

# ***Thank you, Oblates of St. Francis de Sales!***

## ***History of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales at Bishop Ireton***

Ground breaking for Bishop Ireton High School occurred in the spring of 1963. Bishop Ireton High School opened its doors in the fall of 1964 to a class of 150 freshman boys; a new class was to be added each year. The Rev. Joseph McKay OSFS was the first principal. The pioneer Oblates to establish the Oblate presence at Bishop Ireton were: the Rev. Joseph McKay OSFS, and Rev. Harold Hermley OSFS, Rev. John Gavin OSFS, Rev. Joseph Mellon OSFS and Rev. James Kelly OSFS. The Most Rev. John Russell, Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond, dedicated the school officially on January 9, 1965. The chapel was dedicated October 7, 1967. Five Alexandria area parishes sponsored Bishop Ireton High School, St. Mary's, Blessed Sacrament, St. Louis, St. Rita's and Our Lady of Lourdes. The school was named after Bishop Peter L. Ireton. Ordained to the priesthood in 1906, he was for thirteen years Bishop of the Diocese of Richmond and was also a trustee of Catholic University of America.

The Oblates designed our school seal. The motto "advance always", inscribed on the seal, was inspired by Pope Paul VI's speech to the United Nations. The Oblate's "Live Jesus" symbol is also incorporated in the seal. The Cardinal, state bird of Virginia, was chosen as the name for Bishop Ireton sports teams. The first Bishop Ireton High School senior class graduated in 1968 and also the first yearbook was produced that same year.

Over the years, Bishop Ireton High School had close ties with St. Mary's Academy. The Oblates celebrated mass with the sisters daily and the two schools collaborated in swimming, drama, and choir, typing and social activities. The St. Mary's students also participated in Ireton's band and wind ensemble. With declining enrollment for all private schools in the area, St. Mary's Academy closed. Bishop Ireton High School opened its doors to the girls in the fall of 1990. Many of the lay faculty of Saint Mary's Academy, including the Sisters of the Holy Cross, joined the Ireton faculty and administration. The transition was accomplished beautifully through the efforts of Marguerite Scafati, principal of St. Mary's Academy and Rev. William Metzger, principal of Bishop Ireton High School.

Eight Oblate priests have served as principal of Bishop Ireton High School: Rev. Joseph McKay OSFS, Rev. Paul Kenny OSFS, Rev. Robert McGilvray OSFS, Rev. Charles Norman OSFS, Rev. Dr. William Walsh OSFS, Rev. William Metzger OSFS, Rev. Kevin Nadolski OSFS, Rev. Matthew Hillyard OSFS.

The following pages list all of the Oblates who have been at Bishop Ireton High School.

## ***The Oblates of St. Francis de Sales at Bishop Ireton***

### **\*principals of Bishop Ireton High School**

Rev. Joseph Baird OSFS	1981-88
Rev. Patrick Barney OSFS	1969-71
Rev. Michael Beers OSFS	1973-74
Rev. Eugene Brake OSFS	1969-70
Rev. Joseph Brennan OSFS	2003-06
Mr. Victor Brown OSFS	1971-73
Rev. Robert Buckley OSFS	1967-73
Rev. Michael Cavanaugh OSFS	1983-86
Rev. Francis Chybinski OSFS	1969-72
Rev. Dominic Ciriaco OSFS	2003-04
Rev. Mr. John Connery OSFS	1967-68
Rev. Jim Comerford OSFS	1971-72
Rev. John Coyne OSFS	1970-71
Rev. John Crossin OSFS	1998-99
Rev. Frank Danella OSFS	1971-74
Rev. William E. Davis OSFS	1991-92
Rev. Walter Dean OSFS	1964-70
Rev. Mr. Robert Del Santo OSFS	1979-81
Rev. David Devlin OSFS	1984-85
Rev. John Dolan OSFS	1989-91; 1995-96
Rev. William N. Dougherty OSFS	1973-83
Rev. James Donahue OSFS	1968-74
Mr. Brian Dunn	2003-04
Rev. William Elessor OSFS	1972-76
Rev. Albert Ernst OSFS	1970-74
Mr. Charles Engelhardt OSFS	1971-74
Rev. Edward Fitzpatrick OSFS	1978-84; 1990-94
Rev. Paul Frey OSFS	1971-78
Rev. John Fuqua OSFS	1967-68
Rev. John Gavin OSFS	1964-71
Rev. George Godley OSFS	1967-95
Rev. Mr. Edmund Gordon OSFS	1967-68
Rev. William Gore OSFS	1969-70
Rev. John Grande OSFS	1984-86
Rev. Richard Grant OSFS	1969-79
Rev. Francis Greene OSFS	1967-70

