



# DEPAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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

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## **Principal's Corner**

Mr. Russell Petrocelli

Dear DePaul Catholic High School Community:

I am never quite sure what the protocol is related to this, but, even at this late date, let me wish you a Happy New Year!

As January reaches a midpoint, we also reach the midpoint of the school year and mid term exams are scheduled from January 21 to 26. In collaboration with the Department Chairs of each discipline, teachers were given the option this year to use a project-based assessment in place of a traditional exam and the creativity of some of the teachers has been extraordinary.

Unfortunately, due to restrictions placed on in door gatherings, we were forced to cancel the Junior Semi Formal which is traditionally held in February. As with all events, we will always keep open the option of rescheduling this event should circumstances change. I am already starting to get questions about end of the year events such as the Senior Prom and Graduation and, unfortunately, I can not give definitive answers at this time. I am hopeful that by Easter we will have a better indication as to what direction we are headed as it pertains to these events.

Every year, the DePaul Catholic High School Respect Life Club travels to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. Given the circumstances related to out of state travel, we will not be able to participate in the March in Washington and I have proposed the following alternative. On Friday, January 29, 2021, DePaul Catholic High School will sponsor our own March for Life on school grounds. The student body will assemble outside for comments related to the purpose of the March and then will hold a short March around the oval of the school parking lot. We continue to pray for the year that there will be no need to hold such a march.

May the blessings of this new year be abundant for you, your family, and your friends.

St. Vincent DePaul, Pray for Us!

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## **Moving Forward...**

Mr. John Merritt '71

**Vice Principal, Student Life**

## **The Final Countdown**

The next few months will see, hopefully, a slow return to normal. We hope and we pray!

We will still have choices to make over the next few months.

- To get the vaccine when it becomes available
- To continue to follow the COVID guidelines of masks, distance, no large gatherings and the choice of virtual or in person learning

- **Maybe for some it is the final opportunity to be a good citizen by following the protocols. It is obvious by the news reports and things we hear in school that some folks choose not to follow the protocols. New Years parties, large social gathering, etc..**
- What is the justification for not following guidelines?
  - We have a right.
  - We want our kids to have a normal senior year.
  - We believe that what we do does not matter.
  - The mask is uncomfortable (yes, it is!)
  - There are lots of attempted justifications.

It may be that some folks are missing the point.

- The time we are in is not normal and cannot be made into normal.
- The school year is not normal.
- The athletic seasons are not normal.
- The senior spring for the Class of 2021 may not be normal.

**Having parties and large gatherings will not help to make things normal. Not wearing a mask will not make things normal. It will only make things worse and widen the divide between those of us who follow the protocols and those of us who don't.**

Some folks will say life during this pandemic is not fair. That is obvious, but this is not the first time students in high school or anyone else have faced not normal times.

- If you graduated from high school during the years of 1941 through 1945 there was a pretty good chance that the service was your next stop, fighting the Nazis or fighting in the Pacific.
- If you graduated from high school in the 50s, 60s or 70s, until President Reagan and Congress abolished the draft in the 80s, there was a chance that you might have been drafted and sent to Korea, or later Vietnam, to fight for our country. My draft number was 192. (You might say that this only affected guys, but for every male drafted there was a family, wife, or girlfriend left behind who had the terrible time of worrying while their loved one was away.)
- Imagine graduating from high school in the 1930s during the Depression with the understanding that most of the work force was out of work.
- Imagine being a teenager between 1861 and 1865 during the Civil War and spending a few days in Gettysburg in July 1863.

Times have always been hard and rarely are times “normal”.

I guess the point of all of this is that it may be time for students and the rest of us to move forward.

It may be time for kids to come to school, if possible. A senior class needs to be together, in school. (I understand this is not possible for some, but it is very possible for others.)

It is time to work out your future as best as possible and be grateful for the gifts you have.

I guess it is time to stop trying to make things normal. It is time to begin doing what is best for all of us.

I keep hearing the phrase, "we are all in this together”.

Maybe we all need to hear it again, maybe several times more.

