



DEPAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Spartan Sentinel

Welcome to the Spartan Sentinel, our bi-weekly electronic newsletter for all things DePaul Catholic.

Principal's Corner

Mr. Russell Petrocelli

Dear Spartan Community:

Pre-Thanksgiving snow and water main breaks...it certainly has been an interesting couple of weeks that necessitated the closing of school. We usually use the term "snow day" but when an emergency situation arises that does not permit us to open school, we have to use the days built into the school calendar to ensure the safety of our students and staff. A concern that comes with using these days prior to the onset of winter weather is that all of the days will be exhausted before winter comes to an end.

In order to recapture lost instructional days during the Second Marking Period, **DePaul Catholic High School will return from Christmas Break and open on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. This is a change from the originally published 2018-2019 School Calendar.**

We invite all parents, families, friends, and alumni to our Senior Mass of Light, which will be celebrated on **Friday, December 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM**. At the conclusion of Mass, school will be in recess for the Christmas and New Year Holiday.

Please visit this newsletter on a regular basis to be brought up to speed on the happenings across the campus. If you are a graduate and are in the neighborhood, please stop in and say hello.

St. Vincent DePaul...Pray for Us!



Moving Forward...

Mr. John Merritt '71

Vice Principal, Student Life

Demanding the Impossible in Order to Achieve the Possible

Coaches, teachers, parents, bosses, religious and clergy have many things in common. One of these is demanding the impossible of their students, athletes, employees, etc. In an era of hurt feelings and extreme sensitivity this seems out of place. How and why should we demand the impossible? Are we going to frustrate the young people by doing so?

The best way for me to try explain it is to look back at my days as a high school student, with the belief that some methods and ideas are timeless. When doing so, two people come to mind. The first is my football coach, the second my junior English teacher.

Being a below to average athlete, I figured I would play a little as I was in awe of the kids who could do everything well on the athletic field. However, the coach saw me in a

different light. He demanded that I run faster, get stronger, catch everything thrown to me and keep my mouth shut. Practice every day was tough. My coach was demanding the impossible as I was neither fast nor strong, I could not see very well and I liked to talk. He kept demanding perfection from an imperfect individual. (every day)

I never really spoke about this to my parents as they would have agreed with the Coach and his methods, no matter what. (It was a different time.)

After a 3 year battle, I played as a senior because I was stronger, faster, I could catch and I offered no excuses.

I was able to accomplish the possible because my coach had demanded the impossible.

English Class was the same. Our teacher was a young guy who was also going to law school. One of his many demands was a 75 word vocabulary test each Monday morning (we played our football games on Sunday), a book report each week and a term paper each semester. We hated him. He was too hard, or so we thought.

He demanded our attendance and attention in class, learning all the new vocabulary words and definitions, and writing and reading well. He was relentless, with a sense of humor. He would look at your academic work with a critical eye and say, "It's not good enough. It needs to be perfect".

He was the only teacher I personally thanked when I graduated, although I hated him while in class.

I was able to achieve the possible because my English teacher demanded what I thought was the impossible.

It's funny how things work out.
Merry Christmas!

A Festival of Carols

Wednesday, December 12, 2018
7:00 PM
DPCHS Gymnasium



Please join the **Fine and Performing Arts Department** in conjunction with the **Forensics Club** as they present an evening of lessons and carols to celebrate the Christmas Season! Light refreshments will be served. See you there!

**Sponsored by the
DePaul Catholic
Fine and
Performing Arts
Department**

Teen Hunger Summit

submitted by [Mrs. Haggerty](#)

On Tuesday, December 4, a group of DePaul Catholic students traveled to Seton Hall Prep for the annual Teen Hunger Summit presented by the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. This gathering discusses social issues related to hunger and encourages students to take action in their own communities. This year, there were 290 students from 15 different high schools in attendance.



Holocaust Study In Theology and History Classes

submitted by [Mrs. Bullman](#)

Mrs. Dacles, Mrs. Bullman and Mr. O'Connor accompanied the students from the European History and Holocaust and Genocide classes to a viewing of the 25th Anniversary of "Schindler's List" in Paramus on December 5th. This special event was made possible through a grant from a partnership of the USC Shoah Foundation and Facing History and Ourselves.

