

Gooooood morning christian brothers, I hope you're having a wonderful day, and here are your morning announcements!! Seniors, I would like to thank you. Not only have you honored me with this tremendous award, but You have also lended me your attention during morning announcements every 4 block day, for the past 8 months. It might not have seemed that long, but yeah, you've already heard me speak quite a bit. But if it's not too much to ask, I would like you to lend me your attention, and listen to me speak one last time.

Everyone warned me highschool would go by in the blink of an eye. They were right. In these hasty yet loaded 4 years I've learned a lot; from learning how to play video games while on a microsoft teams meeting, to the most crazy complex calculus equations i would've never imagined comprehending. However, in all the classes I've taken and lectures I've heard in the last 4 years, there are two things I've learned at CB that reign supreme. The first being, to embrace and overcome nervousness.

It's freshman year, 2020, and I'm at home on my phone scrolling on tik tok, partially listening to my intro to engineering class on a teams meeting. Mr. Delgado is assigning groups for another group project when someone suddenly unmutes their mic and says "me and Finn will be in a group!". I had no idea who just spoke and my only knowledge of this kid named Finn was that he was the injured kid on the soccer team. Yet, with this minimal knowledge, for the first time in my highschool career I willingly unmuted my mic and with a hesitant voice, signed myself up to be in a group with these two random kids.

Fast forward to the night of August 13th, 2021, our sophomore year lock-in, which we shared with the class of 2025 because covid didn't let us have a lock-in our freshman year. After getting a tour of what would be our home for the next 3 years — getting tricked into having to share a bunch of fun facts about myself because i grabbed a lot of toilet paper — writing a note to our future selves which I'm sure we had fun reading — and watching some skits in the theater, it was time to dance. On my way to the dance floor I recognized two faces. It was those two kids from my engineering class plus a couple unfamiliar

faces. They were a lot bigger in person than on my ipad screen and were all comfortably a whole head taller than me, yet I mustered up the courage to walk up to these giants, Finn day, Jacob Sawtelle, and Parker clymer-englehart.

I've learned that we are often nervous in the face of great opportunity. It's a completely normal feeling and you shouldn't let it prevent you from... anything. Seize the day. Take that step outside your comfort zone, into what could be a potentially life changing experience. And How will you know when to take that step? Well, like spider Spider-Man said, "You won't, it's a leap of faith, that's all it is". Now, none of us are superheroes, or at least none that I'm aware of, but we can still take those leaps of faith. I was in shambles walking up to that group of kids at lock-in who were all 6ft when I was only 5'6 with shoes on. But taking that step toward those giants ultimately led to me meeting my closest friends here at CB, which was definitely life changing.

And Since our sophomore year lock in, I've witnessed many of us take leaps of faith.

- Franklin Odunlami who was hesitant to join the soccer team this past year, decided to show up at tryouts and at the end of the season was honored as the team's offensive MVP
- Ashley Lobo, who had never been away from her parents for longer than a few days, went on a Venavar to Yakima Washington - a whole week with no parental contact - and it ended up being one of her most memorable weeks at CB.
- Jacob Gouker, who previously shied away from exhibiting his guitar skills, stepped on the stage this year and with a few friends performed at open mic night and our annual earth day festival, and anyone who has heard him play can attest, he's amazing.
- Many of us took a leap of faith when we embarked on Kairos, and whether you went looking for a spiritual retreat or for a week away from school, I think we can all agree that it was very intimidating, especially that first night, but it

ultimately lead to many new relationships many of us may have not expected.

With opportunities such as kairos, clubs, sports teams, art shows, theater productions, student government and venaver all readily available, CB has created an environment that allows us to step out of our comfort zone and become a part of something greater — which leads me to the other most important thing I've learned at CB — Being a falcon is being a part of a Lassallian family.

I think I speak for everyone when I say Kairos was full of surprises, but the biggest surprise was the overwhelming sense of belonging I felt. For many of us the only relation we had to our group members was that we all went to CB, and that was all it took. The CB community is overwhelmingly accepting. And behind every opportunity CB presents, is a community waiting with open arms.

Seniors, whether you like it or not, we are a family. For the past three years

We have walked the halls together,  
eaten lunch  
studied for tests  
tik tok danced  
played retro bowl on our iPads  
For a brief moment we stole soap dispensers  
We have berealed  
stayed up very late  
overslept  
But most importantly, we have  
learned a lot  
laughed a lot  
And grown into the glorious human beings we are today.

Hey, We've done a pretty good job. Looking back on the  
community at CB, I'm going to miss it, the friends, classes, and  
everything really. It almost makes me not want to leave...  
buuuuuuttttu - i think its time

Class of 2024, take a minute to look around at your classmates. You have spent quite a bit of time with these people, about 1013 days to be exact - excluding freshman year. Highschool is over, you won't be seeing these people in the halls anymore. You might go to college with some of them, you might stay in touch with others, and some you might never see again. But just because highschool is done, and we've graduated, doesn't mean it's gone. The lessons you've learned won't disappear, and neither will the memories or the people. Cherish those memories and the community we've built together. As we look toward the future and venture out into the adult world of taxes, relationships and finding our vocation, there is no doubt that we are going to be nervous

But remember, embrace those nerves and overcome them, keep taking those leaps of faith, keep expanding your community, and remember that you will always have the class of 2024.