



CLASS OF 2017 CRUSADER OF THE MONTH

Alexis Gabrielle Nixon

MONTH HONORED: April 2017

Lexi Nixon was selected by Mrs. Liz Nyenhuis

I am happy to nominate Lexi Nixon, daughter of Jennifer and Walter Nixon, as one of April's Students of the Month. A parishioner of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Lexi is hard-working, caring, compassionate, and a true leader.

I have had the pleasure of teaching French to Lexi for the three years I have been at MCC. Over this time, I have seen Lexi grow as a student, a French speaker, and as a person in general. She has worked diligently to complete all of her work on time, and she never hesitates to ask for help when necessary.

Lexi also spends a lot of her time doing things she loves. She was a student musical director for both "Wonderful Town" (2016) and "Seussical the Musical" (2017). She is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Art Honor Society. Add being a member of the tennis team to everything else, and one can see that Lexi is a busy young lady who has learned to manage her time well.

Outside of school, Lexi has been involved in Girl Scouts. As a Girl Scout, she spent time helping with First Reformed Church's God's Closet, a local clothing pantry that serves the less fortunate in the Muskegon area. She has also worked with Kid's Food Basket, providing meals to school-age children, and with the City of Muskegon to put in a new bus stop. Lexi has earned her Silver Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. As part of this achievement, Lexi worked with a team of other Girl Scouts to build raised, wheelchair-accessible garden beds for Sanctuary at McAuley, a local rehabilitation center/nursing home.

Lexi has spent the past few months volunteering at Christian Care, another local nursing home. While there, Lexi has spent much of her time working hands-on with the elderly residents. Sometimes she visits with them or reads to them. Sometimes she works in a therapy-type setting by playing "brain games" and physical games with the residents. Working with the residents at Christian Care has helped to confirm to Lexi that her choice to attend Baker College's nursing program in the fall is a good fit.

Congratulations, Lexi!



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Connor Martin O'Neill

MONTH HONORED: April 2017

Connor O'Neill was selected by Mrs. Amanda Lee

I first met Connor O'Neill in his eighth grade year when I had him as a student in my Language Arts class. Watching him grow over the past five years has been a joy. Connor O'Neill is a great example of a true Crusader.

In the classroom, Connor excels by putting forth a strong dedication to everything he does. In addition to enrolling in AP classes, Connor has been a member of the National Honor Society for the past three years. He exemplifies a strong dedication to succeeding in academics.

When Connor is not studying, he can be found on the soccer field. Connor is a talented and dedicated all-state soccer player. His ability to be a team player and his commitment to the sport has aided in the overall success of the team. This year Connor added another sport by deciding to play for the varsity basketball team.

I was thrilled to see Connor decide to join the WINGS program this year where I have been able to see just how far he has grown from that shy, thirteen-year-old boy to an outstanding young man willing to accept any challenge. Over the past year, he has become an integral part of the WINGS team and is known as a quiet leader. Whether it is reading during a prayer service or giving his testimony at retreats, his willingness is greatly appreciated.

Outside of the school Connor continues to serve the community by volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club of the Muskegon Lakeshore, helping to coach youth soccer, and altar serving at church.

Connor will attend North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, where he will major in Exercise Science. He is the son of Maureen and Pat O'Neill and attends St. Francis de Sales Church.