

ATTITUDE & EFFORT

IN A CHANGING WORLD



CRISTO REY
ST. MARTIN COLLEGE PREP

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

ATTITUDE

EFFORT

EMPATHY

FAITH

JUSTICE



"Our mission has never been more relevant or important.

The work we do alongside our students and their families, with our business partners and donors, is part of a long-term solution to heal racial wounds and right economic inequities. We are all children of God and therefore all part of the body of Christ."

Preston Kendall, President





Dear Friends,

Grit... Resilience... Determination... Perseverance... We frequently use these words when describing our students. Never have those qualities been more apparent than during COVID-19. These terms all infer some challenge, resistance, or even failure. You cannot persevere without opposition. You cannot demonstrate resilience until you get knocked down.

Even before the pandemic, our students faced significant hurdles. Only about 50% of young people in our community graduate high school and less than 20% graduate college. Entering remote learning in March, the educational disparity between low-income and higher-income communities became even more pronounced. While many families in Waukegan and North Chicago struggled without WiFi or tablets/laptops, students from Libertyville and Lake Forest transitioned with comparative ease.

Our local district reported less than half their students actively participated in remote learning. Cristo Rey St. Martin had 100% participation. Each year, our students take MAP tests (Measures of Academic Progress). Even with remote learning, this year's freshmen and sophomores showed greater progress than any previous classes. Similarly, more CRSM students scored 3 or better on their Advanced Placement tests than ever before. All this while our students were under heightened stress. Nearly half our parents lost their jobs in March with many families experiencing severe financial distress.

Grit... Resilience... Determination... Perseverance... Our students model behaviors we all desperately need as CRSM grapples for the next couple years with a greatly curtailed Corporate Work Study Program and its financial fallout. So much depends on our attitude and effort in times of challenge. It will be a communal effort. We are so grateful you stand with us. The need for what CRSM offers has never been greater. Thank you for your past support and for accompanying us into a new and better future together.

Sincerely,

Preston Kendall
President



Dear Friends,

Growth mindset is heard frequently in educational circles. Essentially, individuals who believe their talents can be developed through hard work, good strategies and input from others have a growth mindset. Our students are taught to believe they have greatness within them, and when their attitude remains positive and their effort is strong, their performance improves.

Of all our God-given gifts, there are two we can control: **Attitude and Effort**. Students at Cristo Rey St. Martin seem to know this implicitly. Even before COVID-19, to visit CRSM was to immerse yourself in an environment of hope, where positive attitudes and serious effort abound.

Despite finishing this school year remotely, CRSM students lived up to the challenge - finding ways to flourish in the face of adversity. Whether it was making greater academic progress, or earning college credit via Advanced Placement test results, or raising their Corporate Work Study Program performance review scores, or finding ways to speak and act on issues of social and racial justice, CRSM students succeeded beyond all expectations. COVID-19 changed many aspects of our lives, but CRSM students demonstrated they will not be dissuaded from following their dreams.

The Class of 2020 provides an excellent example. Of all the students who started 9th grade with CRSM four years ago, 92% graduated - setting a new national record for all Cristo Rey schools. Additionally, our Class of 2020 was the first in school history to have 100% accepted to one or more Bachelor's Degree programs.

These young people are truly inspiring. Thank you for supporting them in their efforts to transform their own lives and the lives of those around them, one dream at a time.

Gratefully,

Kelly McNamara Corley
Chairperson,
Board of Trustees

COLLEGE READY

"Go, set the world on fire."
St. Ignatius of Loyola



Graduation 2020

On July 24th, CRSM held its first (and hopefully last) socially distanced commencement ceremony in the parking lot of CRSM. It was a decidedly singular affair, which seemed somehow appropriate for this one-of-a-kind graduating class - a group which set new standards of excellence for future classes. As the largest graduating class in CRSM's history, they set records in graduation rate, Bachelor's Program acceptance, Work-Study performance reviews and AP scholarship. Nearly half the class earned **Illinois' Seal of Biliteracy** by earning a 4 or a 5 on the AP (Advanced Placement) language exam or by taking a state approved test.



