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Padua Franciscan High School

6740 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

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Press Release

Padua Franciscan High School Celebrates 65th Anniversary

PARMA, Ohio – (July 15, 2026) **Padua Franciscan High School will celebrate its 65th anniversary throughout the 2026-2027 school year.** The school will be holding a number of events, starting with a Family Mass, followed by the Dedication of the new Zavagno Athletic Center, which is a 29,000-square-foot facility connected to the southwest corner of the school near Padua Stadium.

The facility includes a 14,000-square-foot gymnasium space that provides two full-size courts for practice and tournament competitions. It holds approximately 1,300 spectators. The additional 15,000-square-foot space includes a grand concourse for entrance, which will house a ticketing booth, restrooms, a Bruin Shop kiosk and a concession stand for both stadium and gym venues. Also, four locker rooms provide space for Padua girls, Padua boys, visiting teams, and officials. A sports medicine room, as well as the athletic department offices, are now located in this space.

“Padua Franciscan is entering its strongest and most exciting chapter yet,” said President Dave Stec ’86. “As we celebrate 65 years of Franciscan excellence, we proudly honor the Bruins of our past whose faith, sacrifice, and vision built this extraordinary school. With the completion of our \$16 million *Achieving Excellence* Capital Campaign, we are ensuring that future Bruins will have every opportunity to learn, lead and thrive. I truly believe the best is yet to come.”

Throughout this milestone year, Padua will continue celebrating the impact the school has made on more than 13,000 young men and women since 1961.

Special Events in 2026-2027

Padua Family Mass

Saturday, August 15

6:30pm

@ St. Anthony of Padua Church

Zavagno Athletic Center Dedication

Sunday, August 16

1pm-2pm Dedication

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Open House to Follow
@ Zavagno Athletic Center

Bruins Big Give

Thursday, September 24

Alumni Homecoming

Friday, October 2

Kickoff at 7pm

Padua vs. Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin

@ Padua Stadium

Open Houses

Sunday, October 11

10am-1pm

Monday, October 12

6pm-8pm

@ Padua Franciscan High School

CFO Alumni Mass & Reception

Friday, December 18

8:15am Mass

@ Zavagno Athletic Center

Bruin Benefit

Saturday, April 24

6pm-10pm

@ Zavagno Athletic Center

Alumni Golf Outing

Friday, June 4

@ Shale Creek Golf Club in Medina

Grand Reunion

Saturday, June 5

6pm-9pm

@ Padua Franciscan High School

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School Background: Padua Franciscan High School is located at 6740 State Road in Parma, Ohio. Padua is a Catholic, college-prep, co-educational school with 800 students. Padua was founded by Franciscans in 1961 and bases its educational philosophy on the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi. The school's mission is to develop the unique talents of each student, while giving them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.