Rev. Joseph Griffin OSFS	1965-67
Rev. David Hagan OSFS	1967-71
Rev. Donald Heet OSFS	1977-85
Rev. Harold Hermley OSFS	1964-67
Rev. Matthew Hillyard OSFS*	2000-2008
Rev. William Hultberg OSFS	1972-77
Mr. Daniel Hurley OSFS	1968-69
Rev. John Hurley OSFS	1977-79
Mr. Steve Hurst OSFS	1987-89
Mr. Eric Jester OSFS	1986-87
Mr. Thomas Kaiser OSFS	1984-85
Rev. David Keener OSFS	1972-74; 1977-83
Rev. Dennis Kelch OSFS	1970-71
Rev. James Kelly OSFS	1964-67
Rev. Paul Kenny OSFS *	1967-72
Rev. Mr. Patrick Kifilo OSFS	2006-07
Rev. Dennis Killion OSFS	1990-91
Rev. John Kowalewski OSFS	1984-91
Rev. Robert Lawler OSFS	1968-69
Rev. Joseph Lydon OSFS	1973-74
Rev. Bill Lyman OSFS	1972-73
Rev. Robert Mancini OSFS	1979-85; 1991-92
Rev. George Martyn OSFS	1972-73; 1983-90
Rev. Michael McCue OSFS	1990-2001
Rev. Thomas McGee OSFS	1971-81
Rev. Robert McGilvray OSFS*	1972-75
Rev. Francis McGrath OSFS	1972-76
Mr. Frank Maguire OSFS	1972-73
Rev. James Marks OSFS	1969-71
Rev. Joseph Mellon OSFS	1964-67
Mr. David Merchant OSFS	1971-73
Rev. William Metzger OSFS*	1970-71; 1984-2001
Mr. David McGettigan OSFS	1971-73
Rev. Joseph McKay OSFS *	1964-71
Rev. Robert McNally OSFS	1967-83
Rev. John Murray OSFS	1974-75
Mr. James Murphy OSFS	1966-67
Rev. Thomas Murphy OSFS	1982-85
Rev. John Muzdakis OSFS	1980-2000
Rev. Kevin Nadolski OSFS*	1991-93; 2000-03
Rev. Mr. Lawrence Noon OSFS	1965-66
Rev. Charles Norman OSFS *	1967-80

Rev. Thomas Norris OSFS	1983-90
Mr. Bernie O'Connor OSFS	1971-73
Mr. Patrick O'Connor OSFS	1991-93
Bro. Edward Ogden OSFS	1986-88
Rev. James O'Neill OSFS	1968-73
Rev. John O'Neil OSFS	1968-83
Rev. Thomas Palko OSFS	1967-71
Mr. Rocco Paperiello OSFS	1967-68
Rev. Adam Radamski OSFS	1967-69
Rev. Richard Reece OSFS	1978-83
Rev. Robert Reece OSFS	1977-89
Bro Brian Reinhart OSFS	2006-07
Bro. George Robbins OSFS	1979-83
Mr. Michael Robinson OSFS	1996-98
Rev. Edward Roszko OSFS	1997-2003
Rev. Robert Rutledge OSFS	1994-96
Rev. James Shannon OSFS	1968-71
Mr. Michael Shea OSFS	1988-90
Rev. Albert Smith OSFS	1967-79
Mr. Vincent Smith OSFS	1979-81
Mr. Andrew Springer OSFS	1993-95
Mr. Michael Vogt OSFS	2003-04
Rev. John Wagner OSFS	1967-72
Rev. Dr. William Walsh OSFS*	1979-89
Bro. Mark Winterbottom OSFS	2005-07
Bro. William Worff OSFS	1985-93