

January 25, 2021



# DEPAUL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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

## Principal's Corner Mr. Russell Petrocelli

Dear Spartan Community:

January, as always, is a very busy month, highlighted by the Acceptance Letters that we sent out on January 14 to the Class of 2025! The Admissions Committee reviewed all applications and interviewed every prospective student who applied for an academic scholarship and, as a member of that committee, I can tell you that the students applying for the Class of 2025 have once again raised the bar academically as to what it will mean to be a Spartan.

As you read this, Mid Term Exams will be winding down and, of course, that means that half of this school year has been completed. Quarter Three classes begin on January 27, 2021. I ask the students at times like this, have you achieved 50% of your goals and, if not, what are you planning on changing to reach those goals that you established for yourself?

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated the week of January 31 and our Catholic Schools Week Mass will be celebrated on Friday, February 5, 2021.

At this time of year, the students from the Right to Life Club, under the leadership of Mrs. Val Haggerty, would be traveling to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. This march is an annual event to raise awareness and promote the Catholic doctrine of respecting life from conception to natural death. The students are unable to travel this year but DePaul Catholic High School will be hosting our own March for Life on Friday, January 29, 2021 when the DePaul community will gather in the front oval and our keynote speaker will be Bishop Kevin Sweeney, Bishop of Paterson.

Please visit this newsletter on a regular basis to be brought up to speed on the happenings across the campus.

St. Vincent DePaul...Pray for Us!

Russell D. Petrocelli  
Principal

## Moving Forward...

Mr. John Merritt '71  
Vice Principal, Student Life

## Exam Week At DePaul

Midterm exams are here. They started on January 20th and the students have arrived at school with those various looks on their faces we can all relate to.

· The look of concentration, intensity. Ready to attack. Give me the exam..... now!

- The worried look. I am going to fail!
- The calm look of confidence. I got this, no problem.
- The tired look of I stayed up all night cramming for the exam I hope I stay awake during the exam!
- The denial look that today is no big deal. It does not matter! But, in your mind, you know it does!
- The terrified look of I know nothing about today's exam. How can I blame the teacher if I fail?

Students have presented these looks upon arrival at school during exam week since the beginning of time.

Even Pebbles and Bam Bam of Flintstones fame had the look during their exam week.

Part of my duties today is to walk around and check on classrooms and observe the kids taking the exams.

During my walk around I will see similar looks, but add to that, either a look of euphoria or complete surrender/hopelessness.

Euphoria in that you studied the right material and it is on the exam, or surrender because you either did not study or studied the wrong information. I actually feel sorry for these kids because we have all been in their shoes at least once in our lives as students. "Oh no, I studied the wrong thing!"

Exams really are a rite of academic and life passage for kids. I feel bad that in some schools the academic wisdom says that there should not be any exams. I think not having exams denies students the opportunity to experience that rite of passage. It is a positive stress.

Exams are a great unifier for students. It is a time during a school day when all are facing the same challenges. Exams are also an opportunity to test yourself, prepare for the future and finally to see where you stand academically.

Exams are important and they matter.

The looks on the students' faces are priceless, as they have always been.

Long Live Exams!

## School Counseling Office

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

## DePaul Catholic College Corner



This week we are proud to announce Carmen Sullivan's acceptance into The University of Alabama! Carmen decided UA was her first choice school and is so excited to attend next year. She was accepted into the College of Communications and Information Sciences as a News Media major. She feels as though UA has amazing connections and internship opportunities in the sports media industry. She also believes that UA will give her all the skills and tools to be an amazing sports sideline reporter in the future! She's going to be a part of the Crimson Tide and we couldn't be more proud of her!



## Welcome, Future Spartans!

Mrs. Brynn Merritt Campbell  
Director of Marketing & Enrollment Management

We are truly in the midst of "Admissions Season" at DePaul Catholic. Over the past six weeks we have:

- Interviewed every student who wanted to be considered for an Academic Scholarship (they also had to take an Academic Scholarship Exam)
- Reviewed every applicant file over Christmas Break
- Selected our Alumni Scholar Award winners for 2025
- Put together Acceptance Packets (Thank you, Mrs. Baldo!)
- Mailed Acceptance Letters to the Class of 2025 (Thank you, Mrs. Nigro!)

