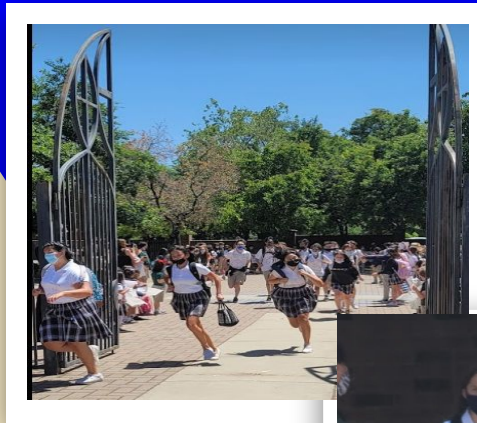


# Annunciation CYO 8th Graders 2021



Our 8th graders this year lost out on a season of cross country, basketball, and 2 seasons of volleyball. In spite of that, they were able to reflect and share memories of CYO and what it meant to them as young athletes.



My name is Lia Guidi. I played CYO basketball from fourth grade to sixth grade and cross country when I was younger in second grade. My favorite CYO memories were when we were getting ready for the game and having fun. I definitely gained friendship, teamwork, and confidence from participating in CYO basketball. I am so glad that I got the experience to play CYO sports with my friends!



My name is Chris Woody and I loved CYO sports. I played basketball from 3rd through 7th grade. I would've played in 8th grade but it was canceled due to Covid-19. One of my favorite memories is when we were playing Saint Bernards in a regular season game and they were the #1 team. We were hanging in with them but barely behind them the whole time. It was a high fouling game but we pulled ahead and won with only a couple minutes left. I feel that my classmates and I learned how to work together and we felt confidence in our team. I feel like I gained exercise and we had a great time. I wouldn't take back my choice of playing on our CYO basketball team.





I'm Gracie Widmer in 8th grade at Annunciation School. I started playing volleyball CYO in 4th grade and it ended right at the beginning of the season in 7th grade. My favorite memories are when we won the games and the excitement that followed it. I now play club volleyball and that is because while playing CYO volleyball, I found out that I loved volleyball because of the friendships that you make, the feeling of winning and the joy it brings the team, and I really enjoy playing volleyball. If it wasn't for CYO volleyball, I wouldn't be where I am today, playing club volleyball.





Hi! My name is Alana Wanner.

In 3rd and 4th grade, I participated in basketball. Then when I was in 6th and 7th grade, I played volleyball. My favorite CYO memories include the basketball games that I played in 4th grade, volleyball practice in 6th and 7th grade, and our last volleyball game we had at Saint Mary's in 7th grade. I feel that I have gained teamwork skills, confidence, and tons of exercise from playing basketball and volleyball. This has been such an amazing experience being able to participate in CYO sports. I have gained many skills while playing, and I've made some pretty enjoyable memories that I will always look back at.





My name is Xavier Spangler. I started Annunciation in the 6th grade. This was my first and last year of playing CYO basketball. Playing basketball got me closer to a lot of people because it was my first year there. One of my favorite memories was winning with the team because it was always a fun time. Even though I'm not that good it was still fun.





My name is Nico Reyes. I have played CYO basketball since 3rd grade. Sadly, I did not get to play in 8th grade due to COVID. It was awesome spending time with my friends. My favorite memory is getting a nasty block off the backboard and Jacob going crazy. I built a stronger friendship during CYO. CYO was an amazing experience.





Hey my name is Zachary Reed and I played CYO in third grade. I play CYO in third grade at another school, not annunciation. One of my favorite memories is that my team became very good friends. I feel like I gained friendship and experience. It is pretty fun to play CYO because of the friendships and all the fun things you do.







Hi my name is Jacob Phillips. I did cross country from 3rd to 5th then I played basketball from 3rd to 7th my favorite part of cyo has to be when Nico had a crazy block and when we beat the presentation. I feel like my friendship got better with every one. Cyo was a big part of my life and if I had to go back in time and do it again I would.





Hello! I am Ava Noche and I have done CYO for a few years. In fourth grade, I decided that I wanted to play basketball. I had lots of fun that year, so I decided to play another year. My mom realized that I could do good in basketball and volleyball because of my height. So in fifth grade, I decided to play basketball and volleyball. I had so many fun memories including, fun after parties after the last game of the season. I became so much closer with everyone on the team after playing with them. I also gained confidence, the ability to not be afraid, and social skills! After fifth grade, I stopped playing CYO because of other after school activities. I learned so many new things, had an amazing time, and was such a cool experience.





