

BERGEN CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL

# WELCOME



Dear Prospective Families,

We are excited to share with you the Bergen Catholic Difference and provide you with insight into how our programs help young men become Christian gentlemen. Founded and staffed by the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers, we are a faith-based school offering service programs that balance our academic life at Bergen Catholic. There are numerous rewarding mission and community-based service programs that help bring students closers to their faith and further understand the teachings of our founder, Blessed Edmund Rice, and the Essential Elements that help guide us and prepare us for life.

At Bergen Catholic, we are committed to teaching good manners and etiquette and expect our young man to learn the importance of being polite and treating each other fairly. We also expect our young men to treat others with respect and learn the importance of giving back in an effort to help those less fortunate. Our rigorous academic programs challenge students in all areas and help them reach their potential. We offer 20 Advanced Placement courses and have partnered with local universities to offer over 29 dual enrollment courses. These courses give students the opportunity to earn college-level credit while in high school. Our teachers continue to lead the way and I remain impressed by their dedication and decades of service to Bergen Catholic.

Our Crusader College Counseling Experience is truly unmatched. This college placement program begins in grade 9 and we partner with families to ensure that students are on the best track to maximize college acceptances and merit-based scholarship offers. We continue to enjoy multiple acceptances to top colleges throughout the US and receive record levels of merit-based scholarship awarded to members of the senior class.

One of the greatest opportunities at Bergen Catholic is for all students to be part of the Brotherhood. With over 700 students on campus and more than 12,000 alumni, our community is focused on ensuring we are all successful in high school, accepted to great colleges, positioned well for internship opportunities, and ready to launch a rewarding and fulfilling career in the workforce. Every day is a great day to be a Crusader! Thank you for joining us and we look forward to taking the journey with you and your family. May God bless you and keep you safe.

Deus Vult,

Dr. Brian S. Mahoney, President

# Colleges Love Bergen Catholic Students



## THE VALUE OF A BERGEN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Bergen Catholic is first and foremost a Catholic college preparatory school. Everything we do is with the goal of preparing our young men to be leaders in college and beyond.

The curriculum is rigorous. Students are required to take a minimum of 140 credits in order to graduate. They are offered 20 AP classes and are taught by a dedicated faculty, 75% of whom hold a Masters degree or PhD.

The students are men of various faiths. All we do at Bergen Catholic begins with prayer, and while all students are exposed to Catholic religious education, our students' various faiths allow us all to examine our relationship with our creator together.

The individual's talent is cultivated. Whether it is in the classroom, on the stage or field, or in service to others, students are provided with opportunities to explore and grow in their own unique direction.

It is no wonder the most prestigious colleges and universities in the United States and abroad annually compete for Bergen Catholic students.

THE CLASS OF 2023  
RECEIVED \$37.2 MILLION  
IN SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND GRANTS

## CLASS OF 2023 — COLLEGES ATTENDING

Arizona State University	New York University
Bates College	The University of
Boston College	North Carolina
Brown University	at Chapel Hill
Bucknell University	Northeastern University
Cabrini University	Northwestern University
Champlain College	University of
Clemson University	Notre Dame
Colgate University	Oberlin College
University of Colorado	Palm Beach Atlantic
Columbia University	University
University of	Pennsylvania State
Connecticut	University
Dartmouth College	University of Pittsburgh
University of Delaware	Princeton University
Denison University	Purdue University
Dickinson College	Quinnipiac University
Drew University	Ramapo College
Drexel University	of New Jersey
Duke University	Rensselaer Polytechnic
Elon University	Institute
Fairfield University	University of
Florida Atlantic	Rhode Island
University	Rider University
Florida Gulf Coast	Rowan University
University	Rutgers University
Florida International	Sacred Heart
University	University
University of Florida	Saint Elizabeth
Fordham University	University
Franklin and	Saint Vincent College
Marshall College	Santa Clara University
Georgetown University	University of Scranton
Hamilton College	Seton Hall University
Harvard University	University of
High Point University	South Carolina
Hillsdale College	University of Southern
Hofstra University	California
College of the	Springfield College
Holy Cross	St. John's University
Howard University	Stevens Institute
Indiana University	of Technology
Iona University	Stonehill College
James Madison	SUNY College at Oswego
University	Syracuse University
Johns Hopkins	The University of Tampa
University	The University of
Johnson & Wales	Tennessee
University	The University of Texas
KAIST (Korea Advanced	Culinary Institute
Institute of Science	of America
& Technology)	The George Washington
University of	University
Kentucky	Ohio State University
Lafayette College	Trinity College
Leeds University	Tulane University
England	of Louisiana
Lehigh University	United States
Loyola University	Naval Academy
Manhattan College	University of Glasgow
Marist College	Vanderbilt University
University of Maryland	Villanova University
Merrimack College	Virginia Tech
University of Miami	University of Virginia
University of Michigan	Wake Forest University
University of Mississippi	Washington College
Morgan State University	Wilkes University
Muhlenberg College	William & Mary
University of	University of Wisconsin
New Hampshire	Worcester Polytechnic
The College of	Institute
New Jersey	Yale University