## School Counseling Office

Mrs. Anne Gregory  
[gregorya@dpchs.org](mailto:gregorya@dpchs.org)

This week we are proud to announce Zachary Brogan's acceptance into Seton Hall University. Zach says that he wanted to carry his Catholic education from DePaul with him

into the rest of his life. He decided Seton Hall was his first choice school and is ecstatic that he was accepted into their School of Diplomacy and International Relations. He feels that Seton Hall has amazing connections and internship opportunities in the United Nations and believes that he can further his education and make important connections that he will use throughout his career. He's going to be a Seton Hall Pirate and we are so proud of him!

## Welcome, Future Spartans!

Mrs. Brynn Merritt Campbell  
Director of Marketing & Enrollment Management

### INTRODUCING Connect with a Spartan

Our Shadow Program has gone virtual!

For the safety of everyone, we are not able to host visitors, so we're bringing our Ambassadors to you. (and they are so excited to meet you!)

Visit the website below to  
Connect With A Current Spartan.

[dpchsstudents.org](https://dpchsstudents.org)



[Connect With A Spartan Here](#)

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## Class of 2025 Admissions Process

### Attend a Virtual Open House

Did you miss our Virtual Open Houses?  
Check out our latest one here: <https://conta.cc/2JbdSYt>

### Connect With A Spartan

*We may not be able to host in-person Shadow Days at this time, but that doesn't mean you cannot connect with a current Spartan. Click the link below to Meet our Ambassadors.*

<https://dpchsstudents.org/#/>

### Send Your Transcripts, Test Scores, & Teacher Recommendation ASAP!

*Email is best: [admissions@dpchs.org](mailto:admissions@dpchs.org)*

Transcripts from 6th, 7th, and 1st Marking Period of 8th

Test Scores = any State testing completed in Middle School

Teacher Recommendation = Middle School Academic Teacher

**While we are still accepting applications for the Class of 2025, items submitted now will be reviewed on a rolling basis if there is room in the incoming class.**

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We are in the process of interviewing our next group of Prep students.

To be considered, please apply here:

# DePaul Catholic

EIGHTH GRADE PREP SCHOOL

*The place to begin*

[https://depaulcatholic.schooladminonline.com/users/sign\\_in](https://depaulcatholic.schooladminonline.com/users/sign_in)

Be sure to indicate that you are interested in 8th Grade Prep.

## Alumni & Advancement News

Joe Lennon, Director of Advancement

Coleen Fitzgerald Brophy '79, Director of Special Events & Alumni Relations

### MOE'S SOUTHWEST GRILL

Build your own meal kits!



**Wednesday, January 13, 2021**

Pick up at Moe's

500 State Rt. 23, Pompton Plains, NJ 97444

Click on the link below to order for DePaul Catholic. There are two pick up times 4:30-5:30 pm and 6:45-7:45 pm.

[Click Here to Order](#)

Calling all Alumni! Want to be a part of giving the gift of a Spartan education? To make an impact on a future Spartan, Contact Joe Lennon at [lennonj@dpchs.org](mailto:lennonj@dpchs.org) or 973-865-8725



### 2021-2022 TUITION RAFFLE

Don't miss the opportunity to win up to a \$10,000 tuition credit! This tuition award will be applied toward your child's 2021-2022 academic school year. You can gift your award to a current or incoming DePaul student. Invite your relatives and friends to participate.

[Purchase your tickets here!](#)

### Annual Fund For The Future



The definition of Spartan means a person of great courage and self-discipline. At DePaul Catholic High School, we promote focused, driven, self-disciplined students. With your support, you will aid in carrying on this legacy by helping DePaul continue to grow as a community and school.

For over sixty years, DePaul Catholic has provided thousands of students with faith-based, quality education in a safe and caring environment. We need your help as we continue this vital work, building God's Kingdom one child at a time. Your contribution to our Annual Fund will support our many programs, including merit scholarships to recognize academic excellence, tuition assistance for challenged families, enhancements to our Campus Ministry and Performing Arts offerings, and upgrades to our facilities.

