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THE PROVE

PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENT PUBLICATION

Providence: A Winning Gamble

By Alicia Calvo '23, Alexandria Flores '24, Emma Garza '24, Lauren Gonzales '23

Black Jack! Poker! A silent auction, including Elsa, a bernedoodle! Dancing! A Progressions performance! An evening of fun, and a fundraiser for the best cause ever - the education of young women at Providence Catholic School.

On Saturday, January 28, 2023, Providence hosted their second annual Casino Night and Gala, an event which has taken on new life in the years coming out of the COVID pandemic.

The event is planned by Executive Director of Advancement, Elise Denoux, and a team of parents and alumna. This year, Ms. Denoux also served as master of ceremonies, filling in for Bill Taylor of KENS 5 who has served in this role in the past.

The group began planning for this event in June 2022. Ms. Denoux stated that, "This gala is going to auction off more options [for a variety of interests] compared to years prior." Examples she cited included vacation rentals and jewelry. As each grade level also submits a class basket for the auction, an unofficial competition is created to see which basket will earn the highest bid. Ms. Denoux predicted, "The senior class Dad's Survival Kit will bring in the most money." While the Kit brought in \$600, this year's winner was the seventh grade basket with the theme of "Gone Hunting," bringing in a whopping \$660!

Gerald's Casino Parties provided the fun for the evening. "Black Jack is a crowd favorite, even among the CDPs [Sisters]." And because of the nature of the event - a late



evening, a fundraiser, and pseudo-gambling - Ms. Denoux adds that "Only high school ambassadors can work this event, after going through training."

Among the VIPs in attendance were Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar; members of the Board of Directors, including board chair Mrs. Mary Botello; President of the Alumni Association, Provet Jasmin Hernandez '07; and beloved teachers Mr. Tyler Faulkner, Mrs. Donella Scarboro, Mrs. Vanilla Macias-Rodriguez, and Mr. Roger Lopez, and Mrs. Marianne Norris.

At the end of the evening, all were winners, taking home with them the favors, a beautiful etched glass adorned with the Providence "P."

Located in Helotes, Pedrotti's Ranch - with five different private banquet halls - is a place that hosts lots of big events such as weddings, family events, fundraisers, holiday parties, and more. This is the second Providence Casino Night and Gala held at Pedrotti's Ranch.

Catholic Schools Week

By Marina Aguilar '25, Bryanna Fuentes '23, Alyssa Hernandez '24, Juliana Hernandez '24, Savanna Medellin '24

Catholic Schools Week happened at Providence January 29 to February 3. This week-long tradition was started in 1974 for all Catholic Schools. The theme for 2021 to 2024 is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service." During the week, schools focus on the importance of Catholic education and how it contributes to the community. Most schools plan activities and gifts for the school community.

The PCS StuCo creates the activities for the week. Sadly, inclement weather school closure on Tuesday and Wednesday changed the planned schedule. Thus, Monday was community day and students were allowed to wear either a club shirt or athletic shirt. Student appreciation and Teacher appreciation activities were moved to Friday. While home, students still dressed as their favorite teacher and posted photos or videos on Instagram for all to enjoy.



Kaitlyn Nadeau '23 as Jesus and Jozette Luna '24 as Rose of Lima (Left). Addison Shafer '28 as an Angel and Marina Garcia '29 as a pregnant Virgin Mary.



On the return to school Thursday, student celebrated Vocation Day by dressing as biblical figures.

Providence ended the week with students wearing their class colors, the two food trucks for breakfast, and lunch from Main Street Pizza and Pasta for the teachers.

After Two Hours in the Nail Salon...!

A Joint Venture by All Members of Media Consortium Class

Many Provets enjoy getting their nails accessorized because it makes them feel beautiful or helps break old habits such as nail biting. However, nails, especially acrylic, are not for everyone; some only get them for special occasions. Others say that they are quite adaptable while still others struggle to get used to them.

Everyone has her own preference when it comes to nails - while one might prefer to have them short and simple, another might want long and exaggerated nails. Though not just because these nails are beautiful or help complete the look, a few Provets felt that it makes them feel, "like a baddie," like Ariana Alcantar '23, says. Meanwhile Dianna Carmenaty '25, says acrylic nails, "make my hands look longer and skinnier." Other Provets state that acrylic nails help them hide flaws such as having shorter nails or feeling like their fingers are shorter and stubby; having nails fixes that and changes the appearance, making their fingers look longer and skinnier. Amaya Jones '24 says that having Acrylic nails "makes me feel like that girl."

Then there is the scientific perspective about statement nails PCS science teacher Ms. Vanilla Macias Rodriguez, says that nails are "beautiful, many times a work of art, but I wonder how sanitary they are." Food for thought!

When does the change occur? High school girls love to get their nails done, but middle school girls have a

different take. Nicole Trevino '29, states, "I don't really care 'cause I don't wear them, but other girls like their nails painted and others express themselves with them." Clarissa Montoya '27, states that she does not get her nails done because "I don't need to impress anyone."