Today, the registrations for the 9th Grade and 8th Grade Prep are rolling in for a September 2021 start. We are welcoming transfer students to start in a few weeks. In short, not even COVID could slow our Admissions Office down.

Thank you to everyone who had a role in the year's Admissions Process. At DePaul, it truly is a full team effort, and we cannot wait to welcome in this new group of Spartans!

**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.**



*The place to begin*

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

To be considered, please apply here:

[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.



# The Spartan Shop

### **Get Your Spartan Gear Here!**

The Winter Edition of the Online Spartan Store is now available. Click the button below to order today. Items can be shipped or picked up at school.

[Click Here For The Spartan Shop!](#)

### **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, February 10, 2021**

Pick up at Moe's

500 State Rt. 23, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444  
There are two pick up times 4:30-5:30 pm and  
6:45-7:45 pm.

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



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**2021-2022  
TUITION RAFFLE**

**Hurry Limited Tickets Available!**

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>

## Academy News

Sue Parler's Honors Engineering and Computer Science Academy hosted their first "Pitch Night" on Thursday evening January 21st. The evening was very successful, with DePaul students presenting their ideas and inventions to several investors, proud parents and curious faculty and staff in attendance. With the generous help and guidance of co-sponsor Douglas Muir, this promises to be the first of many successful evenings for DePaul and its students. To watch videos click on the link below.

[Pitch Night Video Click Here](#)



## Theology News

All theology classes met with Father Jhon Madrid in the chapel to pray for peace, healing and for focus as our students prepare for exams and as we share hope for our country.



## **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 will be posted on Social Media.



**Interact Club**  
Mrs. Bethany Dacles

Fatima Yaseen, a member of the Interact Club, displays some of the donations the club received as part of their Peanut Butter, Jelly, and Granola Bars collection for Catholic

Charities. The club organized the food drive as their service day to commemorate Martin Luther King Day.

Thank you to all who have already contributed to our drive. If you would like to add your donation to the collection, peanut butter, jelly (in plastic jars, please), and granola bars can be deposited in the boxes in the three lobbies at DePaul Catholic. Donations will be accepted through February 1.

Thank you for your Spartan support!

## Congratulations to DePaul Alumni that are “Making A Difference”

Joe Laborsky '68, President DePaul Alumni Association

In the December 7, 2020 issue of the Spartan Sentinel, we wrote that we wanted to identify Alumni that are “Making a Difference” in their community. We said that we would like to highlight here in the Spartan Sentinel members of the DePaul Alumni family who are going above and beyond

At that time Derek Guide was starting his Class of '99 Holiday Food Drive with the Catholic Charities of Paterson. The Catholic Charities of Paterson are helping more people than ever before because of the devastating impact of the Pandemic.

Congratulations to all of his classmates and other Alums who contributed \$1,000 that was used to help needy and deserving people with food and essentials during the Christmas season during this pandemic.

I would like to thank all of them for their generosity and kindness that aligns nicely with our patron saint, St Vincent de Paul.

Please join me in recognizing and thanking all of them for “Making a Difference”:  
Derek Guide '99, Ryan Hagan '99, Samantha Cruz '99, Rosalie Serapiglia '99, Tiffany Allen '99, Amanda Guide '95, Coleen Brophy '79, Tom Hofmann '69, Annmarie Dunn '69, Joe Laborsky '68.

I am asking all of our Alums that if you know someone, if you are that someone or know of a group of Alums that are “Making a Difference” in their community, please contact Coleen Brophy at [brophyc@dpchs.org](mailto:brophyc@dpchs.org).

Tell us how you/they are “Making a Difference” in their community.

We would like to share all of our Alumni good deeds in the Sentinel and other Alumni digital platforms.

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

Our next PA Executive Board meeting is **Tuesday, February 9th at 7pm** in the DP Information Commons Room! All are welcome to attend. Hope to see you there!

### 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!

### **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

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

STAY CONNECTED

