

# THE CRUSADER

*A magazine for alumni, parents and friends of The Prout School*

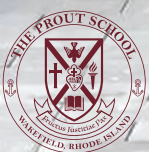
FALL 2025



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

*Celebrating the Classes  
of 2024 and 2025*

**Prout Spotlight:**  
*Mary Hoyt*



The Prout School



*Founded in 1966, The Prout School is a Catholic, diocesan, coeducational, college preparatory high school. The school enrolls over 400 students from almost all Rhode Island communities and parts of Connecticut. The Prout School is a member of New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and is Rhode Island's first International Baccalaureate (IB) School.*

*The Prout School Mission: The Prout School is a vibrant Catholic community that prepares the whole person for productive membership in the global community by fostering quality in spiritual, academic, artistic and athletic pursuits.*

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**The Crusader is a publication of The Prout School's Office of Institutional Advancement.**

David J. Estes, *Principal*

Sharon DeLuca, *Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management*

Seana Edwards, *Director of Alumni and Community Relations*

Donna Nardone, *Director of Finance*



*Most Rev. Bruce Alan Lewandowski with  
Prout Principal David Estes.*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Friends, and Alumni  
of The Prout School,

I hope this letter finds you well!

This past year was truly outstanding in fulfilling our mission as a Catholic School. As you'll see in the following pages, Prout students continue to thrive and contribute to our commitment to excellence in spiritual, academic, artistic, and athletic opportunities.

Our dedication to this mission was validated during an intense two-year NEASC re-accreditation process where the school, faculty and students received high marks from the visiting NEASC team.

### **The Elizabeth Prout Christian Service Learning Initiative**

Beyond this achievement, one of the most powerful expressions of our mission came through our continuation of the Elizabeth Prout Christian Service Learning Initiative. Our theme this past year, "Becoming Shepherds for God's World," culminated in a beautiful ceremony in May, where we were honored to celebrate with our new Bishop, Most Rev. Bruce Lewandowski.

The Bishop witnessed a presentation of these year-long efforts, which embody our Founding Sisters' motto: "Peace is the Fruit of Justice." Here's how our students lived out this motto:

- Our freshmen prayed with and cared for the poor and elderly while visiting St. Martin de Porres Center in Providence.
- Our sophomores shared Mass and personal time with the elderly at St. Clare's in Newport and St. Antoine's in North Smithfield.
- Our juniors served the homeless at Emmanuel House and Habitat for Humanity.
- Lastly our seniors raised awareness of and funds for the work of Catholic Relief Services throughout the world.

Following the presentations, Bishop Lewandowski commented, "I see Christ in you." He then led our whole school in the crowning of our statue of Mary, Queen of Peace.

As we welcome our new shepherd for our Diocese, we are blessed to know that he was able to see our students at their very best in honoring our work to develop each student's God-given gifts to make the world more holy and more just.

Thanks for all you do to support our mission!

Blessings to all,

*David J. Estes*  
David Estes, *Principal*

“Young people of our time, like those of every age, are a volcano of life, energy, sentiments, and ideas. It can be seen from the wonderful things they are able to do, in so many fields. However, they also need help in order for this great wealth to grow in harmony and to overcome what, albeit in a different way to the past, can still hinder their healthy development.

– Pope Leo XIV





# CHEERS TO THE

# Class of 2025

*Class of 2025 celebrates graduation in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul in Providence.*

Oliver Balbat\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Indycia Dawn Benigno<sup>^</sup>  
 Nora Grace Benjamin +\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Reese Lynn Berube #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Skyelyn Starr Bozzi #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Louis Brickner+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ethan Patrick Brown+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Isabella Brown+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Sophia Grace Bruno+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Caleb W. Burnett\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Cole Bussey\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Bethany Faith Casagrande+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Joel Rodman Charpentier\*  
 Matthew Edward Chofay+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Graziella Cimarelli+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Sara Corrigan+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Maxwell Paul Costello<sup>^</sup>  
 Luke Crocker #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Jeanette Cronin #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Jane Halloran Dator #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Cameron Paul de Castro\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alexis Decarvalho\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ella M. Delmonico\*<sup>^</sup>

Lillie May DeMetrick+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Libby E. Dextradeur\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Sophia M. DiCecco<sup>^</sup>  
 Emily Teresa DiLibero+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Maeve Elizabeth Driscoll\*  
 Camryn Enos+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Angelo H. Evangelista\*  
 Seneca Lee Fielding\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Aidan Forcier\*  
 Kieran Patrick Fowler<sup>^</sup>  
 Katherine Claire Fredette\*  
 Shannon Rose Furlong+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Rocco J. Grasso\*  
 Mary Ellen Cassidy Grimm+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Sam R. Grosso+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Andrew Clarke Gudz #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Aidan Hannigan+\*  
 Benjamin C. Hannon+\*  
 Eleni Sofia Haralambidis+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lucas James Hennessey\*  
 Charles Horne+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Tristan Hunyady+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Hope E. Iredale\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Anna Jalbert+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Reid Morgan Klug+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Harris Krupp+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Quinn Legault  
 Calista Leroux #+\*<sup>^</sup>

