

Inaugural Gloucester Catholic Hall of Fame Inductions

Wednesday, May 17, 2023



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FROM
GLOUCESTER CATHOLIC'S
PRINCIPAL

Dear Gloucester Catholic Alumni, Parents & Friends,

As Gloucester Catholic's Principal, it is truly fulfilling that we are honoring this impressive and legendary group of alumni, teachers, coaches and supporters during our Inaugural GC Hall of Fame Banquet here at Auletto's.

The achievements and contributions of this Inaugural Class would be hard to match anywhere! We congratulate the accomplishments of such distinguished Rams as Dr. Anthony Silvestri '54, Dr. Patrick Harker '77, Mrs. Bert Nolan, Dr. James Gross '51, Mr. Dennis Barth '80, Mrs. Lisa Angelotti-Gedaka '84, Mr. Ray Ford '33, and Mr. Ralph Saquella '59.

We also salute three of the greatest teams to ever compete in South Jersey athletics – the 1964 Boys Basketball, 1974 Girls Basketball, and 1980 Baseball teams!

And, of course, we must never forget the rich Catholic traditions and services provided by The Dominican Sisters, Msgr. Maurice Bric, and Msgr. Edward Lucitt to our Gloucester Catholic legacy.

As a proud member of a family with a rich Gloucester Catholic history, I would also like to express a sincere thank you to the Hall of Fame Committee, chaired by Bill Dougherty '82, for their hard work and dedication in making this night possible.

Once again, congratulations to all of the inductees! And remember, Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

With best regards,
Thomas Iacovone
Principal, Gloucester Catholic

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



Program

<i>Welcome</i>	Thomas Iacovone, Jr. <i>Principal</i>
<i>Invocation and Remarks</i>	Father George Seiter <i>Pastor, Saint Mary Parish</i>
<i>Presentation of Special Inductees</i>	Daniel T. Spencer Jr. <i>Class of 1978</i>
<i>Presentation of Arts, Academics and Educators Inductees</i>	Kathleen Campbell Dougherty <i>Alumni President</i> <i>Class of 1982</i>
<i>Presentation of Athletic Inductees</i>	Pat Murphy <i>Executive Director of Development</i> <i>Class of 1977</i>
<i>Closing Remarks</i>	Thomas Iacovone, Jr. <i>Principal</i>

Hall of Fame Mission

Throughout the long history of Gloucester Catholic High School, numerous individuals have made a significant and lasting impact on the school and in their communities. It is our hope that by recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of past graduates, faculty, staff and outside contributors may inspire the present and future members of the school and community to strive for higher achievements.

**Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame**



**The Inaugural
Gloucester Catholic High School
Hall of Fame**

Congratulations to our 2023 Inductees

Arts/Academics/Educators

Dr. Anthony Silvestri '54

Dr. Patrick Harker '77

Bert Nolan (Posthumous)

Dr. James Gross '51

Athletics

Dennis Barth '80, Baseball

Lisa Angelotti-Gedaka '84, Girls Basketball

Ray Ford '33, Boys Basketball (Posthumous)

Ralph Saquella '59, Boys Basketball

1964 State Championship Boys Basketball Team

1974 State Championship Girls Basketball Team

1980 State Championship Baseball Team

Special Category

The Dominican Sisters

Msgr. Maurice Bric (Posthumous)

Msgr. Edward Lucitt (Posthumous)

Gloucester Catholic Hall of Fame



Arts / Academics / Educators

Alumni, teachers or friends of Gloucester Catholic High School who have distinguished themselves in the field of arts or by outstanding achievements through scholarship, service, and leadership so as to reflect honor and distinction

Athletics

Coaches or alumni of Gloucester Catholic High School who have established distinctive records of achievement in athletics deserving of recognition.

Special Recognition

Alumni or friends of Gloucester Catholic High School whose actions and achievements may not be expressed in the above categories but are deserving of such recognition. These awards may be for humanitarian actions. Community involvement, or other special contributions.

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



2023 Hall of Fame
Committee Members

Mike Avis '81
Phil Anastasia '76
Dan Babcock '81
Pat Beckett '85
Patrice Chambers '87
Matt Cosentino '93
Kathy DiCamillo '66
Lisa Gedaka '84
Debbie Iacovone '72
Mike Lindner '84
Michele Lugiano '83
Steve Mondile '83
Ryan Murphy '04
Joan Nolan '71
Mary Ann Saunders '62
Bill Dougherty '82 - Chairperson

Hall of Fame nominations for 2024 will be accepted from October 1 to December 1, 2023. Nomination forms are available on the school's website: gchsrams.org and may be submitted by email, mail or in person to Gus Ostrum, Director of Development - gostrum@gchsrams.org

If you are interested in being involved with the Hall of Fame, please contact:
Bill Dougherty, HOF Chairperson, at 609-617-9959 or billdoc@comcast.net



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Dr. Patrick Harker **Gloucester Catholic Class of 1977**

Education: *Gloucester Catholic, 1977; University of Pennsylvania, MA in economics, MSE and BSE in civil engineering, PhD in civil and urban engineering.*

Career Highlights: *Past President of the University of Delaware and current President of the Philadelphia Federal Reserve.*

Engineering. Economics. They might seem like distinct disciplines but not to Dr. Patrick Harker. “They are both highly complex systems and the challenge is to figure out how they work,” Harker said.

A 1977 Gloucester Catholic graduate, Harker has fashioned an illustrious career as an educator and has emerged one of the nation’s most respected economists. He is a past president of the University of Delaware and the current President of the Philadelphia Federal Reserve. Not bad for a self-styled “Gloucester kid,” who credits his success to teachers, coaches and schoolmates at Gloucester Catholic.