For these sixty three years, as we like to say, DePaul Catholic has been "the place to be." Please help us continue to be that "place to be," for this generation of Spartans and for generations of Spartans to come.

To donate, please use this link: <http://weblink.donorperfect.com/spartanfund>

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## Around the Halls



**Did you catch Santa at DePaul this year? Lucky for us, our DP Santa made his yearly trip to Alps Road before we left for break. Thanks for stopping by!**

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### **Theology News**

Our Theology Department members have begun planning for this year's.....

### **Catholic Schools Week January 31- February 5, 2021**

#### **Monday: Kickoff Catholic Schools Week**

Theology classes will continue creating greeting cards and wishes for our local senior centers as part of Christian Service.(Celebrating Community)

**Tuesday:** Cookies will be provided for students. (Celebrating Students)

**Wednesday:** Catholic areas of interest and prayers will be shared throughout all departments. (Celebrating nation)

**Thursday:** There will be Vocations virtual presentations with Sr. Mariette Therese

Bernier, OSB from the Vocation Awareness Committee for the Diocese of Paterson, as well as other religious. Pre-recorded video presentation with Fr. Rama, Diocesan Vocations Director, (Celebrating Vocations)

**Friday:** Family and/or DP prayer/parable/skit (Celebrating School Community & Families) 9:15 Mass with Fr. Rama concluding Catholic Schools Week.

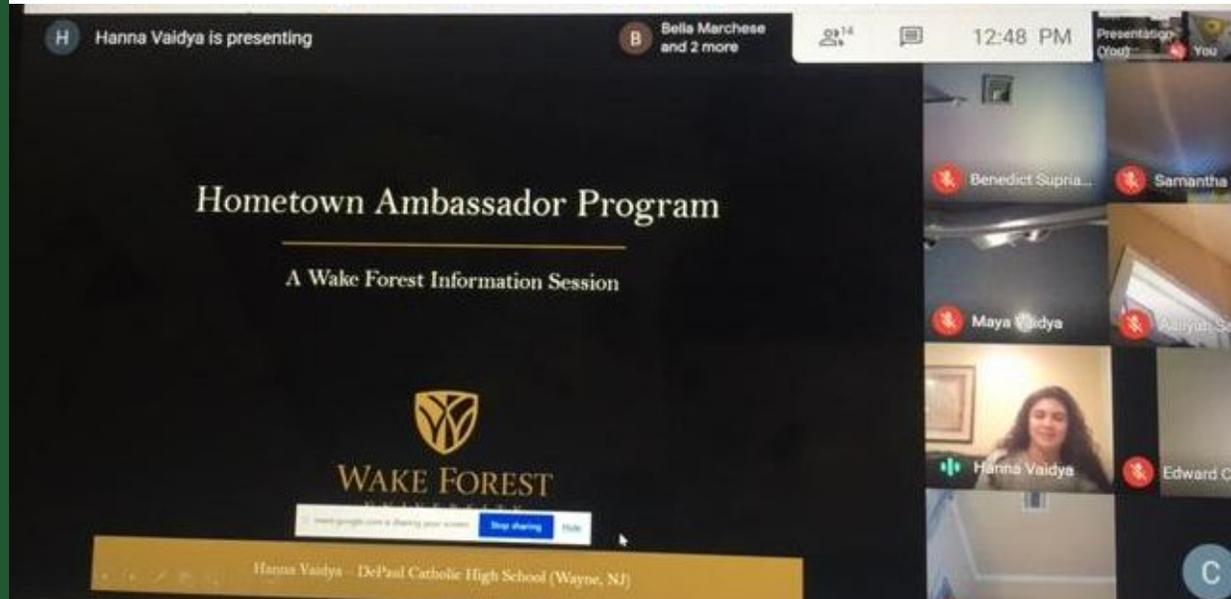
[CSW 2021](#)

Videos and pictures posted on Social Media

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### **Mrs. McGrady's Junior Health Class**

On January 7, 2021, DePaul Graduate, Hanna Vaidya '20 presented as a Wake Forest ambassador during Mrs. McGrady's Junior Health class.