Anna Blake Levine+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Jessica Lewis #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Emma Mary Manzo<sup>^</sup>  
 Ella Catherine Martin+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Madeline Mattiucci #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Kelsie McConnell #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Gavin S. McCoy\*  
 Alexander Nicholas McGrath #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alice Catherine McGuire+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Liam James McIntosh+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Reese Avery McIntosh+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Mary McMahan+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Maeve McQuarrie\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Paige Evelyn Megley<sup>^</sup>  
 Emily Micklich+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Olivia Monast+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Mackenzie Moniz #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Savannah T. Moore+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Zachary Mottola #+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lars Elias Mueller\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Michael Natale Jr. +\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Caitlyn D Naughton+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Andrew Tyler Nowell+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Lawson O'Hearn<sup>^</sup>  
 Kaden Hamilton Osenkowski+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Alexandra Panteleos\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ava Paolino+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Hannah Elizabeth Paolino+\*<sup>^</sup>

Deirdra Alice Picillo+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Ava Catherine Pickett\*+  
 Catherine Marie Pomeroy+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Mia Rose Renzulli+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Kelton Garret Roberts  
 Taylor Kay Roberts\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Paxton Gardiner Roberts\*  
 Viviana Santilli  
 Jocelyn Silbert  
 Angelique Grace Simmons+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Eleni Irene Soares\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Luca Michael Spaziente\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Matthew James Speltz+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Madison Stearns+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Eugene Stec\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Athanasia Nektaria Stefanopoulos+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Caitlin M. Trainor+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Sarah Turner+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Aria Lee Waterman\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Cole Thomas Weathers+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Madison Frances Wilkinson+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Henry Wind\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Eli Wood+\*<sup>^</sup>  
 Erin Balbina Lee Young\*<sup>^</sup>

# IB Diploma Candidate  
 + National Honor Society  
 \* Rhode Island Honor Society  
 ^ Scholarship Recipient

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2025 PROUT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*Thank you to all our generous donors who made these scholarships possible.*

Jack Paiva, <i>Colin Foote Scholarship</i>	Ella Sjosten, <i>Walter Aubin Scholarship</i>
Addison Daigle, <i>Pat Castelli Scholarship</i>	Izze Borke, <i>Alicia Storti Scholarship</i>
Gabby Andrade, <i>Hanumara Scholarship</i>	Kaitlyn Foley, <i>Robert Lofredo</i>
Julia Smith, <i>Kristen Duhamel Scholarship</i>	<i>St Mary's Star of the Sea</i>
Grace Conforti, <i>J. Lincoln Pearson Scholarship</i>	Cecilia Brown, <i>Liz. Nayman Scholarship</i>

*Valedictorian Jeanette Cronin and Salutatorian Madeline Mattiucci.*





# Celebrating the Class of 2024

Sophia Abbott +\*^  
Jami Adams ^  
Jessica Arsenian ^  
William W. Axford \*^  
Emma Pamela Baird \*  
Ryan Chase Barrett #+\*^  
Mark Belcher ^  
Mark Christopher Benedict Jr. +\*  
Dimitri Benekos Jr. \*  
Luciano Paul Bilotto +\*^  
Ben X. Bootmann ^  
Mia Angelina Cambio #+\*^  
Jaclyn Arden Candon  
Kylie Erin Canning +\*^  
Brendan Marshall Case #+\*^  
Abbigail Lee Colella ^  
Madison R Cotnoir \*^  
Ava Marie D'Andrea \*^  
Devin Scott Deen  
Isabella Grace DelSesto \*^  
Avery Diorio ^  
Meadow Teresa D'Iorio \*^  
Caitlyn Edith Dockray \*^  
Lily Kaitlin Donegan \*^  
Madison Doyle \*^  
Francesca Helena Dulac ^  
Isabella Antionette Dulac ^  
Holly Joy Eddleston ^  
Richard G. Engelman, III #+\*  
Christopher James Farrelly ^  
Emma Kate Finkelstein \*^

Clare O'Shea Flaherty #+\*^  
Mary Antonette Fonfara +\*^  
Kyla Fucci \*^  
Sophie Savidge Garman #+\*^  
Haley Marie Gates +\*^  
Charleigh Rae Holder George #+\*^  
Kennedy Rae Holder George #+\*^  
Derek M. Gesmondi +\*^  
Owen Bruce Glass +\*^  
Faith Goddard \*  
Molly Green +\*^  
Amanda M. Gretchner +\*^  
Jack Gwaltney #+\*^  
Madeleine Kathleen Hajjar #+\*^  
Erin June Hanrahan +\*^  
Andrew Harriman  
Nola Mary Haynes ^  
Adrian Ariel Hernandez Jr. \*  
Bertine Landeraaen Hess \*^  
Giselle Grace Jeffrey \*^  
Ashlyn Johnson +\*^  
Brayden Kazarian \*^  
Alex Christian LaFazia  
Gianna Lynn Lamendola #+\*^  
Noah Francis Lax \*^  
Benjamin C. Leal +\*^  
Frances Evelyn Lewis #+\*^  
Luca Mallari \*  
Nico Mallari \*  
Jack Manning ^  
Jessica Elizabeth Mastrandrea +\*^