May each of us seek 'Ever to Excel' in all we do.

Dr. Mike Odiotti, Principal

CRSM CLASS OF
2020

SETS NEW BENCHMARKS

100%
accepted to
4-year bachelor
programs
for the **first time**
in school history.

92%
Retention Rate
9th grade through
graduation highest in
CRSM history.



COLLEGE READY



Edwin Morales; CRSM '20 and Ricardo Morales; CRSM '20

The Posse Scholars

In December, the Posse Foundation announced its 2020 list of Scholars. This was an extraordinary year because **two CRSM students were chosen for scholarships**. Posse and its partner institutions believe that the key to a promising future rests on the abilities of strong leaders from diverse backgrounds to develop solutions to complex social problems.

Edwin Morales; CRSM '20 and Ricardo Morales; CRSM '20 are just beginning their journeys as leaders as they start their freshman year at **St. Olaf College** and **Connecticut College**, respectively.

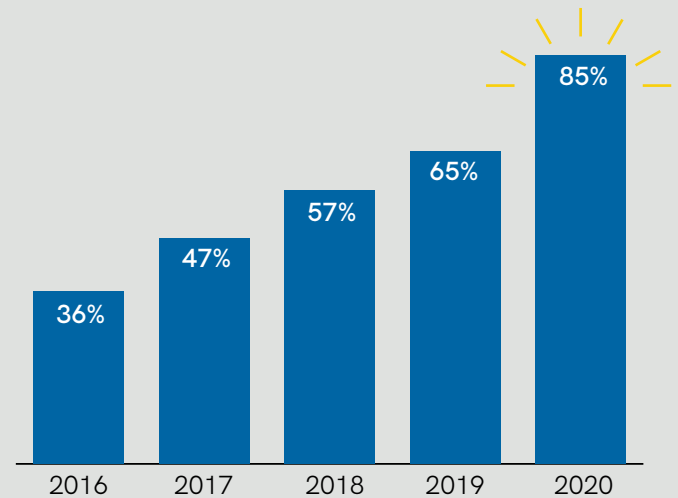


Pivoting to a hybrid learning environment

Celebrating Academic Success

- ★ CRSM 9th and 10th graders scored the highest in school history on their **MAP tests scores** (Measures of Academic Progress), despite quarantining for the last 3 months of the year.
- ★ More Cristo Rey St. Martin students scored a 3 or higher on their **Advanced Placement final exams** than ever before in the history of the school.

AP- EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE BENCHMARK



- ★ 85% of the Class of 2020 earned **AP credit** on at least one exam, achieving the best Equity and Excellence benchmark result in school history, and more than tripling the 2019 IL state average of 28%.

“

I've learned that I am the only person in charge of my learning, although it is obvious that we need our teachers to guide us through the assignments and lessons. Ultimately, I am my own teacher and have to work for my education regardless of the conditions.

Emily; CRSM '22



"We are very proud that this program significantly raised students' interest in science."

Dr. Hector Rasgado-Flores
Professor of Physiology/Biophysics
Rosalind Franklin University

WORK PREPARED

In January, six Cristo Rey students were awarded their Lab Certification from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science. They successfully completed a comprehensive, 32-hour course and now have an assessed theoretical and practical understanding of basic lab techniques including: pipetting, osmolarity, pH measurement, buffer preparation, protein measurement, electrophoresis, tissue culture and centrifugation. The certification will provide access to higher wage jobs during college and was a valuable opportunity to work with health-care professionals.



Rogerr Oliva, pictured (third from right) with his Discover coworkers

“

There was a time when people asked me where I was from; and I avoided saying Waukegan. Not anymore. I'm proud of where I come from, what I've done and where I am.