The student response after experiencing this film has been profound. Upon returning to DePaul, Mrs. Dacles led the students through a series of questions and discussions. The students said they were deeply impacted by "man's inhumanity to man" as depicted in the film. They had studied the events leading up to the Holocaust and they recognized how well the film displayed the results of anti-Semitism. When asked if this is still a relevant concern in the world today, the students emphatically replied that "if we don't confront the problems of racism, anti-Semitism and hate in the world today, we run the risk of repeating history."



Senior Retreat

submitted by [Mrs. Bullman](#)

The DePaul Catholic High School Class of 2019 participated in their senior class retreat on

November 28th at Our Lady of Consolation Parish in Wayne. The students worked through community building activities that focused on perspectives and relationships. They had fun seeing things in new ways. They concluded the day with a beautiful celebration of the Mass as a class.



Honors Theology Trip

submitted by [Mrs. Bullman](#)

University Galleries
Ben Shahn Center for the Visual Arts
William Paterson University
The Senior Honors Theology students toured the Ben Shahn Center at William Paterson University on Wednesday, November 14th. They saw a faculty art exhibit as well as a poster exhibit “Women’s Rights are Human Rights.” During this part of their tour, William Paterson University guides explained different art techniques as well as the varied issues that were addressed in the human rights posters.



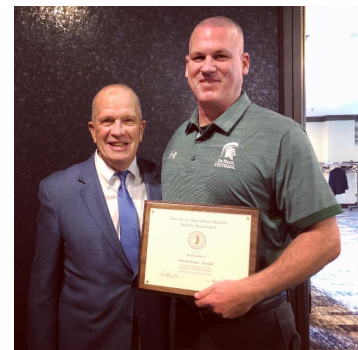
Following the Art Exhibit, students moved to University Hall for a presentation on the “Mystical Arts of Tibet” with Tibetan Buddhist monks leading a religious ritual in preparation for the making of a traditional mandala that will take up to 6 days to complete.

Spartan Nation

[Coach Joe Lennon](#)

Director of Athletics

On Monday, December 3rd, Coach John McKenna was presented with the Football Honor Award from the NJSIAA. Congratulations, Coach Mac!



Fall Athletic Individual Accolades

Congratulations to our Fall athletes who were named All-County and All-Conference for

the 2018 season. Please click the links below for a full list of accolades.

ALL-COUNTY LIST

ALL-CONFERENCE LIST

Admissions News

Mrs. Anne Brewer

Director of Admissions

Happy Holidays from the Office of Admissions! The application deadline is quickly approaching, however, there is still time to apply for the 2019-2020 academic year. All applicants must take the HSPT. If you did not take the test and you are interested in applying to DePaul Catholic, call to schedule an appointment to take the HSPT on **Monday, December, 17 from 9:00AM - 11:30AM**. Testing dates will open again after the winter break. Admissions decisions are mailed out on **January 11, 2019**. Questions about how to apply? Call the Office of Admissions today, we are here to help you! A big thank you to our Student Ambassadors! We hosted over 40 Shadow Days this fall, and our Ambassadors worked hard to make each and every visitor's experience memorable. Shadow Days will be available again in January. Wishing you and your family a happy holiday season and a blessed New Year.

Advancement News

Ms. Carmela Raiti

Director of Advancement

SAVE THE DATE. DePaul *Gala*, Thursday, March 21, 2019, at The Venetian.

At the *Gala* we will announce our inaugural *Distinguished Alumni Awards and Apostle of Charity Award*. These awards are in addition to the Hall of Fame, which has traditionally focused on athletic achievements of our Alumni. The *Distinguished Alumni Awards* recognize DePaul graduates who have achieved high rank or honor in their professions and have contributed extraordinary service to our school, their field or society. The *Apostle of Charity* award pays tribute to a member of the DePaul community who reflects a deep sense of Christian charity and has enriched the lives of others. Honoree announcements soon to follow!

DePaul Catholic Alumni Association *new!*

The new Alumni Association is recruiting **class captains** to help keep our alumni networks informed and engaged. Be sure to update your contact information via [AlumniUpdate18](#) More to come!