Sylvia Rose Mayo \*^  
Noah Hunter McParlin  
Leah Lian Melton #+\*^  
Brylee Merrill +\*^  
Aurora Meunier Mott \*^  
Jill Taylor Michael +\*^  
Mary Ellen Miller #+\*^  
Dante Mills ^  
Gabriella Lily Minuto \*  
Elizabeth Dorothy Morin +\*^  
Finn C. Murphy  
Marina Nguyen #+\*^  
Aiden Michael Palmieri  
Marco S. Peterson \*^  
Marco Anthony Petteruti  
Finn W. Portley \*^  
Olivia Christina Previte \*^  
Lauren Elizabeth Quattromani \*^  
Jackson Glenn Reeves \*^  
Renée Jacqueline Rheaume \*^  
Olivia Mattea Saccoccio \*  
Brandon Joseph Santurri \*  
Logan William Selwyn +\*^  
Leyan Shi \*  
Tyler Andrew Simo +\*  
Lucy Marie Sjösten +\*  
Benjamin David Slitt #+\*^  
Lydia Marie Sousa \*^  
Morgan Rachael Spadaro ^  
Lauren Grace Symington \*^  
Andrew Perry Tessier \*^

Aidan Tobin \*  
Waela Mae Van Nostrand #+\*^  
Jordan Lynn Walek +\*^  
Meredith Wanta # +\*^  
Madeline Marie Williams +\*^



+National Honor Society  
#International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidate  
\*Rhode Island Honor Society  
^Scholarship Recipient

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Anna Levine, <i>Pat Castelli Scholarship</i>	Nora Benjamin, <i>Alicia Storti Scholarship</i>
Reese Berube, <i>Hanumara Scholarship</i>	Kaitlyn Foley, <i>Robert Lofredo</i>
Emily DiLibero, <i>Kristen Duhamel Scholarship</i>	<i>St Mary's Star of the Sea</i>
Jeannette Cronin, <i>J. Lincoln Pearson Scholarship</i>	Oliver Balbat, <i>Liz. Nayman Scholarship</i>

Valedictorian Meredith Wanta and Salutatorian Waela VonNostrand.







# SPIRITUAL *life* AL





# Living Our Faith *at The Prout School*

## Spiritual Life

The Prout School extends a heartfelt welcome to Most Rev. Bruce A. Lewandowski, C.Ss.R. who became the 10th bishop of Providence this year. We were honored to have him visit Prout and are excited about the spiritual guidance and leadership he'll bring to our diocese. We were thrilled to have him join us for our celebration of the Elizabeth Prout Initiative and May Crowning. His presence truly enriched our school community, and we're grateful for his support of Catholic education. Welcome Bishop Bruce!

## Prout Welcomes Father Ryan Simas

This year, The Prout School welcomed Father Ryan Simas as the new Chaplain. He also serves as the Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Providence and is the Chaplain at the University of Rhode Island.

"Prout is truly a faith-filled and vibrant community, which is evident from the many students who attend Morning Prayer each day, their reverence at Mass, their heartfelt participation on retreats, and their joyful desire to serve others, especially on our Elizabeth Prout Days," said Father Ryan. "I am so happy to be serving at Prout, and you can be assured I pray for you and your families daily."

Ordained a decade ago, Father Ryan has served as the Assistant Pastor of Saint Philip Parish in Greenville, the Pastor of St. Joseph and All Saints Parishes in Woonsocket and as the Chaplain at Saint Raphael Academy in Pawtucket.

## Students Celebrate Sacraments of Initiation

Congratulations to our students who joyfully received their Sacraments of Initiation this year!

During the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, three students celebrated their Sacraments at the Cathedral of Saint Peter and Paul. Bishop Robert Evans officiated the Mass, with Father Ryan and Principal Estes joining to celebrate alongside the students and their families. Mr. Faraone provided dedicated support throughout the year, preparing them for this significant milestone.

Ava Andoscia received all three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Cole Weathers received First Communion and Confirmation, and Emilio DeTroia completed his Sacraments of Initiation by receiving Confirmation.

Additionally, Camryn Enos received all three Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation—at the Christ the King Easter Vigil.

## A Sanctuary of Reflection: *Honoring Legacies in Our Prayer Garden*

Have you experienced the tranquility of our beautiful prayer garden? This cherished space recently welcomed a thoughtful addition: a new bench, generously donated by the Class of 2024. This bench stands as a testament to the enduring unity and spirit of the Prout community, offering a peaceful spot for reflection, remembrance, and prayer.

We currently have space for just five more engraved benches. Each bench is available for a donation of \$5,000. Your generous contribution will not only fund the creation of these benches but also ensure the ongoing maintenance of this sacred space, guaranteeing it remains a place of peace and inspiration for generations to come.

To learn more about dedicating a bench and leaving your legacy in our prayer garden, please contact Seana Edwards at [sedwards@theproutschool.org](mailto:sedwards@theproutschool.org).

