullivan's family love for Garces and commitment to Catholic education is evident to the Garces community. Tim and Jan have recently passed the "Garces" baton to Frank, Tim, and Vinny and the three boys have not missed a beat. They continue to sponsor and attend our events and Tim Jr. is a member of the Monsignor Leddy Golf Tournament Committee. The future of Garces is in good hands with the support of legacy families like the Sullivan's.

2021-2022
Garces Alumni Board of Directors

Gregg Gunner '66, Chairman

Al Sandrini '57

Cindy (Duncan) Lynch '68

Mary (Loken) Cornett '68

Tom Swertfager '69

Jim Sakowski '70

Melissa Fortune '72

Mike Georgino '75

Kathy (Cortopassi) Staugaard '76

George Clerou '76

Katie (Anspach) Whittington '77

Raji Sanghera '87

Maria (Bernal) Toretta '88

Michael Anchordoquy '99

John Moore III '07

Lou Ann Durrett
Director of Communications

The Alumni Scholarship Fund

Thank you to our 2021 Hall of Honor Sponsors

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John-Paul Lake '97

Kenneth M. Peters CLU '50

Debra & Jim Sakowski '70

Wool Grower's Restaurant

The Garces Memorial Alumni Scholarship was established by the Garces Alumni Board to assist alumni in sending their children to Garces. For some Garces alumni, without some financial assistance to help with the tuition cost at Garces, a Garces education is not possible. The Alumni Scholarship helped 21 students during the 2021-2022 school year. The majority of the funds are raised during the Hall of Honor using the Dessert Dash. Additional funds are sent in through the school year by alumni, often as a memorial tribute to someone who has passed on. If you are interested in supporting children of Garces alumni, please consider a donation to the Garces Alumni Fund as part of your annual giving to Garces.

2021-2022 Alumni Scholarship Donors

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Melissa Fortune & Bruce Beretta
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The Hail Mary Club



OVER \$1.6 MILLION DOLLARS IN DONATIONS AND COUNTING.

Since its inception in 2013, the Hail Mary Club has given over \$1.6 million dollars in financial support of Garces Memorial and our students. On an annual basis, they help with tuition assistance where needed and support various on-campus projects to enhance the student experience. One of our favorite projects is their Scholar-Athlete Recognition Program. The recognition program is for upperclassmen who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and participate in at least one sport as a student at Garces Memorial High School. First time recipients receive a custom backpack. Seniors who already received scholar athlete backpack his or her junior year received a custom lanyard.



2021 Scholar Athletes

Albracht, Rebecca
Antongiovanni, Nick
Antongiovanni, Olivia
Aralar, Reece Antoine
Atchison, Sierra
Bangasan, Rachel
Bank, Fletcher
Bank, Palmer
Barker, Allison
Barnes, Brooke
Begin, Rory
Benitez, Jackalyn
Bertolucci, Vienna
Bomar, Mackenzie
Borba, Aviana
Bouldoukian, Raffi
Bowers, Logan
Boyd, Andrew
Braun, Joshua
Burks, Bella
Cachu, Jordan
Chandler, Ryan
Chang, Aspen
Chapman, Mikaela

Cinquemani, Maia
Crider, Taylor
Curutchague, Sophia
D'Amato, Mia
Dobrzanski, William
Duarte, Abigail
Duncan, Anthony
Duncan, Hayden
Dykes, Ava
Espinoza, Jason
Etcheverry, Jean (JP)
Etcheverry, Kaitlyn
Etchison, Emily
Fernandez, Darlene
Garnica, Sienna
Gerow, Jack
Gianquinto, Charlotte
Giumarra, Randall
Gonzales, Nikaela
Gonzalez, Peter
Gregory, Adam
Guerra, Rey
Guerrero, Gabriella
Hall, Sydney
Hernandez, Julia
Hernandez, Noah

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Hollis, Jayden
Hurtado, Alyssa
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King, Mary
Kirkorian, Ava
Kleier, Patrick
Limpias, Kylee
Lopez, Kamryn
Lujan, Layla
Luque, Ella
Maldonado, Kylie
Mastrucci, Mitchello
McCarthy, Genevieve
McDaniel, Kayli
McGrath, Thomas
Melendrez, Antony
Mercado, Alvaro
Michaud, Olivia
Miller, Tara
Nail, Audrey
Nalesnik, William (Barrett)
Napier, James
Neira, Hannah
Orozco, Kathryn
Pacheco, Paul