“It was the people,” Harker said. “It was Sister Irene Marie in math. It was Dave Coghlan. It was Tom Iacovone in football. It was Sister Ann Leo who would read with me when I wanted to take German 4.” Harker was a standout football player at Gloucester Catholic. He played the sport at the University of Pennsylvania, where he pursued the twin academic tracks of engineering and economics.

Harker earned a master’s in economics and a doctorate in civil and urban engineering from Penn. He spent much of his career teaching at Penn’s Wharton School before becoming the president of the University of Delaware.

In 2015, Harker took office as the 11th president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, serving as a member of the Federal Open Market Committee. Harker has published nine books and more than 100 professional articles. In 1991, Harker was the youngest faculty member in the Wharton School’s history to be awarded an endowed professorship.

Harker is a civil engineer by training. He knows the New York City subway system “like the back of my hand” from a project in pursuit of his Ph.D. He is a charter fellow of the National Academic of Inventors. He was named a White House fellow by President George H.W. Bush in 1991 and was a special assistant to FBI director William Sessions from 1991 to 1992.

A former president of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Penn, Harker also regards the faith instilled in him at Gloucester Catholic as another source of his success. “It was the values instilled in me,” Harker said. Harker and his wife Emily have three children and two grandchildren.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Dr. Anthony Silvestri **Gloucester Catholic Class of 1954**

Education: Villanova, BS in chemistry; Penn State, PhD in chemistry

Career Highlights: Research chemist who holds 28 United States patents and has been inducted into the New Jersey Inventor's Hall of Fame.

He is the son of immigrants from Italy. His first language was Italian. He didn't attend Catholic school until the sixth grade, when St. Bridget's opened in his Glassboro neighborhood. Two years later, on the school principal's advice, he took the Gloucester Catholic scholarship entrance exam.

Dr. Anthony Silvestri went on to become one of Gloucester Catholic's most accomplished graduates. In a long and distinguished career as a research chemist for Mobil, Silvestri was involved in studies on chemical kinetics, synthetic fuel production, environmental issues, fuel and lubricant formulations and product safety.

He wrote or co-wrote around 30 scientific papers. He holds 28 United States patents. And it all started with a toy chemistry set. "I'm not even sure how I got it," Silvestri said. "But it became a passion."

Silvestri graduated from Gloucester Catholic in 1954. He received a BS in chemistry from Villanova in 1958 and a PhD in chemistry from Penn State in 1961.

He joined Mobil as a research chemist. He worked for Mobil at its corporate headquarters in New York and its Technical Center in Princeton before being appointed as the company's vice president for research and development in 1989. He retired in 1996.

Silvestri was the co-recipient of the New York Catalysis Society's award for Excellence in Catalysis in 1984 and was named a Penn State Alumni Fellow in 1995. In 2005, Silvestri and two of his colleagues were inducted into the New Jersey Inventor's Hall of Fame for developments in synthetic fuels technology.

Silvestri used to take the train from Glassboro to Gloucester during his early years in high school. He says he received a "great education" at Gloucester Catholic and has especially fond memories of the dedication of the Dominican sisters.

"They were so dedicated," Silvestri said. Silvestri and his wife, Heand were married for 62 years before her death in October of 2022. The couple had two sons, one of whom passed away in May of 2022, as well as three grandchildren.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Bert Nolan

Education: Gloucester High, 1944; Glassboro State College, 1948

Career Highlights: *Legendary coach who led Gloucester Catholic girls' basketball team to victory in first two state championship tournaments in the sport in New Jersey history in 1973 and 1974.*

A pioneer. A trailblazer. A woman ahead of her time.

Those terms all apply to Bert Nolan, a legendary coach who helped to revolutionize girls' basketball during two decades in charge of Gloucester Catholic's ground-breaking program. Nolan coached the Rams from 1955 through 1975, a transitional period when the sport changed from a deliberate, 6-on-6, half-court game to its fast-paced, full-court, 5-on-5 modern style. Her teams won big both ways. But it was the manner in which the Rams dominated the sport at the dawn of New Jersey tournament play in the early 1970s that cemented Nolan's legacy as one of the greatest coaches in state history.

"She was a great motivator," said Dianne Nolan, a successful college basketball coach who played for her mother in the late 1960s. Records from that era are incomplete but Nolan is believed to have won more than 500 games at Gloucester Catholic as a basketball, field hockey and softball coach. Her basketball record is thought to be 249-38.

Nolan was an outstanding athlete. She excelled in field hockey, playing the sport at the club level after graduating from Glassboro State College and earning a position on the United States national team in 1952. "She was captain and shook Vice-President Nixon's hand," Dianne Nolan said. Under Nolan, Gloucester Catholic won 14 South Jersey Girls' League championship and earned a reputation for high-scoring play, even in the 6-on-6 era. But when the sport switched to 5-on-5 play in 1969, the Rams rocketed to another level.

In 1973, Gloucester Catholic went 22-0 and won the New Jersey's first state tournament in girls' basketball. In 1974, the Rams went 21-0 and again won a tournament that was open to every team in the state (Group classifications weren't started by the state until 1976).

By the middle of the 1975 season, her last, Nolan's teams had won 51 games in a row. Her accomplishments earned the coach recognition from the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, where a display honors her contributions to the sport.

"She was always, always, always positive," said Agnus McGlade Berenato, another successful Division I college coach who played for Nolan in the mid-1970s. "It was the power of positivity."



