

June 2025



SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR *Special Needs*

Four Students Graduate from Saint Catherine Academy



It was a day of pride and celebration at Saint Catherine Academy as four students—Bradley, Nyah, Keona, and Philip—received their certificates during a special graduation Mass held on Tuesday, June 10.

Surrounded by family, friends, staff, and community members, the students were honored not only for their academic and personal growth but also for the spirit and determination they have brought to the school community.

The liturgy was celebrated by Monsignor Robert Weiss, Saint Catherine Center board member and retired pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Newtown. The students participated by delivering the readings, offering the petitions, and participating in the offertory procession.



“God loves us for the person He made us to be,” Monsignor Weiss said in his homily. “That is why today is so special, because we are honoring four young people who God made in very special ways. Everyone who knows them knows the difference they make in the lives of all the people they meet, so let’s celebrate them and pray they will continue to bring light and happiness to this world.”

Stacie Stueber, Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Bridgeport, conferred the certificates, as smiles and applause filled the church. The graduates then each offered brief remarks, thanking their families, teachers, and classmates for their support.



The celebration continued with a reception in the gym where guests enjoyed lunch, shared stories, and cut the graduation cakes.

“We want to congratulate our graduates,” said Sr. Cheryl Driscoll, RSM, and Sr. Maureen Ulatowski, SSND, Academy teachers. “It has truly been a blessing to watch the students grow in their faith, academics, and independence. They have brought us so much joy, and we are so very proud of them.”



Congratulations Bradley, Nyah, Keona, and

Morgan Stanley Volunteers Help the Center Bloom

Spring at Saint Catherine Center is a season of growth, community, and meaningful connections, thanks to the volunteers from Morgan Stanley who joined our young adults in the Center's gardens for their annual community service day.

The team helped prepare our outdoor spaces for the season. They rolled up their sleeves and worked alongside our young adults as they weeded, turned the soil, and planted vegetables and herbs in the raised garden beds.

The Morgan Stanley volunteers took the time to engage with our participants, offering guidance and encouragement. There was a sense of partnership that fostered a shared accomplishment. "Many of the volunteers have come back year after year, and they have formed connections with our community. We are grateful for their time and support," said Laura Grozier, Executive Director.

As we move into the warmer months, we look forward to spending more time outdoors—whether it's enjoying walks, reading in the courtyard, or watching our newly planted gardens thrive.



Students Honor Mary in May Crowning Ceremony



Saint Catherine Academy held its annual crowning of the Blessed Mother during a special prayer service in early May. The ceremony was led by Sr. Cheryl Driscoll, RSM, who spoke to the students about Mary being the Mother of Jesus and being our Mother too.

Students played a role in the service, beginning with the crowning of the statue of Mary with a beautiful floral wreath. Antonio carried the crown, and Philip placed the crown on Mary's head. Anna and Jocelyn passed out fresh flowers to each student and staff member. Each person placed their flower in a vase and paused to say a special prayer to Mary.

The prayer service included songs and quiet moments for reflection. After the prayer service, students were invited to choose rosary beads to take home as a reminder that the Rosary is a special prayer to Mary. It was a beautiful way to honor Mary as the Mother of Jesus.

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