Petrini, Ilaria
Petrini, Isabella
Plugge, Travis
Raytis, Lillian
Rebuck, Nixon
Remotigue, Cleo Angelo
Reynolds, Stevie
Rodriguez, Julien
Rowley, Erin
Santillan, Martin
Schechter, Abigail
Shaw, Ella
Shaw, Hailey
Shaw, Luke
Sorci, Aidan
Taylor, Samantha
Tobias, Andrew
Tobias, Olivia
Valdez, Lindsay
Villicana, Ryan Faith
Wang, Danny Yifei
Wiswall, Sara
Zaninovich, Peter
Zaninovich, Sophia
Zimmermann, Reagann
Zou, Qiahao

Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation

Formerly known as the Garces Memorial High School Foundation



"The Foundation Board is pleased to be able to help so many Garces families, but none of it would be possible without the generosity of so many who entrust us with their gift for the future of the school."

Dr. Tom Berry, President

\$552,334

Donated in 2021-2022

\$303,285 in Tuition Assistance

\$208,834 to Operating Expenses

\$10,000 Lunch Assistance Program

\$10,150 Faculty Education Support

\$20,065 College Scholarships

THE MONSIGNOR PATRICK LEDDY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The late Reverend Monsignor Patrick Leddy left a larger-than-life legacy in the Catholic community as he impacted the lives of so many local families during his years as a parish priest and as an advocate for Catholic education. An anonymous alumni donor reached out and asked to start a scholarship in Msgr. Leddy's honor. The donor shared that "because of Msgr. Leddy, I was able to go to Garces and on to college. His support of my Catholic education changed my life and I want to honor him for all he did for me and others like me."

When another alumni donor heard the scholarship was being established, they commented that "Msgr. Leddy was a wonderful advocate for Garces and the Catholic community. Honoring his memory with a scholarship is a wonderful idea", and that donor matched the original gift and then some allowing the foundation to establish the scholarship in March Of 2022.

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If you are interested in leaving a legacy or establishing a scholarship through planned giving or a one time gift, please contact Lou Ann Durrett at ldurrett@garces.org.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS ADDED IN 2021-2022 IN MEMORY OF MONSIGNOR PATRICK LEDDY & DR. MARK ROOT

THE MARK ROOT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND



On September 28, 2021, Dr. Mark Root died in a tragic motorcycle accident. His wife, Bernadette (Eyherabide) Root '78, and his children, Daniel Root '08, Jordan Root '12, and Jackie Root '13, are all Garces alums. The Root home was, and still is, open to everyone from Garces. Mark became a second dad to many Garces alums. His kindness, compassion, sense of humor, and love of family were evident to all who knew him. Knowing Mark's passion for education and the special relationships his family developed with other Garces families and alumni, his family opted to honor his memory by establishing a Garces tuition assistance scholarship in his name through the Bakersfield Catholic Education Foundation.

The family received numerous donations in memory of Mark as he touched many lives in our community. The outpouring of support for the family and the community's wish to honor Mark's memory was remarkable. Donations quickly exceeded the required minimum of \$25,000 and the Foundation was able to award the first scholarship in the Spring of 2022.

"My husband would be so humbled and honored to have a scholarship named after him to help others pursue their academic dreams. My family will be forever grateful to everyone who helped to establish the scholarship in his memory."- Bernadette Root '78.

THANK YOU TO THE DONORS WHO MADE A GIFT IN MEMORY OF DR. MARK ROOT

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The Honorable & Mrs. Robert Anspach
Tim & Jan Sullivan
Tom and Mary Berry
Tom da Silva and Deidre da Silva
Wendy Amerine

Holy Smoke BBQ

With restrictions still in place when we were planning our 2021 BBQ, we once again needed to hold a “drive-thru” and “delivery” only event. Thank you to our sponsors, supporters and volunteers for their role in the success of the 2021 Holy Smoke BBQ.

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Join us for next year's BBQ on
Thursday, October 21, 2023



HOLLY
SMOKE
GARCES BBQ



A Night in Nashville/Msgr. Leddy Golf Classic

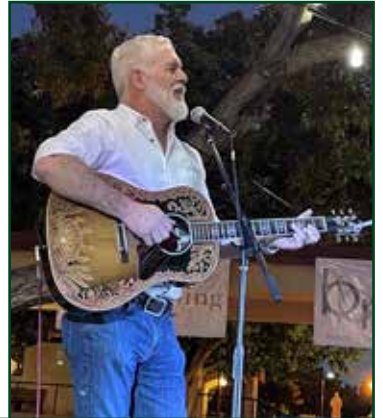
Thank you to everyone who came out to support the back to back events in April, A Night in Nashville followed by the 2022 Msgr. Leddy Golf Classic. **Be sure to join us for the 2023 Msgr. Leddy Golf Classic on Monday, April 17, 2023!**

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Mission Bank

Garces Gala

Thank you to our Gala sponsors, auction donors, guests, and volunteers. In 2022 Gala returned to an "in person" event and we were thrilled to have everyone back on campus!