Hi, my name is Matea Muraoka and I have been playing CYO sports since I was in third grade. In third grade I started playing basketball. I remember thinking that it was so fun because I got to play on a team with my friends. I continued play through the 5th grade although my availability was limited because at the time I was playing two club sports. I eventually had to stop playing in sixth grade because my schedule became too busy. I don't regret my decision to play CYO because I had so much fun and and grew even closer with my friends.



My name is Liam Mulvihill. I ran cross country from 2nd to 6th grade. I also played basketball in 5th 6th, and 7th. I gained speed and friendship from my CYO experience. All in all CYO was an amazing experience.





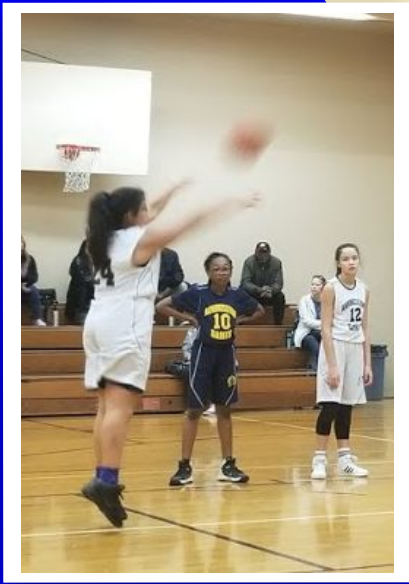
Hello my name is Isabelle Mello and I played CYO sports all my life. During 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade I played CYO Cross country even though I wasn't that good at it. In 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grade, I played CYO basketball and after all of that I still played CYO volleyball in 5th, 6th and 7th grade. But after all those years of happy memories, I think my favorite was our first and last 7th grade volleyball game. Even though we didn't do our best, we still had the best time. Over my experience in CYO sports I gained knowledge, more friendships, and confidence that I can do anything if I put my mind up to it. I wouldn't take back the memories I made with my friends, including the bad ones, because everything in life happens for a reason.





My name is Connor McKee. I've been in CYO sense since third grade. I played basketball from third to seventh (we didn't get an eight grade season). I also played cross country in the third grade just to get some extra activity in but it was a fun experience. My favorite memory is when liam missed his free throw and said darn it and in third grade when I placed third in my first race. CYO was a great experience and it teaches you everything you can think of and also allows you to make new friends. CYO is a great organization and I would definitely recommend playing.





My name is Gabriela Martinez. I have played CYO sports since I was in 2nd grade. The first CYO sport I did was cross country, but I only did that for second grade year. I played basketball from 3rd-6th grade and volleyball from 4th-7th grade. Sadly the volleyball season last year was cut short due to covid-19. I would've played volleyball this year as an 8th grader. One of my favorite CYO memories was playing in the volleyball tournament last year before everything got shut down. Another memory I have was goofing off at basketball practice with my friends. I gained closer friendships with my friends from school and other girls from CCD. I became a better basketball and volleyball player when I participated in CYO sports.





My name is Lochlan Kuciej, and my first experience with CYO was running cross country in second grade. Then I played basketball in fourth, and seventh grade. Some of my favorite memories are playing sports with my friends, and having fun at practice. I feel like my friendships were strengthened, I got great exercise, and it built my confidence. Throughout my CYO experience I had a great time, and would recommend it to anyone.







As a student at Annunciation School, I, Corinne Kaisch, have been involved in CYO. From third to seventh grade, I participated in at least one CYO sport each year. Beginning in the third and fourth grade, I played four years of both basketball and volleyball. Hence, throughout these years, I made so many memories that I will treasure and keep forever. When I was in the third grade, I remember making my first shot during a basketball game, then looking at my dad, and seeing him jump up and down cheering me on. Last year, in seventh grade, I remember a time at volleyball practice where Gabriela Martinez and I both called the ball, and we ended up on the ground laughing at each other. Even with bruises all over our legs, we thought it was worth it because we got the point. Looking back at the years that I participated in CYO, I recognize the friendships I've gained. I am so grateful for the time I spent with my friends at Annunciation in CYO sports.



## 4TH GRADE GOLD AND BLUE



My name is Ryan Gonsalves. I participated in Basketball from 3rd-7th but the season was canceled eighth grade year. I also did Cross Country for 2-4th grade then quit in fifth grade year and never did it again. My favorite CYO memory is just having fun with my friends and having a good time with them. I learned that one person can't make a team and that everyone has to work together. It was a great experience playing with everyone.