However, when Middle School students DO challenge the rule and wear nail polish, they suffer consequences. Magdalena Corona '28, says she went four days without getting caught. While Lilian Bailey '28, says she went a "few days" without getting caught. Mia Denizard '28, says, "It's not a sin to wear nail polish," and Aryana Rodriguez '27, adds, "It's one way to express ourselves without doing anything dramatic to ourselves." Who gives the most detentions for nails? "Ms. Alvarado and Ms. Gonzales," several students say in unison.

According to the ORLY Nail care website, "The first clear liquid nail polish was introduced in 1916 by the Northam Warren Corporation. The following year, in 1917, the company came out with rose-tint nail polish and expanded its nail care line" (ORLY 2023). Since then, women - and, today, even men - turn to polishing nails. A form of pampering, of feeling more beautiful, and part of Providence high school life.

Hold on, Middle Schoolers! Your turn is coming!

What it costs for Provets to have beautiful fingernails...

	Cost	Frequency	Length	Shape/Design	Motivation for polishing
9	\$45-65 \$80-95	Special occasions Every month	Medium	Almond Square	Nail biting beauty
10	\$45 \$80-85	Special occasions 2 to 3 times/year 1-2 months	Medium long Medium	Coffin Square Almond	Beauty Stops nail biting Hides flaws
11	\$90-150 \$70-100 \$50-70	Every month special occasions 4-5 times a year	Extra long Medium Short	Coffin Square Almond	Beauty Flaws
12	\$90-150 \$70-90 \$50-85	Every month 2-3 times a yr	Long Extra long Short/medium	Square Coffin	Stops nail biting Hides flaws

Sports Shorts

Middle School Track

by Giselle Gonzalez '24

The middle school track team is running into this new season ready to go! Coming straight off a successful cross country season, these girls are prepared. This team is predicted to be one of the largest middle school track teams in the program's history, which can be linked to the direct closeness and partnership with the high school program; this team is sure to follow in their high school sisters' footsteps. Though a young team, they have talent. This team is looking forward to filling nearly every event - distance runners and sprinters - which will help Provets to score the points needed to place in a spot to win at the AIAL district meet. Coach Alex DeLaGarza has hopes for returning runners Drew Ovalles '27, and Olivia Martini '27.

Swimming

by Bryanna Fuentes '23

Addison Freedman '23 has been swimming from the age of five. Freedman has been to State all four years of swimming for PCS, and captain for the past two years. She spends 24/7 in the pool. Although she doesn't plan to continue swimming in college, she has begun coaching kids in swimming hoping they can have the same love for the sport. "Swimming helps me clear my mind, and gives me time to relax."

Joslyn Gabriel '23 began swimming at age six, but at ten she took a break until high school. Gabriel has been co-captain for one year, when Gabriel is not at work she is in the pool. Gabriel would like to see the swim team more promoted as they only have four swimmers.

Freedman and Gabriel have become close friends because of swimming. They consider the team a family and are grateful for the bonds they have made. They tend to eat a lot of oatmeal - Gabriel's favorite - and pasta - Freedman's favorite. They described swimming as expensive, and one that leaves their skin and hair dry.

Softball

by Lauren Gonzales '23

High school softball is back on the field! The season began in January and lasts till May. The team opened up the season with a scrimmage against Burbank High School. Scrimmages are not a part of the team's regular game schedule but allow them to be exposed to game-like situations for the coming season. This year's scrimmage was held on Friday, January 27, 2023, at Burbank SAISD Complex.

Coach Katherine Chavarría and team captain Trinity Gres '23, lead the team. Practices are held at Mission Concepción from 4:00 pm to 6:00. The team's most important games are their district games which pave the way for playoffs. With insight into the upcoming season, Trinity Gres '23, says, "I look forward to all the positive things that are going to come this season and living it out since this is my last season with the team."

Evolutions

by Juliana Hernandez '24

The Evolutions dance team has seven dancers this year. Every dancer brings different strengths, dedication, energy, and commitment. Coach Shelby Lachowitzer says, "I adore each of my dancers for the high energy that she brings. I see the immense growth in all of my dancers; I will continue to push them to be the most skilled dancers they can be."

They competed for the first time in Cheer for Christ in October 2022. They also get to march in the parades for Fiesta along with many more fun activities.

Evolutions is an all-year sport. Practice is Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30.

Tryouts for Evolutions for sixth and seventh graders are April 17-19th from 4:00-5:30.

Progressions

by Marina Aguilar '25

The Progressions Dance Team has had an incredible year of performances and events. Coach Shelby Lachowitzer is assisted by the captain Hannah Jones '23, and co-captain Senisa Perez '23. They recently attended the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) dance competition in Waco, Texas, on January 14, placing sixth out of nine, overall, receiving a Superior Rating.