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Thank you!



Join us for next year's Gala. Saturday, February 25, 2023

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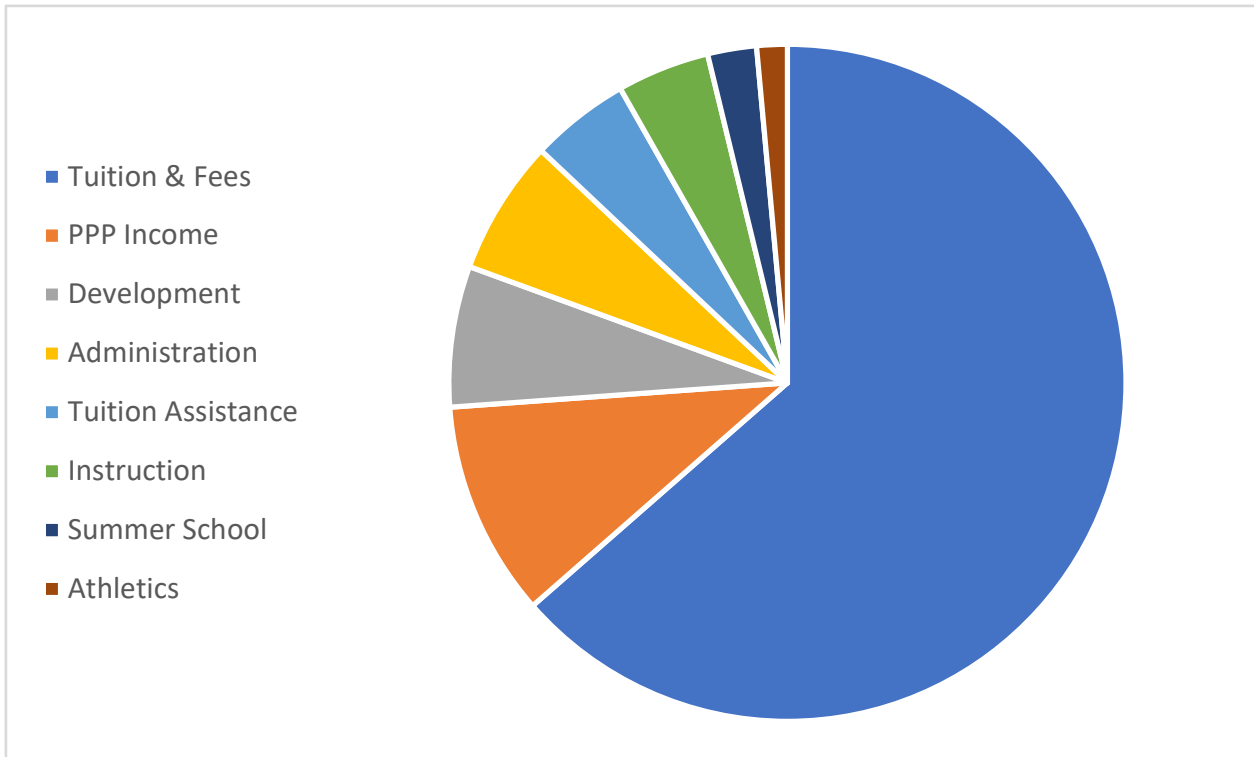
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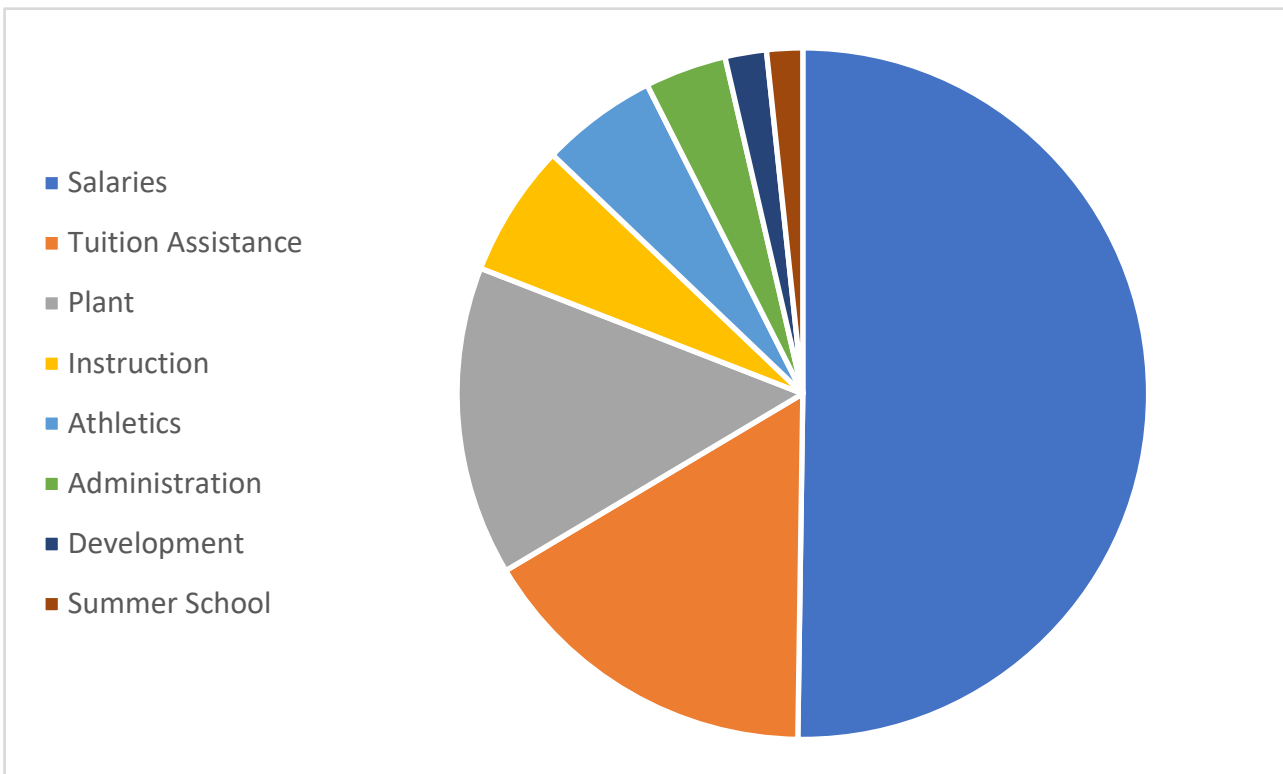
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Garces Memorial Financial Report