Gift Giving. We hope DePaul has made its way to your Christmas gift list. Our two big appeals -- the Lights Project and the Sr. Pat Scholarship Fund -- would greatly benefit from your support.

The Alumni Field Lights Project

Though the Field is looking brighter nowadays, the Lights Project is still a work-in-progress. We are looking forward to celebrating with you all, come Spring and the official Launching of the Lights!! To donate, just click [LightsProject](#).



Sister Patricia Flarity Scholarship Fund

The Sr. Pat Fund provides much needed tuition assistance to deserving students whose stay at DePaul is in jeopardy. Our thanks to all who have contributed to the Fund. To donate just click [SrPatFund](#)



Class Reunions

If you are planning a reunion for your class year, Advancement can assist with reaching out to your classmates. Just let us know.

Upcoming Reunion celebrations are being planned for the Classes of 1969, 1999, 1979 and 1964.



Thank you, Parent Volunteers

photo submitted by HSA



Thank you Allison Beshada for all the BIG things and little things you do!

WHAT'S THE SCOOP!

Submitted by the Parents' Association

If you have any questions, contact us at DePaulCatholicPA@gmail.com

Click the photo below for a larger version of the HSA news.

Coming Up!

Calendar Raffle Drawings Begin 12/25

PIT Shirts will be on sale during lunch on Friday, 12/14 - \$15



DePaul Catholic Parents' Association

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?



If you have any questions, contact us at DePaulCatholicPA@gmail.com

CALENDAR RAFFLE

Drawings begin 12/25!
With the holidays approaching, sell to family or buy some yourself as stocking stuffers. Please help our DePaul Family by selling your 10 raffles that went home in late Sept. If you need more, the office has some or contact one of the chairpersons.

For additional tickets contact:
Tracey Nardone traynard@gmail.com
Dawn Curran ddds4@verizon.net
Cindy Winkler cinwinkler@optonline.net

Clothing Bin Donations

Christmas is the time for giving! NOW is the perfect time to donate those pants you haven't worn in a year. Pass them along to someone in need. A green clothing bin for donations is in the back corner of the parking lot. Just drop your items in the bin when you drop off or pick up your kids from school.

Our next PA Executive Board meeting is
Tuesday, January 15th at 7pm
In the Commons Room!
All are welcome to attend.
Hope to see you there!



Are you planning to do any online shopping for your favorite people? Grab a Peppermint Mocha and start going through your list! (Don't forget to check it twice!)

This year please support DePaul while you do your holiday shopping at no extra cost with smile.amazon.com

Choose DePaul Catholic High School Inc as your charitable organization and let the shopping begin!



Sign up for
A+ School Rewards
DePaul Catholic School
ID# - 08465

<https://stopandshop.com/school-rewards/>



Save the Date
April 10, 2019
WE NEED YOU!

Come join our
Tricky Tray Team!!!

Pit Shirts for sale!

Are you in need of a stocking stuffer for your favorite DePaul student? Well, look no further. You can still get your **2018 PIT t-shirts for only \$10!** Either send money to Mrs. Baldo at the front desk with the desired size or they will be on sale during lunch on Friday, Dec. 14.

Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon January 23

We are requesting all families make a monetary donation or provide baked goods for the event.

For more information, please contact Deb Murray demurray@hotmail.com or 973-818-4841

It's not too late to sign up to volunteer to help with the biggest event of the year. If you're interested please contact one of the chairpersons. If you have any baskets you don't want, the Tricky Tray Committee will be happy to take them. You can drop them off at the front office starting NOW! Also, it is never too early to start sending in donations! Just include your name and retail value on the items so we know who to credit for the donation.

Donna DiPiano donnam59@optonline.net
Debbie Lozito dlococ@aol.com
Maryann Marren school12marren@yahoo.com

Please feel free to contact us at DePaulCatholicPA@gmail.com

President: Chris Marren, Vice President: Allison Beshada, Secretary: Jean Rafferty, Secretary: Mina Farrell, Treasurer: Kim Wilderson, Public Relations: Brenda Salamon, Advisor: Sr. Jeanne Agans



Students, parents and faculty prepare together for our group home Christmas gathering.



Even Spartan is cleaning out his closet!

DePaul Catholic High School | 973.694.3702 | www.depaulcatholic.org

STAY CONNECTED