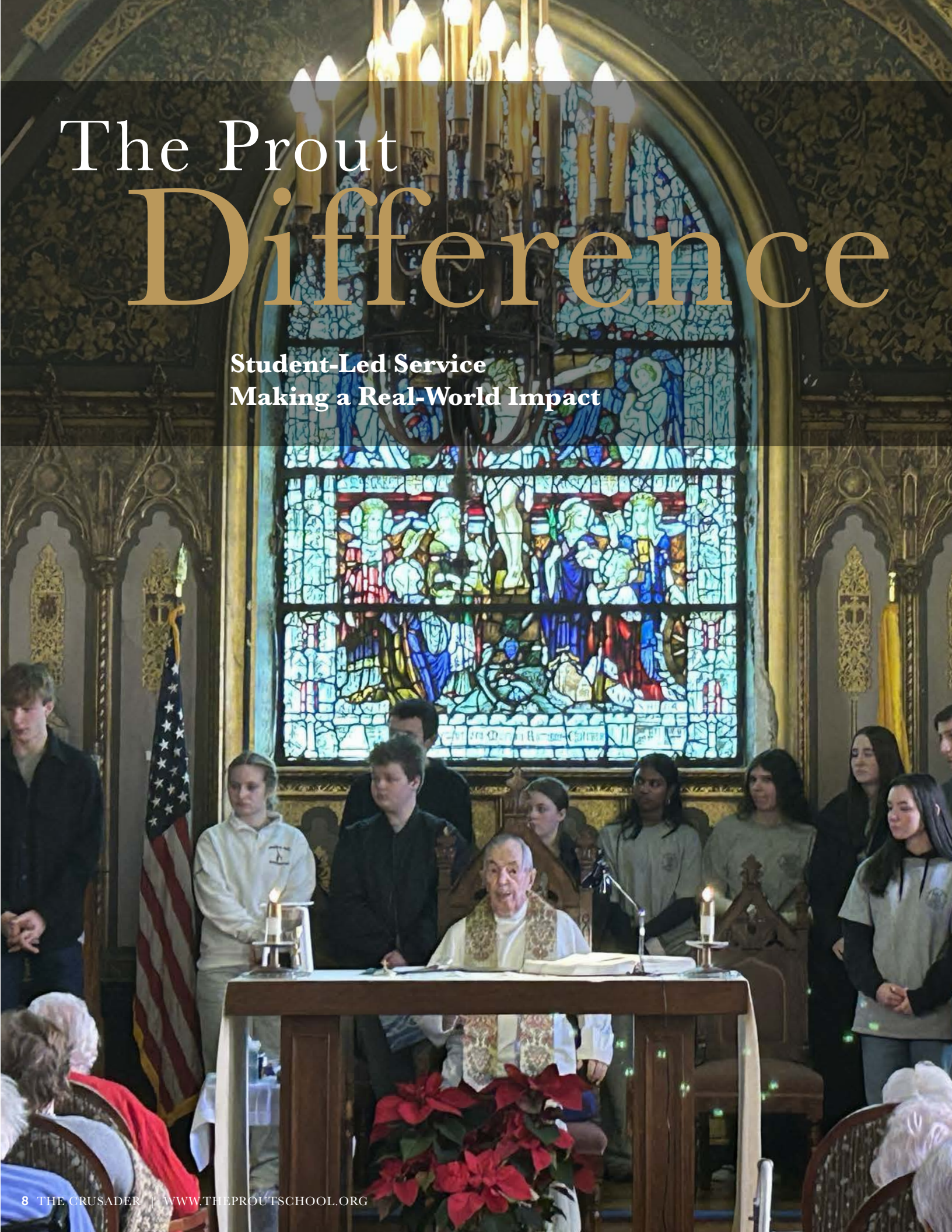
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Pictured Opposite Page: (1) Principal Estes in the Prayer Garden; (2) Aria Waterman '25 May Crowning of The Blessed Mother; (3) Class of 2025 gather and welcome Bishop Bruce to The Prout School at the May Crowning; (4) Bishop Bruce, Father Ryan, John Gaffney '26, and Aria Waterman '25 at The Prout School Prayer Garden May Crowning Blessing; (5) The Blessed Mother statue arrived at Prout in May 2024 as the centerpiece to a Memorial Prayer Garden; (6) Mr. Faraone, Cole Weathers '25, Emilio DeTroia '26, Ava Andoscia '26, Principal Dave Estes, and Father Ryan at the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul on Holy Saturday.



# The Prout Difference

**Student-Led Service  
Making a Real-World Impact**





**At The Prout School, our mission is to educate the whole person for productive global citizenship, encompassing spiritual, academic, artistic, and athletic excellence. This commitment deeply influences our Theology Department and inspires our entire student body to foster a global perspective in their faith.**

### The Elizabeth Prout Difference

A cornerstone of this mission is our *Elizabeth Prout Christian Service Learning Initiative*, launched in 2023, which empowers students to embody the Corporal Works of Mercy through hands-on action.

For example, freshmen students “fed the hungry” by organizing and hosting a prayer service and community spring celebration lunch at an inner-city senior center. Sophomores “visited the sick/shut-ins” by playing games, celebrating Mass, writing letters and giving artwork to several nursing homes. Juniors “sheltered the homeless” by helping a local temporary shelter open its doors for the first time during the cold winter season; they served in the garden, organized clothes donations and made bag lunches at an inner-city homeless shelter. They also listened to

powerful stories from people who had experienced homelessness. Seniors “visited the imprisoned” by participating in the Diocese’s “Just Prayers” initiative by writing prayer cards in English and Spanish to those incarcerated. Seniors also created an International Carnival to celebrate various cultures and raise money for Catholic Relief Services.

### Living the Mission

The past two years junior and senior students participated in the Romero Center’s “Urban Challenge.” Beyond grade-level projects, junior and seniors assisted various organizations that serve the poor in Camden, NJ, and even created an international carnival at school.

The students learned that they could “use God’s gifts” and “become shepherds” to help others. Learning to not take what we have for granted and understand that God teaches us to help the less fortunate and love everyone by spreading love and care, just like Jesus did, was a common theme throughout our Mission trips and left a lasting impression on the students.