# HOW TO BECOME A CRUSADER

“

I'll never forget the day he said, "Mom, thank you so much for allowing me to go to this school." I was elated. It is the academic excellence that impresses me the most. My son often comes home from school with thought-provoking ideas he is eager to share. BC has also shown my son the importance of applying his faith to everyday life.

*Darcia DePasquale  
AP '22*

Bergen Catholic academics, athletics and extra-curricular activities are synonymous with excellence at a national level. Yet it is the "Brotherhood" that sets BC apart from any other boys' high school in the nation.

The BC culture, fostered by truly outstanding administrators and faculty, instills Christian values that shape young boys into strong-willed men; leaders with faith in God and compassion towards mankind. It leads to a lifetime of friendship among classmates; classmates that have the competitive drive to succeed, balanced with a spirited sense of service to others.

The Bergen Catholic experience is one-of-a-kind. Our five sons have loved it. We have loved it. Deus Vult!!

*Pam and Guy Talarico  
AP '08, '10, '15, '18, and '21*



## EIGHTH GRADERS

1. Participate in a Shadow Day or admissions event.
2. Register and sit for the HSPT Exam.
3. Submit the Ninth Grade Applicant Record Form found on Bergen Catholic Website (online or by email).
4. Submit Financial Assistance Application (optional).

## TRANSFER AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

1. Please call Admissions at 201.261.1844.
2. All applicants must disclose transcripts before interview and be in good academic standing at their current school.
4. Timing of transfer is based on availability and individual circumstances.

## SEVENTH/SIXTH GRADERS

1. Attend an Open House.
2. Attend Crusader for a Day in the spring of seventh grade.
3. Attend BC Lead On program in July.
4. As rising eighth graders, take HSPT Prep Course at Bergen Catholic.

## SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Bergen Catholic is one of the leading academic institutions in the region. In order to remain at the forefront of education, we constantly challenge ourselves to introduce innovative programs that will enhance our student experience and provide them with an advantage over other college applicants.



### MOCK TRIAL

The Mock Trial program is designed to increase understanding of the historical, ethical, and philosophical basis of the American system of justice. By participating, students will improve their critical analysis, listening, speaking, writing, and reading skills.



### BUSINESS & FINANCE

In a 21st Century learning environment, our students have the opportunity to learn about different forms of business including general finance, entrepreneurship, economics, investing, and trading. Students are also able to put their knowledge to work in a practical setting through our investment and finance club.



### HOLY NAME HONORS RESEARCH

This two part program gives our students the unique opportunity to learn and perform college level research while also participating in real world experience through their internship at Holy Name Medical Center.



### STEM & ROBOTICS

The STREAM program is unique, not because it calls for students to combine mathematics with analytical tools of science and engineering, aided by technology, but is rooted in the belief that, through religion, one comes to understand the full impact on our society.



### CRUSADER COUNSELING PROGRAM

Beginning in the freshman year and through their senior year, students receive an excellent college preparatory education and individual guidance in the search for, application to, and selection of the right college or university for each of them.



### DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual enrollment courses offer students the opportunity to earn college credits for selected courses taken at Bergen Catholic. Our school has participated in Seton Hall's Project Acceleration program for nearly 30 years. We are expanding our offerings with Seton Hall as well as partnering with Iona College, University of Delaware for Entrepreneurship and Bergen Community College for Music.





## CLASSROOM AND BEYOND

The college preparatory curriculum is challenging and requires 140 credits in order to graduate. We currently offer 20 Advanced Placement classes. These courses are available for students starting in their sophomore year. In addition, we offer over 40 honors and high honors level courses in all content areas.

If a course is not offered on campus, our partnership with online programs, Virtual High School and Educere, enables us to offer special higher level academic courses. These courses are taught by state-certified teachers who are masters at presenting and assessing on-line programs.

Please visit [www.bergencatholic.org](http://www.bergencatholic.org) for more information.