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Dr. James Gross, Gloucester Catholic Class of 1951

Education: *La Salle College, Bachelor's; Temple University, Master's Degree; University of Wisconsin at Madison, Doctorate.*

Career Highlights: *Enjoyed 56-year teaching career as professor at Cornell University as one of the nation's leading authorities on labor law and history. Has authored numerous books on labor law issues.*

As a youth growing up in the later 1940s and early 1950s, James Gross's childhood might be described as modest at best. But there are absolutely no regrets.

"My family had little money and no car, so my universe was just the neighborhoods of Gloucester," the 1951 GCHS graduate said.

Jim's simple childhood proved a solid foundation for a successful life and career that saw him rise to a lengthy affiliation as a Professor at Cornell University and as one of the nation's leading authorities on labor law and history.

Dr. Gross' family resided in Gloucester, where he was raised by his grandfather, father and Aunt Katie (Catherine Sheridan), who helped to provide Jim with guidance and discipline. He played three sports at GCHS and will never forget playing the first-ever basketball game in what was then a brand-new gymnasium on Cumberland Street in 1950.

After graduation, Jim went on to earn bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees. Dr. Gross accepted his first job as a professor at Holy Cross College from 1960 to 1966 before moving on to Cornell University in July 1966.

Dr. Gross was a noted American educator and historian who taught U.S. labor law and history at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations for 56 years. As an author, he is considered the leading historian of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

Today, Dr. Gross continues to share his good fortune with his Gloucester Catholic family. He donates the annual Catherine Sheridan Scholarship -- in memory of his Aunt Katie -- to two incoming GC students.

"I never forgot my roots, my family -- especially my Aunt Katie -- and the city of Gloucester," he said. "It's an honor to give back every year, especially in my aunt's memory."



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Dennis Barth, Gloucester Catholic Class of 1980

Education: *University of Virginia, 1985*

Career Highlights: *Leadoff hitter on unbeaten GCHS team, considered the No. 1 team of the 20th century; As GC baseball coach, became the seventh coach in South Jersey history with 500 wins in 2021 and has guided the Rams to nine state titles; coached several seasons at Rutgers-Camden.*

A star player in both basketball and baseball at Gloucester Catholic, Barth has continued to impact the school as the leader of its acclaimed baseball program.

Dennis Barth never knew anything different than a life centered around sports.

As the youngest of five children born to legendary Brooklawn manager Joe “Pop” Barth and his wife Helen, it was perfectly normal to spend most of his days hanging around the baseball field with his dad or taking family vacations to whichever town happened to be hosting the American Legion World Series that summer. By the time he was in third grade, he was playing on nine different basketball teams and starring in baseball as well.

With two older siblings graduating from Gloucester Catholic, Barth began attending St. Mary’s in fifth grade with an eye on becoming a Ram himself. Once he got to high school, he earned a starting job for both the basketball and baseball varsity teams as a freshman and continued to stand out in both sports all four years.

Now renowned for his own coaching career with the Brooklawn and Gloucester Catholic baseball programs—he became the seventh coach in South Jersey history with 500 wins in 2021 and has guided the Rams to nine state titles—Barth is a member of several Halls of Fame but is honored to be part of the inaugural class at his alma mater’s.

“I’ve been around the school for a long time because I grew up a GC kid and a St. Mary’s kid,” he said. “I watched a lot of great basketball, football and baseball players. I’m probably going in more as a coach than a player because there are a lot of athletes who were way better than I was.”

Surprisingly, basketball was Barth’s first passion and he still looks back fondly on his playing career and two successful seasons as the head coach at GC in the 1990s. But baseball is what he’s best known for, as he amassed over 100 career hits and 100 career walks in his high school career and was the leadoff hitter for the famed 1980 team, widely regarded as one of the best in South Jersey history.

“It was the best, there’s no doubt,” Barth clarified. “Pennsville was good the following year, but in my mind, we played a tougher schedule. We pummeled everybody who was in the top 10.”

Barth went on to play at Villanova for two years before transferring to the University of Virginia, where he was a key player for an ACC championship team. He moved home after graduation, started working at his father’s accounting practice and by chance got involved in coaching high school baseball, emerging as one of the all-time greats in South Jersey history and cementing his Gloucester Catholic legacy.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Lisa Angelotti-Gedaka, Gloucester Catholic Class of 1984

Education: Villanova University, BS, Nursing, 1988

Career Highlights: *GCHS: Scored 2,035 career points; won 3 state championship; 2-time Parade All-American; 3-time Player of the Year. Villanova: Scored 1,622 career points; Big East Player of the Year; Big 5 Hall of Fame. Coaching: All-time SJ girls basketball winningest coach with 686 wins.*

The word legend gets thrown around all too often in sports these days.

Perhaps it should be reserved to describe true greatness, such as the kind of person who not only establishes herself as one of the best all-time basketball players in South Jersey history, but then follows it up with a second act as a coach that's just as impressive.

Someone like Lisa (Angelotti) Gedaka.

Gedaka, who scored 2,035 points in her high school career from 1980-84, went on to become a star at Villanova, where she was the Big East Player of the Year as a senior. She immediately transitioned from the court to the bench, as she took over as head coach at her alma mater in 1989 and has guided Gloucester Catholic to a South Jersey-record 686 wins and counting over the past 34 seasons.

Also a full-time nurse, wife, and mother of four, she has of course received many accolades, including induction into the NJ Hall of Fame, NJSIAA Hall of Fame, Gloucester and Camden County Hall of Fame, and having her number retired at Villanova and entering the Big 5 Hall of Fame. But to be honored at Gloucester Catholic is especially meaningful.

