

## Featuring Lorain Catholic High School, Lorain, Ohio

### LORAIN CATHOLIC ALMA MATER

Lorain Catholic hail thy name,  
Praise to thee we bring  
Where 'ere we go throughout the land  
Your loyalty we'll sing  
Your wisdom and your friendship true  
Will inspiration be  
O Lorain Catholic High School  
We'll pledge our hearts to thee

Lorain Catholic High School, which opened in 1969, was created as one of two regional Catholic high schools for the Lorain, Ohio, area. Seven IHM Sisters taught that first year, and 389 students were enrolled.

At the end of the 1969-1970 school year, the convent chronicler wrote, "Lorain Catholic was new to everyone this year. It was a challenge, but still an unforgettable experience."

Enrollment grew rapidly, reaching more than 750 by the fall of 1972. The literary magazine was added to the school's clubs; track was added to the athletic program; and the number of girls' sports increased that year as well.

The chronicler reported, "Through the efforts of the Athletic Booster Club, a full-size stadium was built during the summer of 1972." This stadium was "the first step in a plan to develop the back property."

During the 1974-75 academic year, the 818 students enjoyed a windfall of more than \$274,000, thanks to Ohio House Bill 993, which provided private schools with money for AV materials, typewriters and the salaries of "auxiliary staff," such as reading instructors. As a result, Lorain Catholic instituted a full-time reading program.

The Class of 1977, our [featured class year](#), graduated June 5. The class was composed of 188 students who will celebrate their 30th [class reunion](#) July 14. They remember their school days fondly.



Scenes from the Class of 1977's 20th reunion



**Mark Hilenski** recalls **George Renner's** historic climb of "Mount Chapel." **Patti O'Connor Boguski** says one of her most memorable recollections was when "A group of us girls went to breakfast at Perkins our senior year. We arrived (three minutes) late. We all got called to the office and were lectured about eating out!"

**Cathy Foley Tarcson** wonders if her classmates remember "pods." She asks, "Where else but Lorain Catholic could you get a chocolate shake, french fries and a warm chocolate chip cookie at 9:30 a.m.?"

**Margie Pellittieri Januzzi** sums up the school very simply. It was a place for "meeting wonderful friends that I could count on, and still count on them now as our children grow up together."

The convent chronicler reported during the 1983-84 school year that "Our enrollment is suffering a

decrease each year due to the poor economic situation...Lorain Catholic is struggling for survival." The last IHM Sister left in 1986, and the school closed in 2004.

## Trivia - 1977



United States President Jimmy Carter pardoned Vietnam War draft evaders. The U.S. had a population of 220,239,425.

The space shuttle *Enterprise* made its first test glide, from the back of a 747.

Elvis Presley died at Graceland at age 42.

The first woman Episcopal priest was ordained in the United States.



*Saturday Night Fever* sparked the disco inferno and the popularity of movie soundtracks.

The New York Yankees defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in six games in the World Series. The Montreal Canadiens won the Stanley Cup, sweeping the series with the Boston Bruins.

Carroll O'Connor received an Emmy for his role as Archie Bunker in *All in the Family*. Beatrice Arthur received one for *Maude*.



At the Grammy Awards, Stevie Wonder's *Songs in the Key of Life* was the "Album of the Year;" *I Write the Songs* was "Song of the Year;" and Starland Vocal Band was named "Best New Artist of the Year."