Hi my name is Sierra Gaines. I started CYO basketball in 3rd grade just to see what it was like. I ended up liking it but I would always get yelled at by the parents because my basketball shorts were way too big for me. Basketball was fun and the friends I had there I am still super close with. Volleyball on the other hand was a very interesting experience. It was fun but I wasn't really good at it. Practice was sometimes fun besides when we are getting yelled at for walking when we are supposed to be running laps. I am so glad I joined the CYO teams and I would always do it again.





Hi my name is Leo Flynn, and I played CYO cross country throughout 3-5th grade. When I first started playing cross country was in 3rd grade with my friend's Liam, Jacob, Ryan, Connor, and Andrew. We thought we were so good at it too. When we had our meets in 3rd grade to 5th grade I would always get second place against my good friend E.J. My favorite memory was when we played frisbee golf and my team was on fire. We won by 5 goals against the other team. I felt that I gained teamwork, friendship, social skills and confidence with my teammates and my coaches throughout the years. Over all the years I did cross country was probably the best years of school.





My name is Brady Errecart and I have been playing CYO basketball since 3rd grade. I played basketball from 3rd grade to 8th grade but the season got canceled. I have many good memories from CYO basketball and one of them was when we beat Presentation. I feel like I gained friendship and teamwork from participating. That is how I felt about my CYO career.





Hello, I'm Reagan Derman, an eighth grader at Annunciation and, I loved playing CYO sports here. I started CYO in third grade by playing basketball. My favorite year of playing basketball was when I was in fourth grade; our team won third place and we even got a trophy; we could've gotten first but I still enjoyed playing and was proud of myself and my team for getting third. I also remember at our first game in third grade, I was blocked on all sides so I made a crazy pass to my friend who shot it and made a basket; I don't remember how I passed it, all I remember was that it was very unique and crazy. I stopped playing basketball in fifth grade. I also did CYO cross country in fourth through seventh grade. It was definitely the toughest and hardest to run, but it was fun once I started winning races and meeting new people from other schools. Finally, I did CYO volleyball from fifth grade to seventh grade. It was my favorite sport because I loved playing with my friends, and our team was super supportive. Playing volleyball at our first game in seventh grade was definitely my favorite game; we played four games and stayed the whole day at St. Marys, it was super fun. I would've played more that year or this year, but all the games and practices canceled because of coronavirus. I think I gained a lot of friendship from playing CYO since, for example, I'm now friends with all the people I ran cross country against. Playing CYO sports at Annunciation were my highlights throughout all my years going to school here.





My name is Elliana Carroll and I played CYO volleyball in seventh grade. Sadly, the season was cut short, so I didn't get to experience a full CYO season. If I could go back and change the fact that the season had to end suddenly, I would. Our team only got to play at one tournament, but it was so amazing and fun to play with the other girls. I got to meet other girls from other schools through CYO and learned how to talk to and make friends with strangers. Being on a CYO team, if only for half a season, was awesome and I wouldn't trade it for anything.





My name is Ben Borland and I have played CYO basketball for Annunciations since 3rd grade. I enjoyed playing basketball with my classmates and talking on the bench or on the court running up and down. I continued to play for Annunciation until 6th grade where my other club sports got in the way of practice. I overall enjoyed CYO and think it was very beneficial to making me who I am today.







Hi my name is Hannah Berg. I have played CYO volleyball since I was in fourth grade. I remember being so excited to play for my first team sport! I participated in CYO from 4th grade all the way to 7th grade. From 4th-6th, I played for the Presentation CYO volleyball team but in 7th, I played for Annunciation. Sadly, for my 7th grade year, our volleyball season got cut in half due to covid so we only didn't get to have a real game. My favorite CYO memory is winning the championship. Another memory I enjoyed, was in seventh grade when we got to do a tournament at Saint Marys. I have built so many friendships from playing in CYO and I wouldn't change it for anything. I am so thankful to be at a Catholic school because we not only get an amazing education, but we get to enjoy sports with our friends too!





I am Reese Franzia and throughout attending Annunciation I did my fair share of CYO games and practices. Starting off strong in first or second grade I did basketball. I had some good memories like shooting my first hoop that was amazing. In six and seventh grade I joined the CYO volleyball team. I had a blast but what I think made it so fun was the people that were part of the team although the seventh grade volleyball team ended early due to covid. I would never say not to do CYO because the friends/people you meet are amazing and one day you will get to show off the skill you learned from playing a sport.





On behalf of the CYO board, we would like to thank the coaches who volunteered their time to mold these young athletes, the parents who drove to Turlock and Patterson for games, and most of all our athletes! This program would not exist without you!!!! Always carry the memories from CYO. Come back and be a ref, score keeper, or work the snack bar. **May God Bless you all in the years to come!**  
**You will always be an Annunciation Saint!!!**