"This is special," she said. "I feel like my whole life has been at Gloucester Catholic, starting when my sister Annette was a freshman there and I was probably 9. She played basketball so it started with being an avid basketball fan and Gloucester Catholic supporter, and I've been there since then. ... It's just amazing when I look back and think about what basketball has given me, and Gloucester Catholic is at the forefront of all of that."

Gedaka was part of three state championship teams as a player and has nearly 700 wins as a coach, but what stands out to her most are the relationships with her teammates, the players she's coached, fans, opponents and referees.

She remains close friends with her college coach, Harry Perretta, and like him has tried to bring out the best in the kids under her watch, including all three of her daughters, Mary, Megan and Madison, who she was blessed to coach at GC.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Ralph Saquella, Gloucester Catholic Class of 1959

Education: *Seton Hall University, 1963*

Career Highlights: *Legendary coach who led Gloucester Catholic boys' basketball team to state titles in 1970 and 1972; former head coach at Glassboro State College.*

Five years. Half a decade. Five seasons that might seem a short span of time in the history of a high school program that's nearly a century old.

But to Ralph Saquella, those days were “Camelot” – a brief, shining moment that has come to represent both his lasting impact on his alma mater and the golden age of Gloucester Catholic boys' basketball. “The best years of my life,” Saquella said of his time as the Rams' coach from 1968 through 1972.

In five seasons, Saquella's teams went 103-30. His teams won three South Jersey titles and two state crowns – the last two to be captured by the Rams in the sport. “It was his preparation,” said Dennis Flaherty, a star forward on both state-championship teams.

Saquella's meticulous planning, exhaustive scouting and ability to adjust during games stamp him as one of the Rams' greatest coaches in any sport despite the relative brevity of his tenure. Saquella is a 1959 Gloucester Catholic graduate. He played baseball and basketball for the Rams. He made the Seton Hall basketball team as a walk-on for the Pirates.

After two seasons with the St. Joseph's of Camden freshmen, Saquella was hired as the Rams' coach before the 1967-68 season. “I will be forever indebted to the late, great Art DiPatri,” Saquella said of another legend of that era who resigned as Gloucester Catholic's coach after the 1967 season to take the program at Woodrow Wilson.

Saquella's first two teams were led by star guard Dom Carrera, Gloucester Catholic's all-time leading scorer. In 1969, the Rams lost the state final in heart-breaking fashion. Gloucester Catholic broke through in 1970, winning states behind seniors Bill Ulbin and Joe Kain as well as a precocious group of sophomores. Two years later, that core of Flaherty, Dennis Calzonetti, Pete Carrera, Frank Koehler and Edgar Chew fashioned one of the program's finest seasons, going 25-2, stunning top-ranked Bishop Eustace in an iconic South Jersey final and capturing the state crown.

The coach resigned after the season to join Gloucester Catholic graduate Jack Collins at Glassboro State. Saquella later became a successful head coach for the Profs. But nothing could ever match those magical five years – for the program, the fans, and the coach who made it all happen. “I'll never forget the student body, the school spirit, the way the whole town got behind those teams,” Saquella said.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Ray Ford, Gloucester Catholic Class of 1933

Career Highlights: Coached boys basketball at GCHS from 1962-1964; His 1964 team won Gloucester Catholic's first-ever state championship in any sport, rolling to the crown in a memorable game in Atlantic City; Helped establish Gloucester City's Little League and formed the basketball program at St. Mary's Grammar School; coached generations of young athletes in multiple sports

To casual observers of the history of Gloucester Catholic sports, Ray Ford is best known as the coach of perhaps the finest boys' basketball team in the school's history, the 1964 state champions.

But Ford's impact on the institution, its students and its legacy in Gloucester City stretched far beyond his time in charge of that legendary squad. As a schoolboy in the early 1930s, Ford earned the first trophy captured by a Gloucester Catholic athlete by winning the mile race in a Diocese of Trenton track meet. He played for the first Rams' baseball team to win a game. He played for the first Rams' basketball team to win a game.

He helped establish Gloucester City's Little League. He helped form the basketball program at St. Mary's Grammar School. He coached generations of young athletes in multiple sports, setting a standard for sportsmanship and gentlemanly behavior that defined his life more than any trophy or title. "If humility was money," a Courier-Post columnist wrote shortly after the 1964 state-championship game, "Ray Ford could make the Taj Mahal look like a pauper."

Asked to define his role, Ford said: "A high school coach's job is to point a finger at his players when they're winning and at himself when they're losing." Ford was a mentor to successful future coaches such as Bob McQuillan, Joe Murphy and Art DiPatri. He was an inspiration to countless players who took his lessons to heart on their way to meaningful, positive lives.

Ford in the early 1970s founded an organization that has become known as the Ray Ford Old-Timers, which still holds good-time gatherings of former athletes, coaches and sports fans. Ford graduated from Gloucester Catholic in 1933. He played semi-professional baseball and basketball before devoting even more of his time to coaching, both at the youth and high school levels.

He coached Gloucester Catholic boys' basketball for just three years, from 1962 through 1964. His final team was unforgettable, winning each of its tournament games by more than 20 points. But it wasn't his last team's prowess on the court that moved Courier-Post sports historian Doug Frambes to memorialize the old coach upon his death in 1984.

"Ray Ford," Frambes wrote, "was one of the nicest, kindest men to grace this earth."

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE



1964 Boys Basketball

Coach: Ray Ford

Highlights: *Compiled 21-1 record; Captured NJ Parochial B State Championship, Selected No. 1 team in South Jersey by Courier-Post*

Key Players: *Bill Somerset, Mike Baker, Bud Shodder, Drew Nolan, Carmine Calzonetti, Rich Cosentino, Jack Fink, John Murphy, Paul Heitman, Lou Pirrotta, John Hayes, Ernie Hodur, Bill Green.*

They were the first. They also were the best.