### **DePaul Catholic Parents' Association WHAT'S THE SCOOP?**

Our next PA Executive Board meeting is **Tuesday, January 12th at 7pm** in the DP Information Commons Room! All are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

### **NEW YEAR, NEW PERSPECTIVE!**

New Year's typically starts off with people assessing what they want to change about themselves. People make resolutions that usually don't last. This year lets all try something new. Look at the New Year for what it is....A NEW BEGINNING! Don't focus on your shortcomings but rather focus on all the POTENTIAL each new day will bring. Live in the moment (put down your phone and look at the amazing world around you), spend time connecting with family and friends in a MEANINGFUL way, LAUGH out loud, be GENEROUS both financially and spiritually, allow time just for you, focus on the GOOD in people, and start each day by giving THANKS for all that you have. We, the Parents' Association Executive Board, are extremely thankful for everyone who gives their time and effort supporting all the students of DePaul Catholic! May 2021 bring you Health, Happiness and Peace.

**From The HOSPITALITY  
COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Parents' Association, we would



like to thank the parents who generously contributed to the Teacher's Appreciation gift in December. We were able to present in person to each of the DePaul faculty and staff a gift card and chocolate treat before the holiday break. We were also able to express how appreciative we are of their dedication and commitment to being there for our students during this difficult time. The Teachers and Staff were truly grateful and surprised by the generosity of our many families.

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## From The CALENDAR RAFFLE COMMITTEE

Our 2020-2021 Calendar Raffle provides 97 opportunities to win \$5700 in prizes! Prizes are drawn weekly at 12 noon on Fridays and tickets may win more than once. There is still time to get your forms in. We have a basket in the front lobby where you can pick up extra forms or drop them off in the Money Box. Drawings began on 12/25! Please help our DePaul Family by selling your 10 raffles.

### If you have any questions or need more, contact:

Cindy Winkler - [cinwinkler@optonline.net](mailto:cinwinkler@optonline.net)

Rosa Calle-Ponte - [caller61@gmail.com](mailto:caller61@gmail.com)

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the first winners of the Calendar Raffle! You can check the DePaul website (link provided) to see if you have won.

<https://depaulcatholic.org/raffle.html>



Please support DePaul as you are doing your online shopping at no extra cost with

[smile.amazon.com](https://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>



## **OUT WITH THE OLD**

Just drop your items that are ready to move on into the bin at the back of the parking lot. It's an easy way to help DePaul, help those in need, and make some much needed room!

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**From The TRICKY TRAY COMMITTEE**



### Mother Earth's Garden Party Tricky Tray

Our first meeting will be coming soon. Keep an eye out for more information!

Save The Date....Tuesday, April 20, 2021!

Below is a list of the Tricky Tray Committees.

Ad Journal, Basket Making, Decorating, Dinner Tickets, Female Models, Male Models, 50/50 (Night Of), Prize Runner, Prize Tickets, Prize Wheels, Publicity, Set Up, Solicitation, Super

50/50 Raffle, Wine Pull

If you are interested in joining any committees, please contact:

Donna DiPiano - 973-766-3662 [donnam59@optonline.net](mailto:donnam59@optonline.net)

Debbie Lozito - 201-214-6848 [dlodoc@aol.com](mailto:dlodoc@aol.com)

Maryann Marren - 973-580-3401 [school12marren@yahoo.com](mailto:school12marren@yahoo.com)

### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Advisor-** Sr. Jeanne Agans **President-** Allison Beshada **Secretary-** Mina Farrell, Leslie Minuitti

**Treasurer-** Kim Wilderson **Tricky Tray-** Donna DiPiano, Maryann Marren, Debbie Lozito

**Hospitality-** Deb Murray, Julie Sullivan **Ambassadors-** Andie Pegel

**Calendar Raffle-** Cindy Winkler

**Snack Stand-** Bob Niemiec, Allison Beshada **Public Relations-** Brenda Salamon

**Stop & Shop-** Rosalind Tomeio

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DePaul Catholic High School | 973.694.3702 | [www.depaulcatholic.org](http://www.depaulcatholic.org)

STAY CONNECTED

