

# Kristen Hile – Class of 2018

Each month we will check in with a Saint Joseph's Alumni doing a Q & A to spotlight his/her journey. Our spotlight this month is Kristen Hile, Class of 2018. Thanks to Kristen for sharing about her journey and how Saint Joe's has impacted her. Susan met with Kristen via zoom to learn more about all she is doing now. By reading about her journey, we learn that Kristen is not afraid of a challenge, takes initiative in her life, and has gained great wisdom to pass along to our current students.

Kristen is currently a senior at Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA where she is a triple major in Business Analytics, Accounting, and Management Information Systems. Kristen is on track to graduate in the spring of 2022 with degrees in all three majors and will have enough credits when she graduates to sit for the CPA exam. This is quite an accomplishment! Kristen has been offered several full-time job opportunities at highly regarded accounting firms in the DC area and is currently deciding which firm she wants to pursue a career.

Kristen holds her Saint Joseph's experience in high regard and relayed that she would not be where she is today or accomplished all that she has if it weren't for her time here at Saint Joe's. Kristen grew up in Boalsburg and actually attended elementary school in our same building. Kristen began her high school education in the State College system but she then came to Saint Joe's where she experienced a greater involvement in the life and activities of our school community. Kristen discussed how on her very first day at Saint Joe's she tried out for the musical and made it! She quickly got involved in other activities such as the acapella choir where she served as the business manager, a manager for the baseball and volleyball teams, and the National Honor Society.

There are many other important aspects that Kristen appreciated as a Saint Joe's student. The smaller class sizes provided the individual support in her classes which helped her thrive academically at Saint Joe's. One such example was that Kristen became highly involved in Mrs. Cunningham's Business 101 class. This class was a dual enrollment course with Saint Francis University. The class served to introduce her to Saint Francis and the potential opportunities she could have there as a college student. Kristen enjoyed this class so much that she began tutoring other students. Kristen appreciated how important community is at Saint Joe's and how the faculty and staff supported her as a person and a student. She remembers how some faculty members prayed before a class began and how she was grateful for faculty who took the time to make this a priority. Kristen expressed gratitude that our 4 pillars of Faith, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service continue to be relative in her daily life now.



*Kristen & her boyfriend, Nathan, in 2021*

The Pillars are something she had educated herself on before attending Saint Joe's and she will carry those with her heading into her career. It was great to hear Kristen express that her Faith grew stronger in her time at Saint Joe's. She talked about how she was able to diver deeper into this aspect of her life and how she continues to carry that with her.

It was amazing to learn about all that Kristen is involved in at Saint Francis. She is the Parliamentarian for the Student Government Association. Kristen serves as the Inter-Sorority Council Vice President. She is the Class Council Treasurer for the class of 2022 and she serves as the Secretary of the CEO Club.

Kristen is a Work Study Student in the Shield's School of Business Dean's office and she was the Lead Student Fellow for the Knee Center for the Study of Occupational Regulation. Kristen sure seems to be living out our Leadership Pillar in all that she is doing. It will be wonderful to see where her journey takes her with the next phase of her life.

Thank you, Kristen, for taking catching us up on all you are doing! The Saint Joe's community is proud of you and the impact you are having on those around you!

## **Any family updates or other updates you want to include?**

Kristen's older sister graduated from Penn State and her younger sister started at St. Johns College in Annapolis, MD. Kristen plans to move to Cumberland, MD area after graduating to be closer to her boyfriend.

## **Tell a little more about the things you are most passionate about.**

Kristen has a passion for crafts, particularly cross stitch. She also has developed a small nail business where she has quite a following of students on campus.

## **One of your favorite quotes or Bible verses?**

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." Proverbs 31:25

## **Advice you would give to current Saint Joe's students?**

I know it seems as high school takes forever, and you can't wait to graduate; however, take time to appreciate everyone around you at Saint Joe's, as they have set up a great foundation for you to achieve many things in your college career. And when to college, make sure to involve yourself in many extracurricular activities because you never know how the smallest connection can make an impact on your future.