



## Roman Catholic High School Parent Newsletter

November 12, 2021  
Volume 4—Edition 9



### PURPLE VS GOLD CHALLENGE!- UPDATE

It was a busy week at Broad and Vine! This past week, the students enjoyed a Spirit Week in preparation for our Homecoming Masquerade Ball! Monday was the Veterans Day Assembly, Tuesday was Sports Jersey Day, Thursday was Crazy Sock Day, and Friday was LIMBO competition! Points will be added up next week! ***Congratulations to team Gold who won the Roman Run participation points!***



#### Current Standings

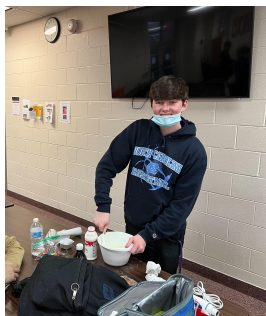
Team Purple: 541

Team Gold: 600



### Join the Cooking Club!

Interested in cooking with your friends after school, or learning new recipes? Join the Cooking Club! This past week, the Cooking Club prepared appetizers, treats, and desserts for our Mothers' Club Meeting! Email Ms. Renee Granato if you are interested or have any questions at [rgranato@romancatholicchs.com](mailto:rgranato@romancatholicchs.com).



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## YEARBOOKS YEARBOOKS YEARBOOKS!

Click [here](#) for information on how to order your 2021-2022 Yearbook!

SENIOR PARENTS: click [here](#) to purchase an Ad!

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### Veteran's Day Assembly

On Monday, November 8th, Roman Catholic High School held its annual Veteran's Day Assembly for the Junior and Senior Class. It was truly a beautiful ceremony honoring and remembering all of those who served our nation. Our guest of honor, Alex Balawejder, graduated from Roman Catholic High School in 2010 and served in Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division. We also honored the 13 soldiers who tragically lost their lives on August 21st, due to the horrific attacks in Kabul, Afghanistan. Special thank you to the Veterans Multi-Service Center for the loan of their military flags. Let us never forget we live in the land of the free, because of the brave. Pray for Peace.



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### Jefferson University- Medical College Workshop

#### "Patient History Taking and Physical Exam Workshop"

JeffMentors medical student volunteers from the Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University will be hosting a workshop on how to take vital patient history and perform basic parts of the physical exam on **Monday, November 15th at 3 PM**. This will be an informative and interactive session where students can apply their newly learned skills, with medical students acting as patients and guiding them through the practice. No prior experience is necessary. The event will be held at Roman Catholic High School.

There will be food provided and extra time for students to ask any questions about medical school, college, and healthcare in general. We hope to see you there! Please email Ms. Canavan at [mcanavan@romancatholichs.com](mailto:mcanavan@romancatholichs.com) to confirm attendance!

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Congratulations to all seniors who have been accepted to a college or university! Please bring in your acceptance letters and scholarships to Sister Jane in the Guidance Office. You will receive a candy bar!

## Winter Dress Code

The winter dress code begins on **Tuesday, November 16th**! The winter uniform includes the following: *black dress shoes, black dress pants, white oxford button down shirt, Roman tie or bowtie, and a sweater or school quarter zip.* Additional details can be found on the school website!

## Coats and Cans Drive- CSC & Cahillites for Kids

Cahillites for Kids and CSC are partnering for our Coats & Cans Drive which will begin this week. Students are asked to donate used coats, hats, scarves, and gloves for our Cahillites for Kids collection. There will be 1 large box on each floor of our main building for this collection. Additionally, students are asked to donate canned goods in their homeroom until Monday, 11/22. The top 3 homerooms with the most ounces of food will win a soft pretzel day and points for the Purple vs Gold Challenge! We will be donating the food to a local charity just in time for Thanksgiving! We appreciate your support as we put our faith into action through these Corporal Works of Mercy.



## Blue Mass of Thanksgiving

*"There is no greater love than this, says the Lord, than to lay down your life for your friend"*  
*John 15:13*

Roman Catholic High School's annual Blue Mass of Thanksgiving will be held on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 10:15am. The Administration, Faculty, Staff and, most especially the students, cordially invite anyone who has worked or currently works as a first responder. Please email Maureen Brown at [mbrown@romancatholichs.com](mailto:mbrown@romancatholichs.com) for more information!

May God Bless you and keep you in the palm of His hand.

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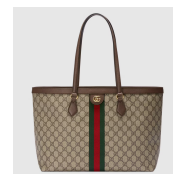
## Mothers' Club



The Mothers' Club is a service organization of mothers and guardians with current as well as graduated students. Their primary goal is to enhance the Roman community through initiatives that benefit our school throughout the year. They meet once a month from September – May (about 60 minutes). Meetings usually include a visit from a key member of the administrative staff and/or faculty. These special guests provide you with an update on school happenings and address questions. Annual dues are \$10.00 which covers their operating expenses as well as supporting many events/fundraisers. Please email [mothersclub@romancatholicchs.com](mailto:mothersclub@romancatholicchs.com) if you have any questions! Click [here](#) to purchase or renew your membership.