Rogerr Oliva; CRSM '13 NIU '19

A Story of True Grit

Rogerr Oliva aspired to attend Northern Illinois University since his freshman year at CRSM. But, as he proudly points out, the six-year gap between his graduation from CRSM and NIU contained some of his most valuable lessons. Describing himself as *"drifting through his first two years at CRSM,"* he remembered watching the successes of his friends and deciding that he needed to *"step up his game"*. His first break came when he was accepted into the Chance Program at NIU. Working diligently, he received honors for his high grade point average and was accepted into NIU's Business School - only to find that his interests were not in finance. Dejected because of *"so much time wasted,"* his 2nd break came when the Director of NIU's Operations Management and Information Systems recognized his abilities in technology. So, after *"starting over,"* he graduated with an Academic Excellence Award with a major in Operations & Information Management and a minor in Data Analytics. Rogerr is now at Discover Financial full time, teaching people how to work within a new framework for developing software.



WORK PREPARED

AbbVie's Corporate Work Study Partnership: A Competitive Advantage

Kaleigh Britzman is a Specialist on AbbVie's University Relations team managing one of AbbVie's U.S. Internship programs, working closely with Cristo Rey students and supervisors from both CRSM and AbbVie. We asked Kaleigh for her thoughts as an experienced trainer and program manager working with the Cristo Rey model...



Kaleigh Britzman

Highest Performance Reviews

This graph illustrates the incredible improvement the Class of 2020 made in its collective work performance over the course of four years in CWSP. Over three quarters of our recent grads received Above Average or Outstanding ratings on their first semester performance reviews, and all 102 members of the Class of 2020 scored at a satisfactory or higher level in their jobs. The overall number of students in this class who scored Above Average or higher rose over 30% from the time they were Freshmen! This is a testament to the students' grit and determination to improve in their jobs, and the incredible support they receive from their supervisors and co-workers at our business partners.



Supporting education is a cornerstone of how we serve our local communities at AbbVie. Supporting an AbbVie employee is an excellent development opportunity for CRSM students and I work with 14 teams throughout the organization that participate in the program. AbbVie is focused on developing diverse talent - providing internships and the opportunity to hire full-time, college graduates who arrive with years of AbbVie experience is one way we do this. Implementing host initiatives like this affords AbbVie a competitive advantage, encourages growth among our employees, while also providing invaluable experience for Cristo Rey students.

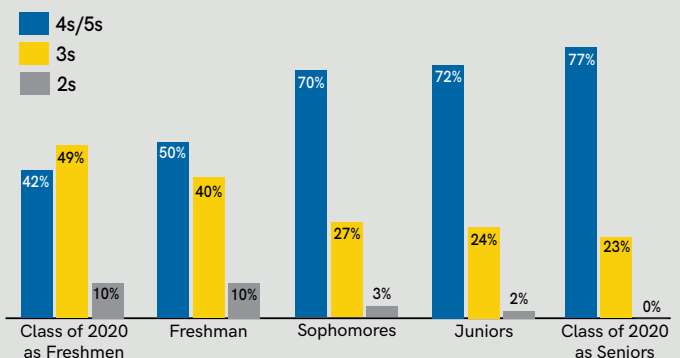
Kaleigh Britzman
Specialist, AbbVie University Relations



HIGHEST PERFORMANCE REVIEW AS A CLASS

SCORE OF 4 OR BETTER - **77%**

1ST SEMESTER PERFORMANCE REVIEW



COMMITTED TO FAITH AND JUSTICE



Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice

For the **sixth year in a row**, students from Cristo Rey St. Martin traveled to Washington, D.C. to join over 2000 students on Capitol Hill to hear from internationally renowned speakers, pray, network, and advocate for justice. Now in its 22nd year, the annual Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice is the **largest annual Catholic social justice gathering in the United States**.

