



# Back to school

Rainy weather was just one part of the first week at many of the Catholic high schools in the Rockford Diocese. COVID brought new routines and a variety of health measures to each campus. Here are some activities from several of those schools.

(See photos from Boylan Central Catholic High School in Rockford in the Aug. 21 issue.)

## Newman CCHS



(Photos provided)

Students at Sterling's Newman Central Catholic High School dodge raindrops during a soggy first week of school. Masks, single file lines and one-way walking in the hallways are part of the "new normal" at the high school.



Newman sophomore Monica Healy pauses at the front door to have her temperature checked by Mardi Ybarra, development assistant.



Newman senior Jordan Morthland reaches for some hand disinfectant. "Sanitize In, Sanitize Out" stations are set up in various places throughout the building this fall.

## St. Edward CCHS

**RIGHT:** Evan Sperling and Nicholas Shannon hold signs during freshman orientation at St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin.

**BELOW RIGHT:** Students spread out before putting on their masks and checking in to enter the school.

**BELOW:** Ava Pfeiffer (left) and Edgar Menendez receive Communion from Father Andrew Deitz, spiritual director at St. Ed. Father Deitz offered the Mass on Sept. 10 and 11 live and streaming so all students could attend.



(Photos provided)



(Photo provided)

## Rosary HS

Returning students at Aurora's Rosary High School greet new freshmen on the front walkway. They are (from left) Evelyn Echele, Maria Saucedo, Marisa Manhart and Lillian Schatteman.



(Photo provided/Al Benson)

Rosary High School runners start Aurora Central Catholic High School's cross country triangular with Rosary and Elgin's St. Edward Central Catholic High School at Oakhurst Forest Preserve in Aurora Sept. 10.



## Aquin CCHS

**RIGHT:** Bentleah Stovall and Mason McIntyre, Aquin Central Catholic High School sophomores in Freeport, carry water buckets to the field to hold down the "slip n slide" mats.

**LEFT:** Jack Hiveley, Aquin Freshman, kicks the ball in the opening game featuring the freshmen versus the seniors.



Friday Night Lights are still on at Aquin in Freeport with the "Covid Games." They started Aug. 28 for fun and fundraising to help an Aquin parent who is battling cancer. Field Pong opened the games, followed by Slip 'n' Slide Kickball, which the seniors won. Ultimate Football started Sept. 11 and continues Sept. 18. The final night is Oct. 9. All games start at 6:30 p.m. in Conley Field, but pre-registration is requested in order to comply with health guidelines.

**BELOW:** Senior Christian Becke dives into home plate in the championship game featuring the Aquin seniors and juniors, Sept. 4.



(Photo provided/Al Benson)

Aurora Central Catholic High School's Kevin Lilliwitz (left) finishes first in 17:35 with encouragement from ACC assistant coach Josh Jerwers (background) at the Chargers' triangular with Rosary High School of Aurora and St. Edward CCHS of Elgin at Oakhurst Forest Preserve in Aurora Sept. 10.



## Aurora CCHS

(Photos provided)

**ABOVE:** Behind the masks, Aurora Central Catholic High School's 2020 Homecoming Court is (back from left) Brendan O'Brien, Danny Cwinski, Dylan Bryant, Ryan Lee, Cam Kuttner, (front) Ava Wilkins, Kaitlyn Catich, Vanessa Camp, Tori Lee and Katrina DeLeon. Homecoming is this week.



**LEFT:** Jacob Gay (left) and Eva Mayer pose for a marketing photo that will be used to publicize ACC's upcoming "virtual open house."