

PRESS RELEASE

SUBJECT:	VISITATION BVM GYMNASIUM RENAMED JOHN "BING" MILLER HALL IN HONOR OF LONG-TIME FOOTBALL BASKETBALL AND BASEBALL COACH
DATE:	JUNE 1, 2016
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ТО:	ALL NEWS MEDIA

Saturday, May 14, 2016, was a special day at the Visitation BVM Parish School in Trooper, Pennsylvania, where over 550 people gathered for a Dedication Ceremony in the school gymnasium to honor John "Bing" Miller, 89, one of the founding members of Visitation and the organizer and 20-year coach of Visitation's extremely successful CYO Football, Basketball and Baseball Programs.

At the Dedication Ceremony, the school gymnasium was renamed **John "Bing" Miller Hall** as a tribute to the man affectionately known as "Coach" to the thousands of Visitation athletes he guided. Many of his former players attended the Dedication Ceremony and were referenced by name in Coach Miller's "heartfelt" thank you speech, including the Mascaro brothers, Sam Augustine, Frank Venezia, Paul Piantone, John Talone, Tony Bello, the James brothers, and many, many more. Miller was overwhelmed by the love and support shown throughout the evening. He accepted the "Hall Naming" with humility in front of his children, grandchildren, and a grateful community.

"I have lived almost 90 years now, and nothing has given me more pleasure than coaching Visitation's young children for over 20 years. Today, those children may be in their 50s and 60s, and successful in their chosen careers, but I will always think of them as young, energetic Visitation athletes who played their hearts out for me and their school," said Miller.

Introducing Mr. Miller, with many personal remembrances of his own and his brothers, was Pat Mascaro, the President of J. P. Mascaro & Sons. It was clear from his comments that Visitation athletes from "yesteryear" love and respect Coach Miller.

The Dedication Ceremony ended with a "Blessing" and "Grace" from Visitation Monsignor Thomas Murray, after which the gymnasium emptied and the 550 guests enjoyed a scrumptious Italian Dinner Feast, onsite under tent, catered by the Collegeville Italian Bakery and provided by J. P. Mascaro & Sons.

All of the \$25,000 from Dedication Ceremony ticket sales will go to "Miller Hall" gymnasium improvements, and an additional \$25,000 was donated by J. P. Mascaro & Sons for those improvements.

"By any measure, this celebration ceremony was a 'feel good event' and a fundraising success," said Monsignor Murray.

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