These experiences, developed and led by students, profoundly impacted them. “We all grew to appreciate what we have and to use our own fortune to help others,”



said Prout junior Sierra Redfern.

The experience also made a significant impact on junior Jadyn Joyce. “It really brought to light how people’s lives can be much worse than mine,” said Jadyn. “I want to be able to help the less fortunate now.”

For others, it was about collective action: “This experience allowed me to work together with my class and people that I wouldn’t normally talk to and make a difference. It gave me hope about what things that we can accomplish as a class and beyond. It had a positive impact on me, and I especially enjoyed working together to pack the lunches,” said junior Gabby Andrade.

*Pictured Opposite Page: Sophomore students celebrate Mass with Father Randall at St. Clare’s Nursing Home in Newport.*

*Pictured Top: Mission trip sophomores craft with residents of St. Clare’s Nursing Home in Newport.*

*Pictured Left: Prout students volunteer at South County Habitat for Humanity.*





**Did you know Prout was the first high school in Rhode Island to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) Program? To learn more, we sat down with Chris Bromley, Prout's IB Department Chair, and Annie Demers, a Prout alum ('23) who now attends Notre Dame.**

## A LOOK INSIDE

# Prout's International Baccalaureate Program



### **Q: What is the IB program? Is it rigorous?**

**Mr. Bromley:** IB is a rigorous academic track that focuses on independent, individualized work that asks the question why instead of what. While the standard subject content is covered, students are asked to go further to understand the concepts and processes at a deeper level.

### **Q: What are the benefits of IB—inside and outside the classroom?**

**Mr. Bromley:** IB Program aims to develop 10 traits that are essential to lifelong learning. These attributes include inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. Collectively, they are called the Learner Profile, which allows students to grow and understand the world they are entering.

### **Q: How does IB prepare a student for college?**

**Mr. Bromley:** This program teaches students how to think critically, manage their time, advocate for themselves, and work independently—all of which are vital for success at the college level.

### **Q: Can you give an example of how you've witnessed a student's growth through the program?**

**Mr. Bromley:** I have witnessed the growth of many students. One student struggled greatly in the first year of physics. He had historically been a top student but hadn't needed to study much before. It took until his second year for him to learn how to study, and he quickly rose through the class. He is now a computer engineer.

### **Q: How did being an IB Diploma candidate help your transition to Notre Dame—academically and holistically?**

**Annie:** The academic part helped prepare me for Notre Dame and the rigorous academics it provides. I was also able to manage my time better—not just academically, but also with friends and extracurricular activities.

### **Q: If you had to do high school all over again, would you still choose to do the IB Diploma?**

**Annie:** I would absolutely do the IB Diploma (all over again). It was hard and challenging, but it was worth it. I was able to grow and better understand my boundaries and strengths.

### **Q: Was IB challenging?**

**Annie:** Sometimes the best thing you can do is push yourself. It was challenging, but my teachers were always there to support me.



*Pictured Above Top: Chris Bromley, head of the IB department, teaching his class an engineering lesson to prepare for their IB construction projects.*

*Pictured Above Bottom: Annie Demers '24 IB student and Student Council President '24 proudly swings her Notre Dame flag at the annual Senior car parade.*

## Prout Students *Excel* in Model Legislature, Mock Trial, and Academic Decathlon



Pictured Above: Prout sophomore Ella Procaccianti (pictured) served as President of the Senate, and Cole Rossi was the Deputy Speaker of the House. Junior Evan Reineke won awards for Outstanding Delegate and Outstanding Bill Writing. Right: Members of the Academic Decathlon team. Below: Model legislature with Mike Sweeney the Advisor.

**At The Prout School, excellence isn't confined to the classroom, and competition isn't restricted to the athletic fields. This year, the Crusaders also achieved success in civic learning and academic competitions.**

### Prout Students Shine in Model Legislature

Several Prout students excelled in the annual Youth and Government Rhode Island Model Legislature at the State House. This interactive civic education program offers high school students a hands-on experience that deepens their understanding of the legislative process.



### Prout Mock Trial Team Celebrates Historic Season

The Crusader's Mock Trial Team celebrated an incredible, history-making season this year! After going undefeated in the regular season, the team reached the quarterfinals of the state competition where they presented a compelling plaintiff case before Judge Michael Feeney. Witnesses Sara Slitt, Zoe Hall, and Ella Procaccianti delivered outstanding performances. The Prout legal team—Matthew Speltz, Rocco Grasso, and Gabriella Andrade—worked diligently throughout the trial. Siena Taliani supported the team as the official Rules Expert, ensuring procedural precision.

### Crusaders Earn Nine Medals at Academic Decathlon

Prout students earned nine medals at the 2025 RI Academic Decathlon, a rigorous team-based competition featuring nearly 240 students representing 17 Rhode Island high schools.

Prout's Ella Procaccianti led the Crusaders, rising above the competition by earning two gold medals. Prout's Walton Cournoyer and Calisa Leroux also medaled. Rounding out Prout's students who participated in the 2025 Academic Decathlon include Lily Cui, Hailey Ferguson, Madeleine George, Kristen Gudz, Lauren Koswaski, Abigail Leighton, Calista Leroux, Madeline Monaco, and Grace Powers.