2021-2022 Source of Operating Funds



2021-2022 Use of Operating Funds



2021-2022 Donor Honor Roll

Garces Memorial High School is blessed with generous and supportive donors. Thank you to everyone who made an investment in our students. Through your support you are enhancing the student learning experience and showing others the importance of Catholic education in our community. The donors listed here represent non-event related cash donations, restricted and unrestricted, received during the **July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022** fiscal year. To make a 2022-2023 school year Annual Fund donation, please visit the Garces website at www.garces.org for more information.

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2021-2022 Donor Honor Roll

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In a publication of this kind, oversights are often inevitable.
 If you find a mistake or omission, please contact the Advancement Office at (661) 327-2578.
 We apologize in advance for overlooking any of our valued donors.

GINO COLOMBO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

To honor the memory of Garces graduate Gino Colombo '70, classmates, friends, and family raise funds every year to support a scholarship in Gino's name. To date, over \$126,000 has been awarded to deserving Garces students.

Thank you to our **2021** scholarship donors.

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In the Spring of 2021 some of Gino's friends, classmates, and family gathered at Garces Memorial for the tree dedication, blessing and the unveiling of the plaque in honor of Gino. Guests had a chance to meet some of the incredible students who have received the Gino Colombo Memorial Scholarship.



The honor of unveiling the plaque went to Gino's close friend and Garces classmate, Rich Romo who has been the driving force behind the scholarship fund.

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June 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

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Thank you to the families whose Garces tuition assistance scholarships provided 150 scholarships:

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Thank you to the families who have established scholarships for Garces seniors to help them with their college expenses:

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Garces Memorial High School

Founded on Faith | Rooted in Tradition | Growing in Excellence



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Garces Memorial High School is a coeducational, comprehensive Catholic high school. Our school strives to fulfill the mission of Christ by developing students spiritually, academically, and socially.

Our mission commits us to instill in every member of the Garces Memorial community the courage to act with faith, knowledge, compassion, & justice.