The Progressions showcase happened on February 10. Dancer Marina Aguilar said, "The showcase was successful. We felt confident in our routines, and we are ready for competition."

On February 18, 2023, Progressions attended the Crowd Pleasers Dance Competition, at Canyon High School in New Braunfels, Texas. There they competed with three team routines, three solos, one trio, and a senior/officer duet.

Progressions placed 4th as the 3rd Runner Up Over All. The solos placing was, Addison Perez '26 - 2nd as 1st runner Up, Autumn Krueger '25 - 3rd as 2nd Runner Up. Duets and Trios placing was, Seniors Duet - 1st and Most Outstanding Duet, Senisa Perez, '23, Hannah Jones '23, and Savanna Medellin '24 Trio - 2nd as 1st Runner Up. The team routines placing was, Contemporary - 1st and Best in Class Team Routine, Novelty - 2nd as Runner Up Team Routine, Pom - 2nd as Runner Up Team Routine.



Why Catholic School? Two Seniors Reflect

By Bryanna Fuentes '23

My parents provided my brother and me, from the age of three, the opportunity to get private education. Catholic school has helped me spiritually and academically; the classes tend to be smaller so the students have a better chance to get the help they need from the teachers. I like how the students are obligated to get a set number of service hours because it is a great way to give back to the community.

College preparation is one of the main goals in Catholic schools. The faculty and staff push the students to succeed. Catholic high schools have a 99% graduation rate, about 61% of the graduates continue their education and graduate from college. I feel ready.

Students can support their school by having fundraisers, promoting their school online, representing their school at local events or at their church.

By Lauren Gonzales '23

Growing up I have attended numerous schools, both public and private, and I can say that many differences made my parents choose Catholic school. My parents appreciated the home-like atmosphere that comes with Catholic schools. Many students grow up with their classmates all the way from kindergarten to high school which creates lifelong friendships.

Another reason my parents chose Catholic school is the spiritual enrichment. Everyday life for many families can be hectic which makes it difficult to fit in religion as a whole. However, Catholic schools help nourish students with religious education. While enrolled in Catholic school, an elementary student can receive Sacraments such as reconciliation and communion.

Last, Catholic school students are taught lessons that are effective both in and out of the classroom. Academics is a huge factor that brings parents to send their children to a Catholic school; however, we receive much more. I myself have had many influences from teachers that have made me who I am today. The lessons they have taught me such as generosity, kindness, and confidence are ones for which I'm thankful. For these reasons, my parents decided to send me to Catholic school.

Ash Wednesday

by Savanna Medellin '24

On February 22, 2023, Providence Catholic School attended Central Catholic to celebrate Ash Wednesday. Providence Provets and Central Buttons gathered as one community to praise and worship, commemorating the beginning of the Lenten season. Some Provets were a part of the Eucharistic ministers and readers, along with sixth graders carrying the gifts to the celebrant, Fr. Pat McDaid. Juliana Hernandez '24, states, "I thought it was really nice that everybody was together for a special day in our religious community." Overall, it was a peaceful and humble experience. No doubt the two school communities will come together to worship again.



Illustration by Juliana Hernandez '24



If your classroom were a car, what car would it be?

Prompt provided by Alexandria Pacheco '23. Thanks, Alex!



"Probably be a Chevy El Camino. It's a half car, half truck, with an SS package, and a sick racing stripe. The coolest car ever made. I also drove and still love the Subaru Baja, which is another half car, half truck cool vehicle."

- Mr. Tyler Faulkner

"Pick-up truck Ford F-150. I have owned several Ford F-150's. They are built tough so they are very durable and reliable. They run well in rain, mud, and snow. I can throw trash, dirt, or athletic and camping equipment in the back without any problems and the truck works every day. I think my classroom is similar to that in that the expectations from my students are that they will be active and learn something new every day. We won't take the day off. It doesn't matter if it is hot or cold or raining outside, if we have short days or long days, the classroom will be effective and run well no matter what."

- Mr. Daniel Martinez

"I am going to go with a Honda CRV (which happens to be what I drive). It is family- friendly, has space, a lot of people use it for one reason or another, and kids leave stuff behind in it"

-Mrs. Marianne Norris

"Chevy Suburban because the temperature in it is just right, there is plenty of room for everyone, and it has a great sound system."

-Coach Elizabeth Sandoval

"If my classroom were a car, it would be a 1974 Volkswagen - because all the magic happens in room 214."

-Mr. Warren Christilles

I would say an Explorer. It has room for many students and the students are always wondering what's going to happen next."

-Ms. Michelle Alvarado

"Buick Enclave. I feel that the type of vehicle represents the feel of my class. It's an older company that has been around for a long time, much like our school. In spite of that, there is always room to change to fit the present. Much like the SUV, there is plenty of room for new beginnings. The space it represents is the students I now teach, and the journey we are all on. That being knowledge and faith."

- Mr. Roger Lopez

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