PHOTO CREDIT: David Deloio



# ATHLETIC *success*





# The Athletic Spirit at The Prout School

## The Best of the Best on the Pitch – Crusaders Win State Soccer Championship

The Prout girls' soccer team worked hard and earned some hardware this season, capturing the Division II State Soccer Championship with a heart-stopping 1-0 win over Westerly at Rhode Island College. Prout's Taylor Roberts broke open a scoreless game at the 68th minute mark, scoring the game's only goal and securing the state title for the Crusaders. This marked Prout's first soccer title since 2005.

## Flipped Out – Prout Captures State Gymnastics Title

A team effort led the Prout gymnastics team to the Division II State Championship. Addy Daigle, Miley Keramidas and Keira Canning contributed team points in all four events and would go on to compete in the individual state meet. Daigle was third in the all-around, followed by Keramidas, who placed fourth.

## The Heart of a Crusader – John Gaffney and the Spirit of Prout Hockey

John Gaffney didn't know much about Prout hockey when he took the reins nearly 25 years ago — but he did know two things: his players were going to outwork everyone, and they were going to believe in themselves. What began as a Division III program made up of inexperienced players has since evolved into one of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League's elite teams—filled with the state's top players and mentioned alongside powerhouse programs including La Salle and Bishop Hendricken.

A member of a family that spans four generations of All-State hockey players, Gaffney brought a gritty work ethic to the ice — one built on belief, dedication, relentless hard work, and community. Driven by these traits, Prout climbed from the bottom of Division III, captured two Division II titles, and eventually earned a spot in Division I. "When we moved into Division I—the guys were hesitant. I had to let them know they could do it," he said. "They just needed to

believe in themselves. Like in life, if you put your mind to it, you can achieve anything."

The Crusaders believe. The results are evident as Prout is now one of the state's top programs. The Crusaders reached the 2025 D-I state championship, where they suffered a heartbreaking 3-2 loss in triple OT to eventual champ Hendricken.

All-State forward Aidan Forcier said what he will take from being part of the Prout program extends well beyond the success he had on the ice. "Playing for a coach that pushes you to be your best at all times and never giving up on you is a great experience," said Aidan. "You create friendships that last a lifetime." Gaffney believes in the importance of giving back to the community. He has instilled this value in his players. "It's very important to give back," said Gaffney. "We've always had that mission. It's about helping each other."



Left Page (Top Left): The Prout girls' soccer team celebrates after winning the Division II State Soccer Championship. Left Page (Top Right): The Prout gymnastics team brought home the Division II State Championship title! Left Page: From the pitch to the mat to the court, it was a great year for Prout athletic teams. Led by hardworking, competitive athletes, dedicated coaching, and an unwavering commitment to excellence, the Prout Crusaders earned success on the fields, courts, and ice this year. Congrats to our teams who rose above the rest and captured state championships.





# THE ARTS *shine*



## **Imagination Takes Flight at The Prout School**

*From strong stage acting to stunning visual art displays to outstanding musical and dance performances – and all the hard work behind the scenes - the Prout Arts Program reflects creativity, teamwork, and passion.*





## Beyond the classroom, The Prout School's award-winning arts experience.

The Prout School's Visual and Performing Arts department offers students a dynamic platform to explore and develop their creative talents. Beyond the classroom, students engage in community outreach and participate in a wide array of annual events, including plays, musicals, art exhibits, dance performances and concerts. The program fosters a supportive environment where students are encouraged to take risks, develop studio discipline, and cultivate both independent and cooperative skills, ensuring a well-rounded artistic education and the opportunity to explore their own creativity.

## PROUT RECEIVES Major Commendations from NEASC

The Prout School has spent the last two years preparing for the decennial review by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) to renew our accreditation. Maintaining NEASC accreditation status is an external validation of our school's commitment and ability to provide a high-quality Catholic education to all students. It's also essential that prospective colleges and universities know that our students graduate from an accredited school.

Over the course of two visits, the team reviewed standards related to enrollment, safety, resources, professional staff, and governance, as well as the day-to-day experiences of our mission, including our spiritual, academic, artistic, and athletic programs. The Committee shared how impressed they were with our school, especially the many students, faculty, and staff members they observed during their visit. They visited all our classrooms multiple times and observed our students not only in classes, but also in the chapel, hallways, at lunch, and at clubs and sports. Most of the team worked in or led Catholic high schools in New England. One member remarked, "I have a good school, but Prout is a very, very special place."

### The visiting team commended the school for:

- its commitment to Mission and for establishing and maintaining a culture rooted in respect and strong Catholic identity;
- on its long-standing commitment to its prestigious, differentiating International Baccalaureate (IB) program;
- maintaining a Student Support Team that develops individually focused action plans designed to help students treat each other with respect, change inappropriate behaviors, and make safe

choices so that all students feel safe and are supported in accordance with the school's Mission;

- for their collaboration in making the school's transformational new athletic field a reality;
- its strong faculty-student relationships that positively influence student success;
- the active strides it is taking to augment its alumni relations and community outreach;
- Prout's most impressive response in addressing and correcting the deficiencies noted in the school's last decennial report;
- its positive enrollment growth trend in the face of ongoing significant challenges;
- its fiscal planning and financial stability, as well as for its "Prout 2035" strategic planning initiative.