### **Designer Bag Raffle!**

We're raffling off a beautiful Gucci Ophidia GG Medium Tote handbag! Who wouldn't want a GG to add to their collection? Don't wait, buy your tickets today! This bag will be the perfect addition to your closet or make for a fabulous Christmas gift! Tickets are **\$10.00 each or 3 for \$20.00**. Click [here](#) to purchase. Deadline is Midnight on **12/3/2021**. Drawing will take place **Monday, December 6, 2021**. Lucky winner will be notified by phone and email. Good luck! Thank you for supporting Roman and the Mothers' Club!



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## FALL DESIGNER BAG BINGO

Hottest tickets in town are now on sale! **Fall Designer Bag Bingo**, sponsored by the Mothers' Club, will be held on **Sunday, November 14, 2021 from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM in the school Gym**. Tickets will only be sold online- **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**. Doors will open at 1:00 PM. BYOB! Cost is \$25 and includes 10 rounds of Bingo. Click [here](#) to purchase. Additional cards are \$10 and are available for purchase at the door. There will be three special rounds available at an additional cost of \$5 each at the door.

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## Help Wanted at the School Store- The Forum!

The Forum, Roman's School Store, has an opening for a part-time sales associate. Two days a week from 8-2:30. If interested, please email Father Bongard at [jbongard@romancatholicchs.com](mailto:jbongard@romancatholicchs.com)

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## 2022-2023 Facts Financial Aid application

2022-2023 Facts Financial Aid application can be completed at [factsmgt.com](https://factsmgt.com).

*There is no district code.* Parents can choose parent log in, payment plans/financial aid then create a username/password for new parents. If the parent already has an account, please log in with an existing username/password. *A Facts representative can be reached at 1-866-441-463 if you need any assistance.*

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## PROOF OF VACCINATION INFORMATION

If your son is vaccinated, please provide proof of vaccination to our School Nurse, Mrs. Schickling, at [mschickling@romancatholicchs.com](mailto:mschickling@romancatholicchs.com). **When there is a positive Covid case reported to the school, students who are fully vaccinated are NOT required to quarantine.** Please email Mrs. Schickling with any questions!



### **Out of State Travel for Students**

As our school continues to plan and approve out of state trips for our students, activities, and athletic teams, any students attending must show proof of vaccination prior to traveling. Students who are not vaccinated will not be permitted to attend.

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## Scholarship Opportunities

### **MONSIGNOR MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Monsignor John Mitchell Memorial Scholarship Fund supports Catholic African American students with exceptional academic ability who are in need of financial assistance. Scholarship(s) are awarded annually based upon the determination of the selection committee. *For this scholarship, students must be:*

- Catholic and African American
- in good academic standing with at least a cumulative B average at the time of the scholarship award
- eligible for financial assistance as determined by a completed FACTS Grant and Aid application (online)
- committed to serving his/her community
- interested in or currently attending an AOPS high school
- *The 2022-23 Application is now available. The deadline to apply is April 30.*

### **ARCHBISHOP'S GRANT FOR ARCHDIOCESAN EMPLOYEES**

This Archbishop's Grant is for full-time Employees of the Archdiocese who work in a parish, school, or AOP setting. Grants apply to high school tuition, and grant recipients may only use the grant at one AOPS high school.

Employees must apply for the grant each year.

We will award grants based on the number of applicants and the calculated need of each applicant, so award amounts may vary. All award amounts will be the totality of the grant and not an amount awarded per child.

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- Application opens October 1, 2021
  - Submit the Archbishop's Grant Application on or before December 31, 2021. We will not accept applications after December 31.
  - Submit a tuition assistance application through FACTS Grant and Aid on or before December 31, 2021, (this includes uploading a copy of your 2020 tax return). [Click here to apply for FACTS.](#)

We will communicate awards to all who complete the above steps on or before March 1, 2022.

Once we confirm attendance of each grant recipient at the designated school (September of each year), we will send the award amount to the designated school.

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## Reminders from Guidance

**SENIOR PARENTS** - 40 seniors have not scheduled their meeting. Please encourage your son to come down to the Guidance Office and fill out an appointment slip. Interviews are scheduled on a first come first serve basis! This meeting is necessary to learn the procedures of applying and requesting transcripts. Remember, we need 7-10 days to process any request, so keep an eye on deadlines. Also, please mark your calendar - The Christmas Deadline is December 3rd! This is the last day to request transcripts prior to the Christmas break. It is early because we get so many requests right before the holiday. This would include any schools with deadlines through January 7th. Thank you for your assistance.