### SERVICE

The foundation of a Bergen Catholic education is to follow the Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brothers education. Students at Bergen Catholic live these out through service to others, especially through solidarity with the poor and marginalized. Each student at Bergen Catholic is required to perform 60 hours of service, with the majority of our students performing over 100 hours of service throughout their four years. Students are encouraged to seek service opportunities outside of the Bergen Catholic community. Students also have the opportunity to participate in programs and activities such as Operation Smile, Covenant House, and Crusaders Against Cancer to help those in need in our community. Students have the opportunity to participate in two different immersion experiences, where they take the lessons they learn, as well as their talents and abilities, to Brownsville, Texas and Lima, Peru to build homes for those less fortunate.



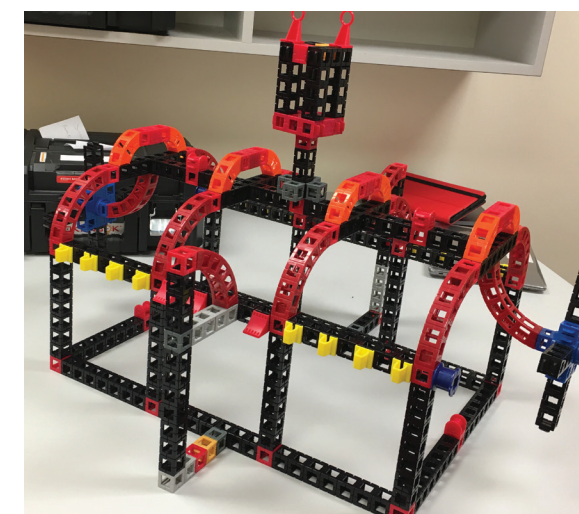
### BUSINESS & FINANCE

Today's students are connected to the world and are asked to lead in a global manner like never before. Bergen Catholic continues to be on the cutting edge of programming as our students have the opportunity to work in real business settings. Through our curriculum, students have to learn foundations of business; specifically in finance, economics, and entrepreneurship. Students further their learning with practical opportunities in our finance and investing club, working with BC alumni, bringing Wall Street to Bergen Catholic.



### STEM & ROBOTICS

Through engaging hands-on projects, students are encouraged to develop both real life problem solving, reasoning and critical thinking skills while fostering their creativity. They will be designing, building and programming their own robot as they learn important STEM principles and basic robotics concepts. These skills will enable students to be developers of innovative new technology.





# ACTIVITIES AND CLUBS



Bergen Catholic offers a wide variety of activities and clubs to our students. An Activity Period is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday of each week so that students who travel to school by bus may have an opportunity to participate and still have a ride home.

Students are able to have a substantial impact on these activities; each year, a number of activities are added or dropped according to student interest.

Some of our athletic programs have grown from intramural clubs to become interscholastic sports. Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) consistently has one of the largest representations as the students travel to Fall, Winter, and Spring State Conventions.

With more than 40 clubs and activities, Bergen Catholic is certainly the place to be involved.

**Performance Clubs**

- Chorus
- Drama Club
- Jazz Ensemble
- Orchestra

**Religious and Service Clubs**

- Crusaders Against Cancer
- Crusaders for Christian Action
- Eucharistic Ministry
- Midnight Run
- Operation Smile
- Peer Ministry
- Peer Tutoring
- Tomorrow’s Children
- USO

**Competitive Clubs**

- Chess Team and Club
- Math Team and Club
- Mock Trial
- Robotics Team and Club I

**Student Political Clubs**

- Junior Statesmen of America
- Student Government

**Publications**

- The Crusader (yearbook)
- The Herald (newspaper)

**Intramural Athletics**

- Br. Beyer Basketball League

**Other Clubs**

- Architecture Club
- Art Club
- BCTV/Film Production
- Birding Crusaders
- Driver’s Education
- Enrichment Labs
- Green Club
- Photography Club
- Rendine’s Acitvity
- Ski Club
- Stock Market Club
- World Language/Diversity Club

# INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS

Everyone can find an opportunity to participate in Bergen Catholic’s athletic program. The program is designed to encourage a lifelong commitment to one’s physical health and plays an important role in the school’s mission to educate the whole person. Our interscholastic teams regularly compete for league, county, and state championships in 15 sports. Both the interscholastic and intramural programs encourage students to build friendships through healthy competition.

The athletic program also serves to help build community in the school. Classmates take great pride in seeing their friends compete and succeed athletically. Nothing is more exciting than seeing the Crusaders compete against some of their top rivals. The atmosphere is absolutely electric and a “must” for any high school sports enthusiast.

Some of the closest friendships that develop are among the parents who cheer on their sons and participate in booster clubs. BC is the type of school where you can always feel welcome. Perhaps that is why so many alumni and alumni parents are regulars at our athletic events. BC is the place to be for the scholar athlete and his family.



INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS		
FALL SPORTS		
Cross Country	Football	Soccer
WINTER SPORTS		
Basketball	Indoor Track	Wrestling
Bowling	Skiing	
Ice Hockey	Swimming	
SPRING SPORTS		
Baseball	Lacrosse	Volleyball
Crew	Outdoor Track	Tennis
Golf	Rugby	



## CELEBRATING THE ARTS



The Performing Arts Department at Bergen Catholic continues to raise the cultural awareness and esteem of the arts by providing our students with meaningful experiences and numerous opportunities for public performance. The department continues to showcase the talents of the young men involved in our Vocal Ensemble, Jazz Band and Chamber Ensemble, not only within the school community, but throughout the community at large.

The Men's Vocal Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble have been awarded 1st place honors and a superior rating at the Festivals of Music competition in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Our Chamber Ensemble is our newest Performing Arts organization and is directed by renowned bassist, Charles Dougherty, an alumnus of Bergen Catholic.



This rapidly growing performing group is open to all string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists. All three ensembles offer juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn 1 college credit per year through a Dual Enrollment Program with Bergen County Community College.

The TRI M National Music Honor Society was established at Bergen Catholic during the 2013-2014 academic year. The Society now boasts 25 members and offers our musicians opportunities for service and leadership.

The Visual Arts Program provides a three-year art curriculum. It includes one year General Studio course and two years AP 2D Art and Design Art Program where motivated and talented students create and submit college admission-level portfolios for potential college credits. The latest art program addition is Adobe Creative Cloud and digital art and graphic design for AP art students next to painting and drawing. All students in the program are members of the National Art Honor Society.



### ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Students are considered for Presidential Scholarships based on 2 factors: Their final 7th grade transcript, and place in the 85th percentile or higher on the HSPT Exam.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Bergen Catholic has chosen to use TADS — [www.mytads.com](http://www.mytads.com) — for review of financial aid applications and integration with the application, enrollment, and tuition payments processes. The portal to BC applications will be open approximately mid-October 2023.

All assistance is distributed on the basis of demonstrated need. All information must be received by TADS no later than December 4, 2023. The application is online and will prompt you with the documents required for uploading. The application, your most recent (2022) taxes and all of the related schedules, a copy of your W-2 and/or 1099, and a letter with any unusual circumstances outlined, if any, should all be uploaded directly to their site. If parents are separated, divorced, and/or remarried, we expect all parents and step-parents to apply for the student.

Due to the volume of financial assistance requests and time involved to process these requests, information WILL NOT be accepted after the deadline. PLEASE ADHERE TO THE DEADLINES YOU SEE ON THE TADS WEBSITE. Any missing information will render the application incomplete and no financial aid will be distributed.

Class of 2028: Financial assistance for those who complete requirements and are accepted will receive awards in their acceptance letter.

### TRANSPORTATION

Please call the main office at 201.261.1844 and ask for transportation.

“

The Brotherhood is evident from Day 1 and continues long after graduation. Brothers helping Brothers extends to the 12,000+ plus alumni who are there to help each other.



# THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER (SSC)



The Student Success Center (SSC) at Bergen Catholic offers students who have mild learning differences support and resources to develop organizational, study, reading and writing skills necessary to be successful in high school and college. The SSC is staffed by a special education teacher, a reading specialist and a math specialist who meet students' educational needs through individualized approaches and strategies via small groups and one on one instruction. Students attend the SSC period 3 out of the 7 day cycle, in place of physical education.

The Student Success Center period is only available to students who have a documented learning difference, through a 504, Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individual Service Plan (ISP). Students who do not meet the requirements, but who want to take advantage of what the SSC has to offer, are welcome to select the SSC for their activity period(s).

Please contact Ms. Elisabeth Walter if you have any questions about your son's eligibility at [ewalter@bergencatholic.org](mailto:ewalter@bergencatholic.org).

Accommodations may be available for students with documented learning differences:

1. Extended time on tests/quizzes
2. Preferential Seating
3. Student Success Center class 3 days out of the 7 day cycle



“The Student Success Center gives students the necessary tools and resources to be as successful as they can be.”



## PARTNERSHIP WITH HOLY NAME HOSPITAL

The Bergen Catholic High School and Holy Name Medical Center partnership, within the course Honors Research, encompasses two main learning experiences, pedagogical and clinical, with the goal of recognizing the crucial relationship between the two.