We have already begun implementing some of the Committee's recommendations, including exploring ways to create time for collaboration and common planning to align curriculum, continuing to develop a vision for technology infrastructure and integration through the curriculum and increasing alumni engagement.

***We look forward to continuing to implement the committee's recommendations to become an even better school for current and future Crusaders!***



Pictured Above: Principal David Estes with members of the NEASC committee.





## PROUT SPOTLIGHT

# A Woman for Others



**The Mary Hoyt Scholarship Fund was established in 2015 to support our commitment to students and families to provide a high-quality Catholic education at a reasonable cost. In the last decade, we have raised \$173,542 and awarded \$104,764 in Mary Hoyt Scholarships to deserving Prout students. To donate to the Mary Hoyt Scholarship Fund: <http://bit.ly/4fopa6C>.**

To celebrate Mary Hoyt's 50 years as a teacher and guidance counselor, we asked family, friends, colleagues, and former students to share their memories of her. Mary begins her second 50 years taking on a new role as Director of Academic Achievement. In this role, she will be working with students, faculty and the administration to develop each

students gifts to their highest potential.

What follows are just a few of the many stories' admirers shared about their beloved Miss Hoyt, a woman for others.

### **She Goes Above and Beyond**

Mary and I worked together for 34 years until my retirement 14 years ago. Mary's dedication and love of her profession and students have kept her at Prout. She is very skilled at helping and encouraging students to develop their strengths. Mary goes above and beyond in helping Prout students and offering guidance to others. (*Louise Pearson, Former Longtime Prout Assistant Principal*)

Ms. Hoyt makes sure each student has a chance to meet with her and makes herself available for any questions

**“ Mary is the closest version of a selfless person I've ever known.**

– Kendra Capalbo, 94

students may have. At the end of my college process Ms. Hoyt helped me feel confident in my decision to attend Fairfield University next fall. (*McKenzie Moniz, '25*)

### **She would listen and trust my judgment.**

Mary is a woman of soft strength and dedication. She made me feel seen and valued. She saw the essence of who I

**“ Mary's example demonstrates that we can lead amazing and consequential lives when we dedicate our time to something larger than ourselves.**

– David Estes, Principal,  
The Prout School

was meant to become long before I could fathom it myself. She never pushed; she simply inspired. Mary is the closest version of a selfless person I've ever known. (*Kendra Capalbo '94*)





**“Mary taught me to write, to love literature, and to think critically. She taught me that I had a mind.**

– Donna Freitas '90

### Almost any time someone mentions Prout to me, Mary's name comes up.

Ms. Hoyt heard and examined every question and concern I had about colleges, and she truly refused to not find the answer. Multiple times through the application process we ended up actually calling the college's financial departments to answer some of these questions. At times, I would feel guilty for how long these meetings were taking, which is why it is so impressive that she put in that same effort for all of my classmates as well. (*Cole Weathers '25*)

Mary was an invaluable resource to me when my older girls prepared to go to college. Now, my youngest is at Prout, and Mary is her counselor.

Mary is selfless, kind, and smart. She works a lot and always makes herself available to meet with parents and kids, even at night or in the summer! She knows everything about the college admissions process and assists the students with essay writing, applying for scholarships, and completing applications.

Almost anytime someone mentions Prout to me, Mary's name comes up. I feel so proud of the reputation she has built over the past 50 years in this community. (*Sharon Hoyt Martin, Prout Parent and Mary's family member*)

### She helped me develop confidence in myself.

Mary had an enormous influence on my education and on who I am today. When

my AP math class with Mrs. Lewis conflicted with AP English, Miss Hoyt arranged an independent study for me. Together, we read so many novels. Mary taught me to write, to love literature, and to think critically. She taught me that I had a mind. Mary also worked with me on my applications to Georgetown, and somehow, I got in.

I'm now a full-time writer with more than 25 books in print, most of them novels. I trace so much of who I am now back to Miss Hoyt. She showed me she has faith in me as a thinker, a reader, and a writer. She helped me develop confidence in myself as an intellectual. Miss Hoyt challenged me and my ideas. She pushed me so hard — in the best way. (*Donna Freitas '90*)

### A lesson in how God walks beside us.

Mary allows students and their parents to express their feelings and hopes about their next step in life. Her shepherding generations of Prout families through the college application process reinforces our school's mission and message: that every child is a child of God who deserves all our attention and respect as they prepare for their future.

Mary's abiding interest in improving her craft and sharing her knowledge with her fellow educators is infectious. In her current role as co-chair of our re-accreditation efforts, her incisive views will help us to improve the fulfillment of our mission and take our holistic development of students to even higher levels of quality.

Mary is the most dedicated and humble educator I have ever known. It is an honor to serve this school community alongside Mary Hoyt. (*Dave Estes, Principal*)



Pictured Opposite Page Top: Mary Hoyt with parent and relative, Sharon Hoyt Martin; Middle Left: Mary Hoyt in her early years at Prout; Bottom Right: Mary Hoyt with a 2025–2026 scholarship recipient, Natalie McMahon; Pictured This Page Top: Mary Hoyt and Bishop Bruce; Pictured This Page Bottom: Mary Hoyt's College Wall.





At The Prout School, we believe in the power of inclusion and the value of every student. Our Inspire Program is designed to welcome students with intellectual disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and developmental disabilities into our vibrant school community.