**Safe2Say** - Next week Guidance will be in freshman and sophomore History classes, training the students about a Safe2Say. According to their website "Safe2Say Something" is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and to "say something" BEFORE it is too late. With "Safe2Say Something", it's easy and confidential to report safety concerns to help prevent violence and tragedies. We stress to the students that ultimately it is better to speak with a trusted adult at home or at school who will handle the situation directly. If something occurs during the school day, we want students to let a counselor, teacher or administrator know. We also let them know that frivolous or false reports will have serious consequences, not just from school but possibly from authorities. This is a serious tool and should only be used when absolutely necessary.

### Grief Group

Grief Group started last week. If you believe your son would benefit from attending, please reach out to Mrs. Hoole at [jhoole@romancatholichs.com](mailto:jhoole@romancatholichs.com).

As always, the members of the Roman Catholic High School Guidance Team are available to assist the students at Catholic High! If your son is ever in need of assistance, please reach out to his counselor!



- **Grade-Level Counselors:**

- Mrs. Desmond ([mdesmond@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:mdesmond@romancatholicshs.com))--*Guidance Director/Juniors and Seniors*
- Mrs. Snyder ([csnyder@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:csnyder@romancatholicshs.com))--*Sophomores*
- Mrs. Connell ([mconnell@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:mconnell@romancatholicshs.com))--*Freshmen*

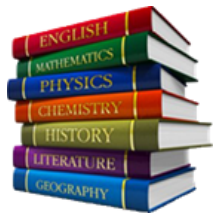
- **Family Connections Counselors:** The Family Connections staff at Roman Catholic provides an extra layer of support for students who may be struggling with personal/emotional issues that are affecting their learning. They also provide a bridge between home, school, and the community by providing information and resources to support student success. Family Connections staff is available 5 days a week.

- Mrs. Hoole ([jhoole@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:jhoole@romancatholicshs.com))
- Mrs. Levine ([mlevine@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:mlevine@romancatholicshs.com))

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## Tips for Addressing Academic Concerns

- **Monitor PowerSchool**—parents have access to PowerSchool, which allows them to closely monitor their son's performance in his coursework. Login information was mailed to each family at the start of the school year. If you are still in need of PowerSchool login information, please contact Mrs. Shipton at [mshipton@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:mshipton@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Open Dialogue with your Son**—As grades are entered into PowerSchool, have a conversation with your son about both the positive grades as well as the grades that need to be improved. Providing your sons with positive feedback throughout the marking period often makes it easier to address academic obstacles. When assignments are missing or test grades are low, this timely dialogue with your son is critical. *The importance of completing work on time and studying for assessments is critical to a student's success at Roman Catholic High School.*
- **Email the Teachers**—the Roman Catholic Faculty is comprised of many talented educators who are here to support your sons along their academic journey. After having a conversation with your son, please feel free to reach out to your son's teachers through email.
- **Please give teachers 48 hours to respond** as their teaching loads consist of around 150 students. Also, feel free to copy the Department Chair for the academic discipline on your correspondence to the teacher. The Department Chair emails can be found below:
- **Theology**—Mr. Jim Murphy - [jmurphy@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:jmurphy@romancatholicshs.com)
- **English**—Mr. Fitzgerald Gallagher - [fgallagher@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:fgallagher@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Science**—Mr. Dennis DiGiovanni - [ddigiovanni@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:ddigiovanni@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Social Studies**—Mr. John Corrigan - [jcorrigan@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:jcorrigan@romancatholicshs.com)
- **World Languages**—Mr. Nicholas Azzara - [nazzara@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:nazzara@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Mathematics**—Mr. Jim Brennan - [jbrennan@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:jbrennan@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Business**—Ms. Theresa A. Lazorko - [tlazorko@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:tlazorko@romancatholicshs.com)
- **Physical Education/Health**—Mr. Robert Hill - [rhill@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:rhill@romancatholicshs.com)



- **Fine Arts/Music**--Mrs. Shannon Gallagher- [sgallagher@romancatholichs.com](mailto:sgallagher@romancatholichs.com)

***If you do not hear back from a teacher within 48 hours, please reach out to their respective department chair with your concerns.***

- **Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs**— If after reaching out to your son's teacher and the department chair you still have concerns, please feel free to email Mr. Buck at [cbuck@romancatholichs.com](mailto:cbuck@romancatholichs.com)
- **Contact the Guidance Department**—Our Guidance Director, Mrs. Mary Desmond, may be able to assist you with finding additional resources for your son to improve his academic performance. Please reach out to Mrs. Desmond at [mdesmond@romancatholichs.com](mailto:mdesmond@romancatholichs.com) .

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