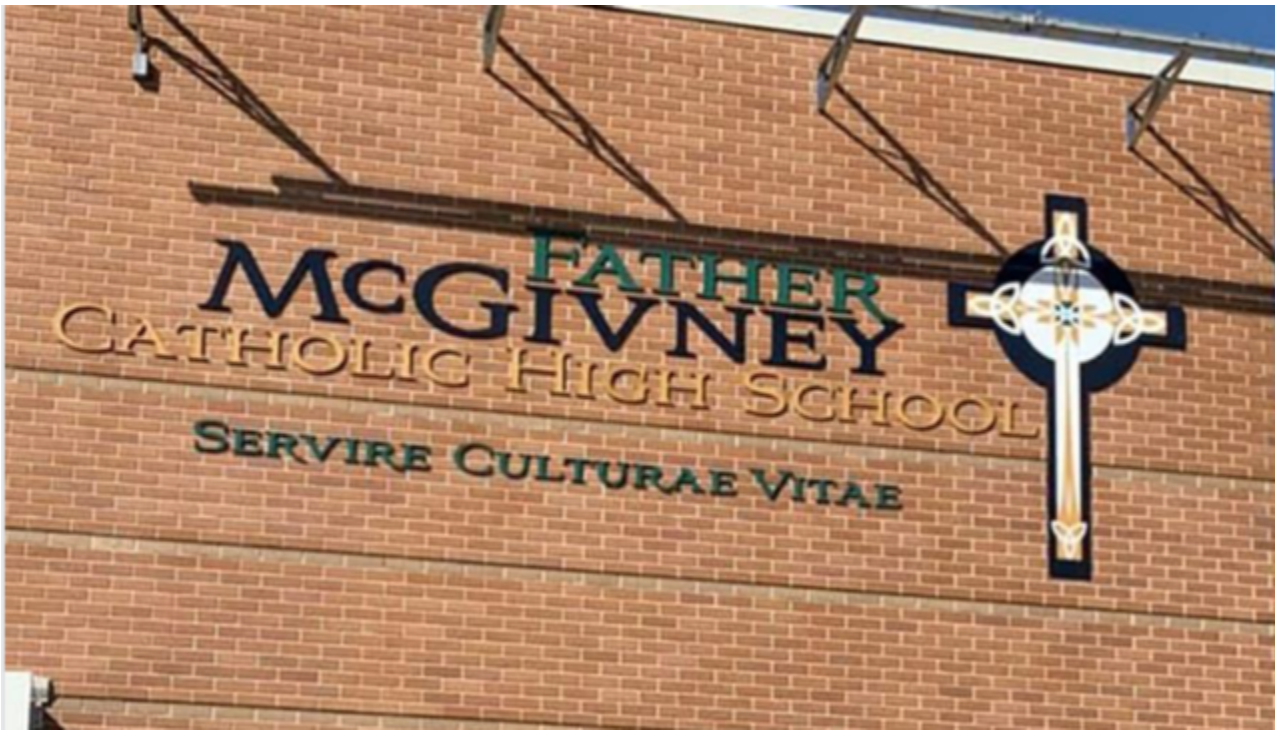


# Father McGivney Catholic High School Recognizes 10 Illinois State Scholars

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GLEN CARBON – Father McGivney Principal Joseph Lombardi is pleased to announce that 10 students from the Father McGivney Catholic High School graduating class of 2022 have been designated as Illinois State Scholars.

The [Illinois Student Assistance Commission](#) (ISAC), the state's college access and financial aid agency, presents this important recognition of academic achievement to exceptional Illinois high school students annually. This year, more than 17,340 honorees join the other outstanding students who have been honored since the designation was first introduced in 1958. Illinois State Scholars perform in the top half of their high school class and/or score at or above the top 95th percentile on the ACT or SAT.

Mr. Lombardi says “I’m so proud of this group of young women and men for excelling academically. Each of these students has a full schedule, participating in a variety of sports and extracurricular activities and serving the culture of life. Their dedication to academic success while taking some of the most rigorous classes McGivney offers is admirable.”

The following Father McGivney Catholic High School students were named 2022-23 Illinois State Scholars: John Barz, Ciara Folkerts, Jude Henke, MaryLorraine Hentz, Olivia Jackson, Christopher Landoll, Charlize Luehmann, Nathan Sedabres, Gregory Venarsky, and Sean Vrenick.

“On behalf of ISAC, congratulations to all of the Illinois State Scholars for their hard work and commitment inside and outside of the classroom,” said ISAC Executive Director Eric Zarnikow. “In the past two years students and families have faced unprecedented difficulties as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; from financial and personal ordeals to all of the challenges of remote learning. The achievements of these students are a credit to their perseverance and resilience, and to the support and encouragement of their families, principals, teachers, mentors, counselors, and others invested in their growth and success.”

The Illinois State Scholar acknowledgement is a non-monetary award. Each State Scholar designee receives a congratulatory letter and Certificate of Achievement from ISAC, and can download an official Illinois State Scholar badge to display on their online profiles and social media platforms, as well as share with their high school counselors, colleges, employers, family members and others. \*Note that the Program designates honorees based on the year they would begin any postsecondary education, not based on the year they graduate from high school.

To help ensure that every student in Illinois can make the most informed choices possible about education after high school, all high school students are encouraged to complete the 2022-23 [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) or, if eligible, the [Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid \(Alternative Application\)](#). The FAFSA is used to determine a student’s eligibility for federal and most state and institutional financial aid available for any type of postsecondary education, including certificates, two- or four-year degree programs, and some vocational programs. The Alternative Application can determine eligibility for state financial aid for those students who might not be eligible for federal student aid.

ISAC supports high schools and students statewide, offering free assistance with college and career exploration, and in completing financial aid forms and college applications. Local ISACorps members, who are recent college graduates expertly trained to serve as near-peer mentors to assist high school students and their families in navigating

education after high school and the financial aid process, offer free in-person and virtual workshops, as well as direct one-on-one assistance in communities statewide. Bilingual assistance is available. Find your local ISACorps member at <https://studentportal.isac.org/isacorps>. Check out free in-person or virtual financial aid workshops through ISAC's calendar: <https://studentportal.isac.org/Events>.

Visit the ISAC Student Portal, <https://studentportal.isac.org/> for free tools and resources to help with college and scholarship search, financial aid, career exploration, and more. Students can also get their college and financial aid questions answered by ISAC experts through ISAC's free text messaging service, ISAC College Q&A, [isac.org/collegeqa](https://isac.org/collegeqa). ISAC also offers free assistance through the agency's call center, 1-800-899-4722 (ISAC), and its Online Chat service.