The Inspire Program provides an inclusive, modified curriculum tailored to meet each student's unique needs. With specialized instruction and dedicated mentors, we aim to ensure every student is supported and empowered to thrive academically, socially, and spiritually.

During the first full year of the Inspire Program, more than 20 students signed up to be mentors.

"I've learned the importance of patience and kindness - both for myself and others. Everyone learns and lives life so differently and it's important to understand and have patience for that," said Lexie Boisclair, Class of '26.

Prout is committed to creating a school environment where everyone feels valued and has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

# Inspiring Inclusion:

*Prout Fosters a Welcoming Community for All*

Pictured Top: Inspire mentors receive t-shirts and certificates.

Pictured Bottom: Natalie McMahon and Lexie Boisclair have a protein shake.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## 1970s

After retiring as a career educator, **Mary Paolino '73** found a second calling as an actor. She has appeared in regional commercials, numerous plays, and in many movies and TV shows for such platforms as Netflix and the Oxygen Network.

**Jass Pelland '73** works at Rutgers University Behavioral Health System as a Program Manager in the Community Support department. She also serves on the Professional Advisory Committee to the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Substance abuse and is a Board Member on the New Jersey Coalition for Addiction Recovery Support. She writes, "I am a person in long term recovery for over 38 years, which in part has fueled my passion for my work and helped me see the values that I learned at Prout that I could not appreciate then."

Now retired, **Sandra Coletta '76** had an impressive career in the hospital industry. She was formerly the President of Kent Hospital, Chief Operating Officer of the Miriam Hospital and was Executive Vice President at Care New England. She has three children and three grandchildren. She resides in Narragansett and enjoys driving by Prout!

## 1980s

**Lillian Boucher '88** writes, "I have been a community pharmacist in Maine for many years. (We) have raised 2 sons, both of whom are engineers, but most importantly, became grandparents for the first and second time this past year! I still think about my time at Prout fondly and am still very close with (my) high school best friend."

**Lisa Kelley '88** lives in California and has been working in Biotech for almost 30 years. She writes, "I appreciate the excellent science foundation which Prout offered when I was there!"

## 2000s

**Maria (Shanahan) Cappello '08** works as a speech-language pathologist for the Hawaii Department of Education and lives on the island of Kaua'i with her husband and dog.

## 2010s

**Emily Caswell '11** writes, "I live and work in New York City as a Special Investigator for the NYC Department of Investigation, which has been my dream job since I was a child!"

**Rebecca (Spencer) Winslow '11** is now married with three girls. I have been a K-2 Highly Specialized Self-Contained teacher for 9 years at Emma. G Whiteknact Elementary School in East Providence, R.I.

**Matthew Peacock '13** is working in Private Equity fundraising at KKR in New York and recently got married in Georgia to wife Bailey Peacock in May 2024.

**Kaitlin Slattery '18** is currently working on her PhD in Cancer Biology via a Graduate Partnership Program with Georgetown University and the National Institutes of Health.

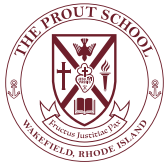
**If you are interested in helping to plan our next alumni pop up event, ready to plan your class reunion, or interested in sharing your career path on our annual career panel, contact our Alumni Director, Seana Edwards at [sedwards@theproutschool.org](mailto:sedwards@theproutschool.org).**



## Celebrating Our Alumni

Pictured Above: (1) Class of 2024 Reunion; (2) Thank you to the alumni who joined us to share their gifts at our annual Alumni Career Day; (3) Generations of Prout Excellence: Sam Grosso (Kate Reilly, Class of 1989) Lawson O'Hearn (dad Seth O'Hearn, Class of 1994), Ava Paolini (Stephanie (Chaffee) Paolino, Class of 1988); (4) Class of 2000 Reunion; (5) Class of 1974 Reunion;; (6) Class of 2005 Reunion; (7) 1990's Alumni Pop Up Reunion.





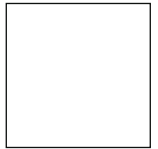
# The Prout School

*A Catholic, Diocesan, Coeducational,  
College-preparatory High School*

4640 Tower Hill Road

Wakefield, Rhode Island 02879

(401) 789-9262 | [www.theproutschool.org](http://www.theproutschool.org)



## 25|26 SAVE THE DATES

### AUGUST 2025

- 25 Freshmen Field Day
- 27 Orientation for  
Freshmen/Transfers
- 28 First Day of classes

### SEPTEMBER 2025

- 17 Parent Social -  
*Dunes Club*
- 25 Back to School Night

### OCTOBER 2025

- 3 Coffee House
- 4 Homecoming
- 14-19 Spirit Week
- 19 Open House 1-4pm
- 28 Open House 6-8pm

### NOVEMBER 2025

- 7-8 Fall Theater  
Production – *The One  
Act Play that Goes Wrong*

### DECEMBER 2025

- 5-6 Nutcracker
- 12 Winter Concert

### JANUARY 2026

- 29 Art Show
- 30 IB Art Show

### MARCH 2026

- 12 Spring Celebration  
– *The Towers*

### APRIL 2026

- 10-11 Spring Theater  
Production –  
*Into the Woods*

### MAY 2026

- 8 Spring Concert
- 21 Arts Gala

### JUNE 2026

- 5 Baccalaureate Mass
- 6 Graduation Cathedral  
of Saint Peter and Paul