That second sentence is debatable. There's no way to prove the 1964 squad was the best boys' basketball team in Gloucester Catholic history. But you won't get an argument from folks who watched that legendary team power its way to the No. 1 spot in the Courier-Post's South Jersey Top 10 ranking and to the school's first state championship in the sport.

Especially not from the people who were among the crowd of more than 8,000 in Atlantic City's Convention Hall on March 20, 1964, when the Rams cemented their legacy with a 73-51 victory over St. Aloysius of Jersey City in the Parochial B final.

That victory was a breakthrough for a program that finished second in the state in 1955, 1957, 1958 and 1959. It also set the standard for every maroon and gold squad to take the court in the future. The Rams manhandled Philadelphia power Central in a scrimmage. They beat No. 6 Camden. They beat No. 10 Holy Cross twice. They blitzed No. 4 Cherry Hill. They split with No. 3 Bishop Eustace, suffering their lone loss by two points when star center Bill Somerset was limited by fouls and star guard Mike Baker was sick.

They won every post-season game by more than 20 points. Somerset, who would star at Seton Hall, went for 20 points and 20 rebounds in the state-title game. Bud Shodder and Jack Fink were rugged forwards. John Murphy was a versatile scorer. Baker was ahead of his time at point guard. The Rams were so deep that "our practices were like wars," Shodder said. Coach Ray Ford called Rich Cosentino "the best sixth man in the state." The Rams featured so much talent that two junior guards, Drew Nolan and Carmine Calzonetti, were future Division 1 college players. Other key reserves included Paul Heitman, Lou Pirrotta, John Hayes, Ernie Hodur and Bill Green.

The coaching staff was a Who's Who. Ford was named Coach of the Year. His top assistants were Art DiPatri and Dick Talley, while legendary football coaches Bob McQuillan and Joe Murphy helped with practices and scouting. They were the first. That's documented.

Good luck arguing they weren't also the best.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE



1974 Gloucester Catholic Girls Basketball Team

Coach: Bert Nolan

Season Highlights: *Compiled 21-0 record; captured second straight NJSIAA All-Groups Championship as the No. 1 team in the state.*

Key Players: *Agnus McGlade, Bernie McGlade, Annie Rafferty, Betsy Sampson, Margie Quinlan, Kathy Farrell, Eileen Murphy, Bernadette Chew, Ginny Witt, Maria Convery and Denise Shultes.*

It was supposed to be a “rebuilding year.” But somebody forgot to tell that to the young stars on the 1974 Gloucester Catholic girls’ basketball team. With four sophomores and a junior in the lineup, the Rams put together one of the best seasons in South Jersey history, fashioning a 21-0 record, dominating top competition in the state tournament and earning the program’s second straight all-groups championship.

“The amazing thing,” Coach Bert Nolan told the Courier-Post after the Rams finished a second consecutive undefeated season, “is that such a young team could stay loose with their game when the going got rough.” Nolan had led Gloucester Catholic to the championship of the first girls’ basketball state tournament in New Jersey history in 1973, when the Rams went 22-0. (There was just one classification for the girls’ tournament in those years, so the Rams were the No. 1 team in the state).

But that was a senior-heavy team in 1973, led by 1,000-point scorer Mickey McGlade and Patty Matlock, among others. The conventional wisdom was that the 1974 team would hit a few bumps in the road while younger players adjusted to the demands of varsity competition.

But that apparently never occurred to junior Agnus McGlade and sophomores Bernie McGlade, Annie Rafferty, Betsy Sampson and Margie Quinlan, all of whom were St. Mary’s Grammar School graduates. Those five starters, with support from a deep bench, led the Rams to victory over victory, culminating with a remarkable run in the state tournament.

“We just believed,” said Agnus McGlade Berenato, who became a highly successful college coach. “It was our passion.” The Rams beat previously undefeated Ocean City 59-50 as Rafferty scored 18. They beat previously undefeated Asbury 62-34 as Bernie McGlade grabbed 26 rebounds, Quinlan lifted six steals and sophomore Judy Martin contributed strong defense off the bench.

In the final, the Rams took a 36-13 halftime lead en route to a 55-37 victory over previously undefeated Cranford, showcasing their balance as Bernie McGlade scored 15, Rafferty 14, Agnus McGlade 11 and Sampson 10. Cranford featured future Women’s Basketball Hall of Famer Carol Blazejowski. “Drew (her brother) scouted them and said, ‘Mom, she’s really good,’” Dianne Nolan recalled. “She said, ‘No one girl is going to beat my team.’”

The rest of the roster included Kathy Farrell, Eileen Murphy, Bernadette Chew, Ginny Witt, Maria Convery and Denise Shultes. “We loved each other,” McGlade Berenato said. “We were all like sisters.”

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE



1980 Baseball Team

Season Highlights: *Finished season with 24-0 record; won NJSIAA Parochial B state championship; voted South Jersey's Team of the Century by the Courier-Post in 2000.*

Key Players: *John Yowler, pitcher; Bob Senbra, pitcher; Dennis Barth, centerfield; Steve Cordner, catcher. Also: Joe Alter, Dan Babcock, Tom Beck, Rob Chrone, Mike Evangelisti, Rob Gussen, Harry Walker, Dan Sheeran, Steve Zelvis, Michael Koehler and Keith Kowalski.*

There was no shortage of talent on Gloucester Catholic's 1980 baseball team. There was no shortage of personality, either. Those Rams were a boisterous bunch. They played the game with swagger. But they backed up their confident attitude with competitive brilliance, earning recognition as one of the best squads in state history.