The Honors Research course curriculum will ask students to navigate and explore the research process where they will question and explore, understand & analyze, evaluate multiple perspectives, synthesize ideas, and work in teams to transform and transmit ideas. The Honors Research course will be taught by BC faculty member, Mr. Brian Rendine. Mr. Rendine will instruct the students in the classroom at BC while simultaneously advising them through their research project and how it relates to their clinical experience.

Students accepted into this program will be expected to create and submit an academic paper and present an oral defence of their findings at the culmination of the course.

This is a yearlong course to be paired with the semester of assigned internship and is available to students in Grade 12, which will allow for the ability to both learn how to conduct proper research along with an acceptable amount of time for students to implement what they have learned in class and conduct their own research. The students will create a binder of resources that they will then use when conducting their research. This binder will also serve as a valuable resource for them in college. Topics that will be covered include:

**Brainstorming and Prewriting** — choosing a topic, writing a problem statement, writing a research question, evaluating sources, and identifying biases

**Research** — creating a research plan, entering the research conversation, organizing research, annotated bibliographies, and literature reviews

**Drafting** — outlining, drafting the essay, organizing the essay into sections and parts, incorporating graphs, charts, etc., incorporating and synthesizing research, documenting sources (MLA, APA, and others)

**Revising, Editing, and Proofreading** — peer editing, peer reflection, evidence of revisions and edits based on peer/self review, completion of final paper

**Development of Presentation** — reducing the paper to a presentation, identifying key points to discuss, practice presentations, peer and self-review of practice

### PREREQUISITE/COREQUISITE RECOMMENDATION

Students should have taken or should be scheduled for STEM courses such as AP/H Biology, AP/H chemistry, AP/H Physics, AP Computer Science, AP Psychology and/or AP/H Calculus.

## CRUSADER COLLEGE COUNSELING EXPERIENCE

An interactive and comprehensive approach to the College Planning process beginning in the Freshman year. Focused interaction between students and experienced counselors, integrative Parent Education Seminars, Summer Enrichment Opportunities, and various College Admission events will assist students in getting an early start in the College Planning Process.

### STUDENT INTERACTION

#### GRADE 9

College planning activities with the guidance of the College & Guidance Counseling teams will include the creation of an interactive activity & academic resume that both the student, parent and counselor can access. Counselors will introduce how to use Naviance for college planning and career goal identification purposes. Students should also begin developing goals to participate in each areas of concentration: academic, athletic or extra-curricular activities, community service based experiences and creating a dynamic summer filled with varied experiences. Counselors will meet with freshman throughout the year to ensure all college preparation goals are met.

#### GRADE 10

College preparation will resume as students continue building an outstanding academic profile that will reflect all of the student's achievements. He will be encouraged to start attending college fairs and college campus visits, take the PSATs, learn with BC teachers in an SAT/ACT prep course, participate in City as a Classroom cultural experiences, attend a Crusader Mission based summer trip, and volunteer locally in their community.

#### GRADE 11

The College Planning process comes to the forefront as Juniors take PSAT/ACT practice tests, take the SAT/ACT/SAT II, receive counseling on scores, attend Junior parent/student meetings to develop individualized list of schools to apply, participate in AP testing program, attend college open houses, attend the JET tour at BC, attend the BC sponsored College Bus Tour, College Admission Panel and organized College Fairs.

#### GRADE 12

College application process assistance will be provided to all students by way of creating, preparing and sending Common and Coalition applications, assisting with teacher recommendation letter procurement, resume building, college application essay, and supplementary application completion.

# 100%

College Placement  
Rate of  
Bergen Catholic  
Students

# \$37.2

Million in  
Merit-Based  
Scholarships & Grants  
for Class of '23

# 91%

of Class of '23  
students received  
Scholarships & Grants



# ALMA MATER

Lead on Bergen Catholic High  
Lift our Banner to the sky  
Sons of scarlet – sons of gold  
In honor – brave and bold

"B" for bravery without guile  
"C" for Catholics all the while  
"H" for hearts until we're old  
"S" for scarlet tinged with gold

Honor bound we'll always be  
Filled with real sincerity  
Alma Mater with all pride  
Is Bergen Catholic High

Music & Lyrics by Mr. James J. Obrotka

## MISSION STATEMENT

Bergen Catholic High School is a diverse,  
Catholic community, which prepares young men to become dynamic global leaders  
by deepening religious faith, developing academic excellence, and strengthening  
social consciousness and responsibility in accordance with the  
Essential Elements of an Edmund Rice Christian Brother Education.



## BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Founded and staffed by the Edmund Rice Christian Brothers  
1040 Oradell Avenue, Oradell, New Jersey 07649  
P: 201.261.1844 [www.bergencatholic.org](http://www.bergencatholic.org)