In advance of the trip, Mr. Jon Taus (AP Government Teacher) held weekly sessions with students to prepare them for a meeting at the office of **U.S. Representative for Illinois' 10th congressional district, Brad Schneider**. They decided to focus their legislative advocacy on the flooding and air pollution issues near the Cristo Rey St. Martin Campus.

Several months later, Congressman Schneider followed up on the meeting in D.C. and visited CRSM to teach an AP Government class and discuss the environmental issues that were presented to his office.



Broadview Prayer Vigil

Every month, for ten years CRSM students and staff have set out at 5:00 am to travel from Waukegan to the Broadview Immigration Detention Center on the west side of Chicago. They gather with other groups in prayer and solidarity with the immigrant families being separated from their loved ones who are being deported. Those gathered pray the rosary and stand as witnesses to the injustices of a dysfunctional immigration system.

“

It was very fulfilling for me to know that I formed a part of voicing issues in my community at a higher level. It showed me that we can all be heard and reach out to our government and hold them accountable.

Ada Rios; CRSM '20, Hope College '24



Pierre Edmonds, CRSM Dean of Students and Methodist Pastor presides over annual MLK prayer service.



COMMITTED TO FAITH AND JUSTICE

On Saturday, Nov. 16th, in celebration of St. Martin de Porres and all he stood for, over 100 CRSM students, staff and family members joined together to pack food for **Rise Against Hunger** to assist in their efforts to end global hunger.



Cassandra Abarca

Commitment and Time Management

CRSM alumni Cassandra Abarca was recently selected as a **Newman Fellow**, one of only 290 across the country and the only one submitted and selected from Alverno College. The **Newman Civic Fellowship** recognizes and supports community-committed students who are changemakers and public problem-solvers.

Cassie was chosen for this prestigious honor in part, because of her work on Milwaukee's severe redlining issues. During her time at CRSM, she was Secretary of the Student Ambassador Program,

“

The grit that Dr. Odiotti always speaks about - means to commit. And that, along with good time management, will lead to success.

Cassandra; CRSM '18, Alverno College '22

heavily involved with Campus Ministry's volunteer programs and worked all four years in **Discover's Legal Department** for her CWSP assignment. As a double major in Business and Spanish at Alverno, Cassandra is taking on leadership roles in several organizations, including the Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee and will expand her work as a Newman Fellow on the problems of redlining in Milwaukee.

COMMUNITY IMPACT



La Fondita Restaurant, owned and operated by the Jimenez family ready to deliver Mother's Day meals to local families. Pictured above: Uriel Jimenez, CRSM '14, Brisel Jimenez, CRSM '15 and Mrs. Jimenez with a fellow employee.

CRSM and Big Shoulders Fund Partner Against Food Insecurity

Since COVID-19 began spreading throughout northern Illinois, CRSM has been working to mitigate the devastating effects that food insecurity is having on the families of Cristo Rey St. Martin and the surrounding communities.

CRSM is thankful to have been a part of a Big Shoulders' emergency initiative which set the table for a win-win; serving thousands of dinners to families in need and providing Cristo Rey family owned restaurants with much needed operating capital.

Job loss numbers have been extremely high within Cristo Rey families. Beginning in March and running through June, CRSM faculty and staff distributed as many as 350 breakfasts and lunches per week to our CRSM families.



COMMUNITY IMPACT



CRAIN'S
CHICAGO BUSINESS.

The 12 Coolest Offices In Chicago

Chosen as a 2019 winner, CRSM's campus is now a colorful showpiece for the community. Juan Gabriel Moreno Architects converted the former Kmart store, infusing the space with youthful energy – maximizing visibility and communication with glass walls, skylights and impossibly high ceilings that set a literal "sky's the limit" example for students.

"Classroom activity can be seen from the hallways through glass walls. Everything is on one floor, which makes inter-classroom communications extra convenient. All in all, it was a huge design challenge achieved by light, color and thoughtful space-planning," said judge Richard Wright.

"Our space defies expectations in the same way our students defy society's expectations," said Preston Kendall, the school's president.