Led by coach Al Radano as well as assistants Rich Horan and Joe Barth, Jr., the Rams went 24-0. They became the first South Jersey high school team to finish an undefeated season since 1958. And just one other team, Pennsville in 1981, has managed that feat in the ensuing 43 years.

The Rams' lineup was loaded with hitters, led by the record-setting John Yowler as well as centerfielder Dennis Barth and catcher Steve Cordner. The pitching staff was led by right-hander Bob Sebra, a future major leaguer. "Everybody had a career year," Sebra said during a reunion of the team at the Gloucester County Hall of Fame in 2017. "We obliterated people. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Sebra, who passed away in 2020 at the age of 58, was close to unhittable in 1980. He was 10-0 with an 0.60 ERA and 118 strikeouts in 67 innings. In the state tournament, Sebra was 2-0, allowing two hits and zero runs with 38 strikeouts in 17 innings. Yowler set the South Jersey single-season mark for batting average with a .676 clip. He also was 9-0 on the mound. "He went 3-for-4 every game," Sebra said of Yowler. "It was ridiculous." Barth finished his career with more than 100 hits and 100 walks. Cordner was the All-South Jersey catcher.

Additional contributors for a team that featured seven future Division 1 college players included Joe Alter, Dan Babcock, Tom Beck, Rob Chrone, Mike Evangelisti, Rob Gussen, Harry Walker, Dan Sheeran, Steve Zelvis, Michael Koehler and Keith Kowalski.

The Rams finished that season with a flourish. They won their three state tournament games by a combined score of 48-0, with no-hitters in two of the games. In 2000, the Courier-Post named the 1980 Gloucester Catholic squad as the Team of the Century in South Jersey.

"We were so tight," Sebra said. "Everybody contributed in some way, which is special."



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Monsignor Maurice Bric

Career Highlights: *Served as the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Gloucester from 1913 to his death in 1950; helped to start GCHS in 1928 and presided over the first graduating class in 1930; oversaw strong growth of Gloucester Catholic over more than 20 years.*

If one person could be said to be the father of Gloucester Catholic High School, it would be Monsignor Maurice Bric.

He was a tireless and tenacious defender of the church. He was known to pack a pistol and brandish a shotgun, all in the service of protecting his parish's finances. He was also known as something of a scofflaw when he climbed behind the wheel.

Bric was the pastor of St. Mary's Church in Gloucester from 1913 to his death in 1950. He conceived the idea of a Catholic high school in the city, and it was his effort and determination that created the institution that is still going strong today, nearly 100 years later.

Bric was born in 1859. He was raised in New Haven, Conn., and ordained in 1885. A year later, he arrived at Sacred Heart Church in Camden, where he was the pastor for 25 years. Before the turn of the century, he would make his rounds through the city, seeking collections a few cents at a time to help pull the church out of debt. Those journeys were sometimes perilous.

"He got shot at and shot back," Monsignor Edward Lucitt, Bric's long-time assistant, said in a history of Sacred Heart. Bric moved to St. Mary's in Gloucester just before the start of the first World War. He remained a fierce defender of the parish's funds. He was seen sitting in the rectory with a shotgun in the window when money was carried to a nearby bank.

He also was known to ignore one-way street signs as well as red lights. "Whatever way he was driving was one way," Lucitt recalled. When Bric was stopped after running a red light, he told the policeman, "I was driving before they had those things." Bric's vision became Gloucester Catholic High School. He raised the money to purchase the Berrymore Estate on Monmouth and Burlington streets and converted it into the first school building, long known to generations of students as "The Annex."

The school opened in 1928. He presided over the first graduating class in 1930, was instrumental in creating the curriculum and sports programs and spent the last 20 years of his life helping to spur the remarkable growth of the school he had created.



HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE

Monsignor Edward B. Lucitt

Career Highlights: *Ordained in 1936 and was an assistant under pastor Maurice Bric at St. Mary's Church. In 1943, then-Father Lucitt was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force; at GCHS, he led the building drive that raised \$200,000 for the construction of facilities that serve as the heart of the school; served as pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Camden for 10 years, starting in 1951; died in 1987.*

To generations of physical-education students, pep-rally participants, basketball players, cheerleaders, bingo enthusiasts, spectators and visiting teams, that special place in Gloucester Catholic High School with the stage at one end and big bleachers at the other end is known "The Gym." But there are reasons its official name is Monsignor Edward B. Lucitt Parish Hall.

For one thing, as an assistant pastor of St. Mary's Church, then-Father Lucitt raised the money to build the auditorium as well as 10 classrooms and a chapel in the early 1950s. For another, upon his return to Gloucester as St. Mary's pastor, Monsignor Lucitt was the driving force in bringing Gloucester Catholic into the modern era.

He was the school's No. 1 sports fan. But he also was tireless in his efforts to improve the facilities, strengthen the faculty, raise educational standards and expand extra-curricular opportunities as well as deepen the institution's connections to its surrounding community. Monsignor Lucitt spent two lengthy stints at St. Mary's Church and made a tremendous impact on the parish, the city and Gloucester Catholic during both periods. He was ordained in 1936 and his first assignment was an assistant under pastor Maurice Bric at St. Mary's Church. In 1943, then-Father Lucitt was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He served as a chaplain on the West Coast and in the Pacific Theater during World War II and was discharged with the rank of major in 1946.

Upon returning to Gloucester, he led the building drive that raised \$200,000 for the construction of facilities that serve, to this day, as the heart of the school. He was the pastor at Sacred Heart Church in Camden for 10 years, starting in 1951. He returned to Gloucester in 1961 as pastor at St. Mary's and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1983. He died in 1987.

