



THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

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John Paul II Catholic School to Host Fundraiser Featuring Pat Conroy & Bobby Cremins

~ Event to Benefit the School's Athletic & Events Center ~

(BLUFFTON, SC) – Bestselling author, Pat Conroy, and former College of Charleston basketball coach, Bobby Cremins, will be sharing stories from their extraordinary careers during a fundraiser for John Paul II Catholic School. The event is on Sunday, January 25 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Hampton Hall Club, 170 Hampton Hall Boulevard, in Bluffton. Money from the fundraiser will benefit the construction of the school's Athletic and Events Center.

Pat Conroy is a Lowcountry resident and a New York Times bestselling author; The Atlanta Journal calls him, "... a master of language." Some of his novels include: "The Great Santini", "The Prince of Tides", "Beach Music", "South of Broad", and "The Death of Santini." Two of those novels, "The Prince of Tides" and "The Great Santini", were made into Oscar-nominated films. Conroy currently lives in Beaufort.

Bobby Cremins is a retired basketball coach. During his career, he served as head coach at Appalachian State, Georgia Tech and the College of Charleston. Cremins' career also includes crossing the country as a motivational speaker and serving as a television commentator for ACC and NCAA basketball. Cremins now calls Hilton Head Island home.

The fundraiser benefits John Paul II Catholic School's Athletic and Events Center. School officials hope to begin construction on the facility in early 2015. Phase I of construction includes: a

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competition basketball court, volleyball court, male and female locker rooms, training room, a health and science flexible space, and a mezzanine containing a music area and flexible space for arts or instructional activities. Phase II of the project includes: a multipurpose gym, stage, choral room, band room and catering kitchen. The new building will cost approximately \$6 million.

Tickets for the event are \$200 per person/\$300 per couple, and include heavy hors-d'oeuvres and cocktails. Sponsorships are available. For more information, go to www.johnpaul2school.org and click on the "Legends of the Lowcountry" link on top center of the home page, or send an email to develop.off@johnpaul2school.org.

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About the Diocese of Charleston

The Catholic Diocese of Charleston comprises the entire state of South Carolina with Charleston as its See city. Founded in 1820 by Pope Pius VII, it is one of the oldest Catholic dioceses in the United States.

About John Paul II Catholic School

John Paul II Catholic School, named for the hero of the twentieth century and early twenty-first century who was recently canonized a saint, currently houses grades 7 through 10. It offers a full academic program with an emphasis on Christian leadership, scholarship, and service. It is located in the Diocese's Lowcountry Deanery on Highway 170 near Okatie, South Carolina.