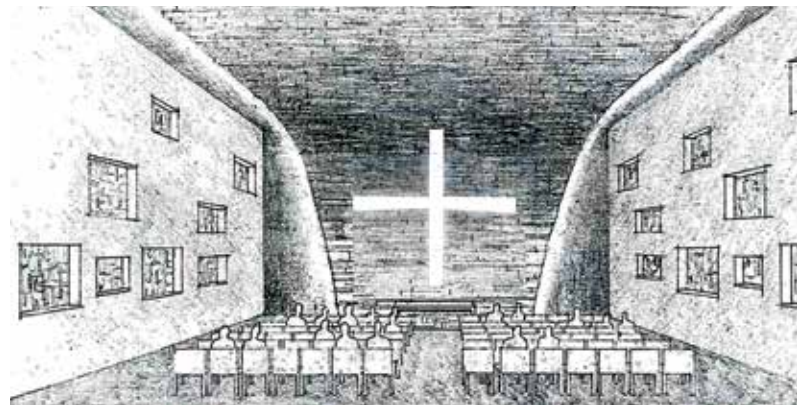
Phase 2 Construction Nearing Completion

While Phase 1 filled the basic needs for running a high school, Phase 2 will provide critical spaces necessary to support CRSM students with a rich, well-rounded curriculum. The addition of a gym, men's and women's locker rooms, and a fitness center will give our students access to the recognized benefits of physical fitness and participation in team sports.



Additional classrooms will offer more space for STEAM related curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, Mathematics) as laboratory spaces are already at maximum usage. The addition of a Campus Ministry Chapel will provide the CRSM student body, which is heavily involved in service and volunteering opportunities, with an appropriate space in which to meet and reflect on their role as faith leaders in their communities.

We look forward to opening our new spaces next Spring!



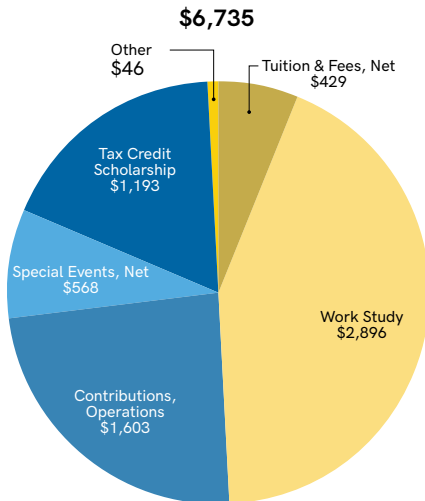
OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES

Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep, CRSM Work Study, and CRSM Support Corporation

For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

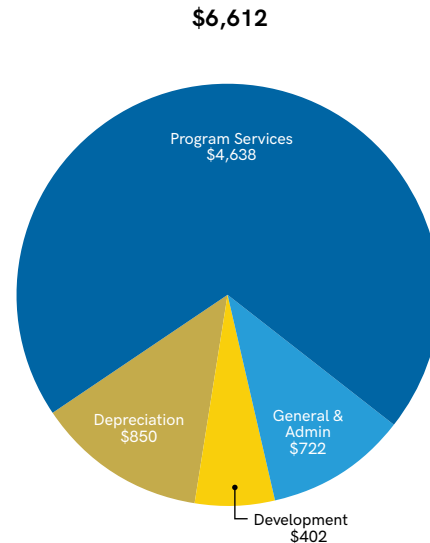
\$ in thousands

OPERATING REVENUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS



Fiscal 2020 Cornerstone Contributions are not included above and were \$3,260 (in thousands)

OPERATING EXPENSES



Fiscal 2020 Capital Expenditures are not included above and were \$3,706 (in thousands)

Note on the Cornerstone Campaign

Since 2015, Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep has been raising funds for its Cornerstone Campaign, designed to finance the acquisition and construction of a new campus and operational needs. The second phase of the Campaign includes funding a gymnasium with stage, locker rooms, fitness center, chapel, additional classrooms and teacher collaboration space. Construction on Phase 2 began in February 2020 and is scheduled to be completed in March 2021.

Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship Program Contributions

The IL Tax Credit Scholarship Program allows individuals and corporations to donate to qualified Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) and **receive a straight credit on their IL state taxes of 75% of the value of the donation**. Empower Illinois and The Big Shoulders Fund are SGOs approved by the IL Department of Revenue and operating in Lake County. When making your scholarship donation through one of these SGOs, you can specifically designate that your donation will benefit Cristo Rey St. Martin students. One of our Development Team members will be happy to walk you through the process and answer your questions.

For more information on this program and how you can take advantage of it, please visit our website at: <https://www.cristoreystmartin.org/ways-to-give>

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, the following individuals made contributions to an SGO and directed their scholarship funds to CRSM students:

Anonymous	Thomas and Roberta Fox	Anne Marie and Michael Mathis	Jean and Thomas Spiegelhalter
John and Elaine Berens	Ralph and Mary Gesualdo	Scott and Nora Murray	Kevin Warnke
Terry and Cindy Brady	David and Barbara Gewalt	Marian Powers and Bel Needles	Martin Zacharia and Komal D'Souza
Patti Bries	Kenneth Green and Holly Wathan	James and Mary Osborn	
Angela Nilius and Ray Damijonaitis	Bob and Diane Hamilton	Chris and Kathy Perry	
Mike Feldner	Matthew Hower	William and Mary Sauerland	
Erin and Justin Foley	Andy and Lynn Kopon	John and Kathy Schreiber	



CORPORATE WORK STUDY PARTNERS

MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE



Businesses That Invest In Our Students' Futures

A Safe Place	Cole Parmer	Lake County Department of Public Works	Mano-a-Mano	Rust-Oleum Corporation
Abbott	CVS Health	Lake County Department of Transportation	Northbrook Bank & Trust Company, a Wintrust Community Bank	Salvi, Schostok, Prichard P.C.
AbbVie	Discover Financial Services	Lake County Health Department	Northern Trust Company	Shields Township
The ABIS Group	EMCO Chemical Distributors, Inc.	Lake County Recorder of Deeds	Northpointe Resources	Snap-on Credit
ACCO Brands USA, LLC	The Evanston Art Center	Lake County Sheriff's Office	NorthShore University HealthSystem	Society of the Divine Word
The Advanced Group	Fabrication Technologies	Lake County State's Attorney	North Shore Water Reclamation District	State Bank of the Lakes, a Wintrust Community Bank
Advocate Condell Medical Center	First Insurance Funding, a Wintrust Company	Lake Forest Bank & Trust Company, a Wintrust Community Bank	Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital	Stepan Company
Alight Solutions	First Midwest Bank	Lake Forest Graduate School of Management	Omnicell, Inc.	Underwriters Laboratories
Allstate Insurance Company	Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Inc.	Learn Charter Schools	Our Lady of Humility Parish & School	University of St. Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary
The Art Center of Highland Park	Good Foods Group	Libertyville Bank & Trust Company, a Wintrust Community Bank	Pasquesi Home and Garden	US Foods
American Hotel Register Company	Greenwood School	Lions Math and Science Christian Academy	Prairie Crossing Charter School	W.W. Grainger, Inc.
Anixter	Habitat for Humanity	MacLean-Fogg Company	Ragdale Foundation	Walgreens Boots Alliance, Inc.
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Barilla North America	House of Peace		Reynolds Group Holdings Limited	Waukegan Township - Staben House
Baxter International, Inc.	Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center		Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Sciences	Woodland Foods
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The John and Kathleen Schreiber Foundation
Edward and Christine Webler