Gloucester Catholic's progress through the 1960s and 1970s and into the early 1980s in terms of enrollment, scope of geographic reach, academic achievement, sports success and connection to Gloucester City can be traced directly to Monsignor Lucitt's vision, determination and passionate commitment.

He saw the school as a living, breathing part of the city, filled during days with teen-aged students, home to the popular St. Mary's Night School – which specialized in self-improvement courses – and site of summer courses, camps and community-outreach drives.

And, of course, to school plays and Friday Night dances and beef-and-beer fund-raisers and basketball games, all staged in that special place that most folks still call "The Gym" – but that truly is deserving of its more official name.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE PROFILE



The Dominican Sisters

Highlights: *Have served the Gloucester Catholic Family faithfully for nearly a century; also served the St. Mary's Grammar School and Gloucester City communities since they arrived in the community in 1873.*

<--- **Sister Martha Mary**

Sister Gertrude Mary--->



With reverence, respect, and a profound sense of gratitude, the Gloucester Catholic Family recognizes the immense contribution of the Dominican Sisters of Hope to our school community. For almost a century, the Dominican Tradition, merged with Ram Pride, has touched the hearts and minds and souls of thousands of GCHS graduates.

One hundred and fifty years ago, in 1873, the first Dominican Sisters from Newburgh, New York arrived in Gloucester City to serve Saint Mary's Parish and to establish Saint Mary's Elementary School. Almost one hundred years ago, in 1926, Msgr. Maurice Bric, recognizing the need for secondary education, established Gloucester Catholic High School. Sister de Chantal served as principal and Sister Grace Electa was placed in charge of the classical students. Sister Charitina and Sister Rose Carmella expanded the popular commercial program that had begun earlier.

Over the coming decades, ongoing growth saw the expansion of the GC campus from the original Berryman Estate on Burlington Street, to the Cumberland Street Annex, the Main Building on Ridgeway Street, and to the current use of the Saint Mary's School Building. The original convent, renovated and now known as the Dominican Center, houses the Guidance Department, technology labs, and the beautiful school Chapel. Today, Gloucester Catholic serves not only students from Gloucester City, but throughout South Jersey. This expansion was in no small part due to the ministry of over 80 Dominican Sisters serving as administrators, classroom teachers, guidance counselors, and support staff. Sister Martha Mary is especially remembered for her impact as "the kids' greatest cheerleader" serving as history teacher, principal and guidance counselor over a 30 year period. The legendary Sister Gertrude Mary, graced with advanced degrees from Notre Dame and Fordham, concluded her service to the GC family at the ripe age of 95 years young.

These icons, along with the 300 plus sisters who ultimately served in Saint Mary's Elementary School, parish and convent brought the Dominican Spirit of prayer, study, community and service to their students. The Gloucester Catholic Family has benefited so richly from this dedicated service and we recognize these remarkable women with grateful appreciation, and with love.

With grateful appreciation and love, the Gloucester Catholic Family honors the Dominican Sisters of Hope.



**Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame**



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Once a Ram, Always a Ram!



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Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

**Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame**



**Gloucester Catholic Hall of Fame
Thank You to Our Patron Sponsors!**

Congratulations to all of the Hall of Fame Inductees

From Kathy DiCamillo, Class of 1966

Paul Conlin, Class of 1966

Congratulations Lisa! This is a well-deserved honor!

Janice Monagle Milley, Class of 1981

Congratulations to all inductees, especially my friend and former student, Lisa

Mary Ann Saunders, Class of 1962

Congratulations to all of the Hall of Fame Inductees

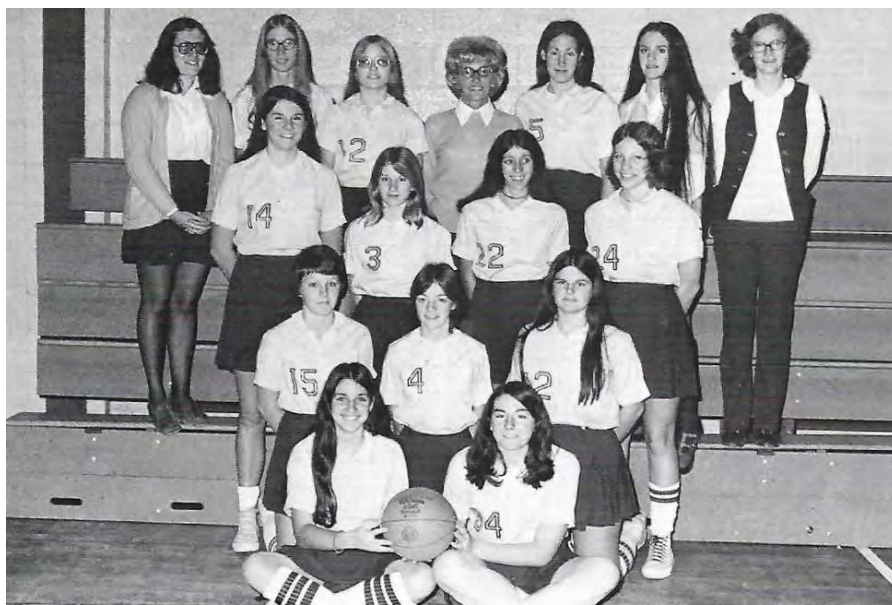
Dan Babcock, Class of 1981

Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



**Congratulations to our teammates and coaches of the
1974 Women's State Championship Basketball Team as well as
to all of the inductees into the inaugural GCHS Hall of Fame!**



OP ROW, L TO R: P. Allen, D. Schultes, G. Witt, Mrs. Nolan, J. Martin, B. Pinolini, L. Dickens. 2nd: B. McGlade, M. Convery, E. Murphy, B. Hew. 3rd: B. Sampson, M. Quinlan, A. Rafferty. 4th: K. Farrell, A. McGlade.

Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

Game On!

The McGlade Girls

CONGRATULATIONS

Lisa Angelotti Gedaka



**Player
Lisa Angelotti:**

**Scored 2035
Points
3 STATE
Championships**

**Coach
Lisa Gedaka:**

**686 Wins
South Jersey
Record for
COACHING WINS**



You make your Family so PROUD!

Mom, Dick, Mary, Frank, Jim, Dan, Annette, Dave, Christine

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



OUR ROLE MODELS!



Bernie - Mickey – Ag

Love,

Meg, Jo Jo, Linda, Darch & Shelly, Rider players 1981-85

Congratulations to our father,

Dr. Anthony J. Silvestri

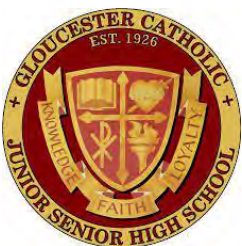
**on a lifetime of achievement, philanthropy,
and successes in both your personal life,
and in your *exceptional career* with Mobil Oil.**



With love, admiration, and endless appreciation,

*Jeff & Andrea
Mackenzie & Anthony
Sondra & Reagan*

(and, in memoriam, Joseph Silvestri and Heand Silvestri, forever loved in our hearts)



Congratulations to the Hall of Fame Inductees!



From The Campbell Family

Jerry Campbell
Kathleen and Bill
Dougherty '82
Kevin '84

Chris '85
Matthew '87
Mark '88

Brandon and Janel
Dougherty '05
Steven Dougherty '08



One second left on the clock, about to win a state championship!

Congratulations Lisa!

Love,
Trish and Shell

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



Congratulations to the Hall of Fame Inductees!

Your lifetimes of achievements and contributions to society have made all of us proud! Thank you for showing us what Ram Pride is all about!



245 Bridgeton Pike / Mantua Township, NJ 08051

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Owner: Joe McPeak, GCHS Class of 1978

Once a Ram, Always a Ram!

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



SAINT MARY PARISH IN THE HOLY CITY OF GLOUCESTER.
CELEBRATING 175 YEARS IN SERVICE TO GOD AND OUR PARISHIONERS.
PROUD PARISH OF GLOUCESTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO WILL ALWAYS BE
SAINT MARY'S HIGH TO THEE.
WE WISH ALL THE INAUGURAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES MANY THANKS AND
BLESSINGS FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR YOUR ALMA MATER.



WE ARE PARTICULARLY PROUD AND THANKFUL FOR MONSIGNOR MAURICE BRIC,
MONSIGNOR EDWARD LUCITT AND THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF HOPE. ALL OUR
FAITHFUL PRIESTS AND SISTERS HAVE LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK ON OUR
SCHOOL. GO RAMS!!

FROM FR. GEORGE SEITER, PASTOR, FR. DAVID KLEIN, IN-RESIDENCE, DEACON
KEVIN HEIL, PARISH STAFF AND PARISHIONERS.

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



***Congratulations to all
Hall of Fame Inductees!***

From:

Steve Johnson

Class of 1972

***Once a Ram,
Always a Ram!***

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



Congratulations Ralph Saquella and Lisa Angelotti-Gedaka
On Your Election to the Gloucester Catholic Hall of Fame



From: Dr. James Bonner '72 and Family



Aggie, Bernadette and team: Congratulations! Agnus you are an amazing mentor and friend. We love you very much, Meg, Patti, Brennan and Patricia (Rider '85)

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



***Congratulations to all
Hall of Fame Inductees!***

From:

Tom '70 & Mary Iacovone

***Once a Ram,
Always a Ram!***

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Congratulations Ralph Saquella!

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



***Frank was always so proud of you and grateful for your friendship.
Many wonderful memories.***

Love from, The Tryka Family

Congratulations to all the GC Inaugural Hall of Fame Inductees!

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Selected 'NJ TOP DOC and Best of Gloucester County'

Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



Congratulations Mrs. Nolan (Mom)!

You always said teaching at GCHS was a labor of love.

Thank you for reaching so many students
And positively impacting so many RAMS!

Lovingly,

Drew and Dianne

Bev, Mark, Julie, Ryan, Coe, Zach, John and Andrew



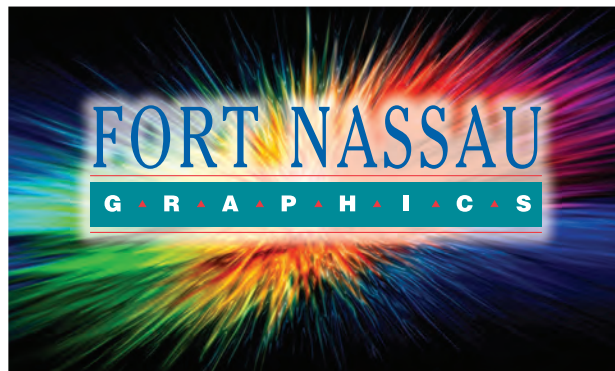
Coach of the Year, Mrs. Bert Nolan, 22-0 season.

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Dennis unlike Pete you finally made the club! Welcome to
the Hall of Fame!

Congratulations Dennis Barth

Love, Kelli, Nicole, Jeff, Rawlings, and your biggest fan
Ryleigh Belle



Gloucester Catholic
Hall of Fame



**Celebrating the Gloucester Catholic
Inaugural Hall of Fame!**



*Once a Ram,
Always a Ram!*