

Cathedral High School  
Indianapolis, IN  
Grade: 12

# WAKE UP!

Natalie Salgado | Senior | Cathedral HS

## Surviving Tragedy

Natalie's mom was diagnosed with breast cancer when Natalie was in middle school. Years went on with chemotherapy and doctor's notes. Natalie's freshman year, her mom passed away, leaving her family heart broken.

## Being Responsible

Natalie has continued to be an excellent role model for her younger sister, Adriana. Her mother asked Natalie to take care of Adriana, if she did not make it. Natalie has not taken this lightly. She now takes care of her whole family with a loving, servant's heart.

## Keeping Faith

Through the tragedy of losing her mom, Natalie and her family have kept their trust in God. As active Catholics, they attend mass every Sunday, practice all the sacraments, and live clean, holy lives in honor of Christ. Their hope in Jesus is truly inspiring.



## Through the Storm,

As seen in the image above, Natalie grew up with her mother, father and two sisters surrounded by religious leaders in the church. Natalie's mother was diagnosed with Breast Cancer when Natalie was in 3rd grade. She had various treatments, including chemotherapy and the cancer soon went away. When Natalie entered 7th grade, her mom's cancer reappeared, worse then before. She went through all of the treatments once again, but the cancer was only getting worse. The summer before Natalie's freshman year, Mrs. Salgado moved away from the family to Florida and tried an all vegan diet to regain her health. Natalie stayed with her aunt while her dad and sisters visited her mom in FL because she had summer school at Cathedral. In





## Active at School

Natalie hasn't let her circumstances keep her down. She truly is a living testimony.

- Co-President of Right to Life/ Pro-Life club.
- Senior Retreat Leader
- Theater, Costuming Crew
- Volunteers at Anna's House/ The Lord's Kitchen
- A light to all who pass by her!
- An amazing friend.

Scripture quotes: "Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young. Instead, be an example in your love, your faith, and your purity." 1 Timothy 4:12

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13



September, Mrs. Salgado flew out to Texas for treatment. Natalie and the rest of her family spent Christmas there in a rental house to be with her. On January 15th, she was rushed to the hospital because she couldn't breathe. She had developed pneumonia and was put on life support. Within four days the cancer had spread all over her body. On January 19, 2012, Natalie's mom was taken off life-support and passed away peacefully.

## Being an example,

Natalie could come to school each day depressed, sulking, pouting. But instead, she comes to school joyful and thankful. She talks about how excited she is to be able to come to Cathedral and how much she loves her father and little sister. She has stayed so strong in her faith, trusting that God has a plan and that everything will be alright. Natalie is truly inspiring and an example of how to "Wake Up the World," as Pope Francis said. She is a living example of how one's circumstances do not have to define them. She is a reminder of God's love and joy.