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HONOR | MEMORIAL GIFTS

GIFTS WERE MADE IN HONOR OF

Tom Biegel
Pete and Jan LeTourneau
Joan Bransfield
John May
Maureen Collins
Mary Collins
CRSM Class of 2021
Elizabeth Hunter
CRSM Student Workers at Ray Bradbury Experience Museum
Sandra Petroschius
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard
Dempsey Donna and Howard Bass
Peg Doyle, SHCJ
Jessica Dawson and Brett OBrien
Joanne and Mark Eenigenburg
Walter and Bridgett Prewett
Ginni Engelbrecht
Samuel and Jean Suter
Family & Friends at Christmas 2019
Terence and Rosemarie Zawacki
Erin Foley
David and Nancy O'Neill
The Gorter and Krey Families
Gay Mitchell
Stephanie Goy
Albert and Carol Goy
Greener Siblings
Barbara Foelber
Lennon Hardel
John and Loretta Lieske
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Herb and Janet Fisher
Philanthropic Fund
Maureen Collins
Preston Kendall
Janet Sisler
James Kenney
Margaret McRaith
Mary Ann Leahy
William Leahy
Susan McNamara
Ryan Dominguez

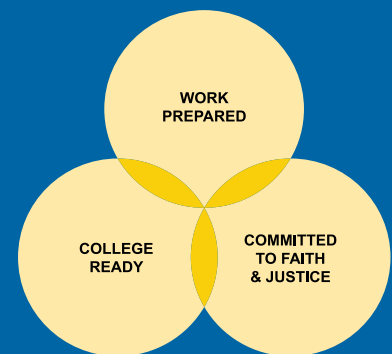
Virginia Merkel
Jerry Merkel
Mike and Laura DeGroot, Heather and Evan Eckerle, Tim and Kristi DeGroot, Jen and Ben Tarsitano
Steve and Tami DeGroot
Donna Mordini
DRM Properties LLC
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Hollis Panter
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Robert and Joyce Watson
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Sheila Brennan
John Powers
John and Margaret Nelson
Bishop George Rassas
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Pat Kerrigan
Kent Liederbach
Francis and Nancy Myers
Rose Ziccarelli
Stephanie Pezzella
Alice Valentine
Terence and Rosemarie Zawacki
Susan Rassas
Michele Schwartz
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Robin Doerge and Mike Marino
Leo and Max Salgado
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Thomas and Aysen Stanis
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Maureen Bailey
Students of CRSM
Clare Franzese
Liane Klingler
Students of CRSM - Jose Trejo, Armonie Collins, Jackie Beltran, and Sam Jaimes
Domenic and Cheryl Conte
Ralph Teich
Beth Teich
Dutch Wood
Chris and Sally Wood
Augie Ziccarelli
Janice and George Yingst

GIFTS WERE MADE IN MEMORY OF

Caroline Buzard
Catherine and Mike Sazdanoff
Mary Cashen-Metcal
Liane Klingler
Mary Ryan Condren
Liz and Edward Duffy, Jr.
Christopher Filippo
Dorinda and Gerald Kalk
Jack Hartgen
Santo and Kathleen Callaci
James Hasten
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Michael J. Moran
David Buckley
James and Judith Depies
Patrick Denslake
Gregory Fox
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Beth Rosenberry
Lisa Thoren
Charles and Kathleen Tully
Mary Jo Tully
Michael Uhran
Valley Park Association
Ben Wiesen
Mother St. Leo
Jo Anne and Douglas Pekkarinen
Elizabeth Pirman
Marjorie and Ronald Matthews
Paul Purcell
Kelly McNamara Corley and Monty Corley
Frances Rassas & Cristine L. Karm
Guy Karm
Alan Schlessman
Lynn Anderson
William Siffermann
Maureen Collins
Zach Perry
Thomas and Jeanne Wilkinson

Our Mission

Cristo Rey St. Martin, a Catholic learning community, empowers young people of limited economic means to become men and women of faith, purpose and service. Through a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, integrated with relevant work study experience, CRSM students graduate ready to succeed in college and life.



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