

THE EMERALD

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND DE PAUL AND BEYOND...



Pictures from the first day of school for freshmen, transfers, and peer ministers on 9/5/24 and our seniors on all students first day, 9/6/24.

It's Just the Start... Welcome Back Spartans!

KICKING OFF THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

On September 5th, 2024, all freshmen and transfer students arrived at De Paul, officially beginning their journey with orientation day! They were greeted at the front by upperclassmen holding welcoming signs and cheering, excited to welcome them into the De Paul family. The atmosphere was filled with excitement for their arrival.

To kick off the day, students gathered in the gym and joined their assigned groups. The orientation was a blast! Students spent the day getting to know each other, participating in fun activities, setting up their laptops, and forming new friendships. The day ended on a high note with pizza and ice cream.

On September 6th, all students returned for another year at De Paul! Everyone was eager to start the 2024-2025 school year. On the first day, students met new teachers and reconnected with friends and peers after the long summer. There was a sense of readiness to dive into the new year, with hopes of making it both successful and memorable.



Go Spartans!

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INTRODUCING SOME OF THE NEW FACES AROUND DE PAUL'S CLASSROOMS AND HALLS...

THE TEACHERS:

Mr. Goldfarb:

Mr. Goldfarb is a new teacher in the history department who teaches US History, Modern World Studies, and US Constitutional Law. Before coming to De Paul, he was a teacher in the Clifton public school system. Before his career as a teacher, he was a lawyer in New York and Connecticut who worked in criminal law and family practice, including real estate, wills and estates, and divorces. After his retirement, Mr. Goldfarb started teaching, something that he was passionate about for a long time. He found himself really liking it here, especially the students. Mr. Goldfarb's favorite part of his job is watching his students grow and improve.

Mrs. Falcon:

Mrs. Falcon is actually a returning faculty member who worked here two years ago. She teaches eighth-grade science, forensic science, and biology. Before she came to De Paul, Mrs. Falcon worked at Disney's Animal Kingdom! She took care of small exotic animals and African wildlife, which include animals like giraffes, impalas, and camels! What Mrs. Falcon likes most about her job is that she feels she's making a difference. To her, the students here are the best thing about De Paul. "I love the kids here. They really are so nice and welcoming... I really appreciate the type of kids that are here, and that they really are so kind and considerate."

Ms. Morrissey:

Ms. Morrissey is a new teacher in the math department who teaches eighth-grade math, geometry, and algebra one. Before De Paul, she was a technician in the Rockaway School System and helped to set up classrooms and assist classes from kindergarten to eighth grade. Ms. Morrissey loves her job because she is a "huge math and science nerd" and would love to share that enthusiasm with her students. She likes the people at De Paul the most because they are very friendly and welcoming.

Ms. Loverich:

Ms. Loverich, a new math teacher, has quickly grown to love her time at De Paul. After transitioning from an engineering career, she describes teaching as a uniquely rewarding experience, which is very different from her previous office setting. She has two years of teaching experience prior to joining De Paul, but she finds the faculty, staff, students, and strong sense of school pride inspiring.



Ms. Frodella

Ms. Frodella is a new English teacher this school year. She has a deep love of the subject and is very excited to teach it here at De Paul. Ms. Frodella loves how warm and welcoming the De Paul community has been, both the students and the faculty. Her favorite parts about teaching are watching students have their "aha" moments during class or when students get really invested in what they're learning. She also loves her profession because she enjoys being a source of encouragement

Our New Cafe!

There may not be a new sheriff in town, but there is a new chef! Our De Paul cafeteria has undergone exciting changes this year, welcoming Chef Joe and new lunch ladies who prepare and serve meals with care. Chef Joe offers a variety of delicious food, with something new daily, including snacks coming soon. The upgraded cafeteria now features fresh paint and new lunch tables, creating a welcoming environment for students to enjoy both breakfast and lunch. Remember to always thank the cafeteria staff for their service—it's the little things that make our community even stronger!

Make sure to follow @depaulchscfe on Instagram to stay updated on the daily lunch specials!



A WARM WELCOME...

Our New President:

MEET MR. GAFFNEY!

This year, the Spartans of De Paul Catholic welcomed Mr. Ted Gaffney as the new president. A graduate of the Class of 1982, Mr. Gaffney has returned with the mission of restoring and improving De Paul to the best extent possible. He believes his return to re-establish De Paul is his vocation and feels called to give back to God, the Church, and the entire De Paul community. "Why not us? It should be us," is his catchphrase!

"Faith, family, and football" accurately describe Mr. Gaffney, as he is a God-fearing and faith-filled father of five children. He is also an alumnus of the Boston College football team, which has inspired his children, including one who committed to play men's basketball at the United States Naval Academy.

Mr. Gaffney has a background in advising and consulting as a freelancer, serving as a chief executive officer in a leasing company and executive vice president of a capital corporation. He previously chaired the Notre Dame Cristo Rey High School Board of Directors and has been a member of De Paul's Executive Board since the early 2000s.

So far, Mr. Gaffney has improved De Paul's cafeteria with fresh paint, new ceiling tiles, and new floor tiles. Outdoors, the landscaping has been upgraded, and there is a beautiful new walkway to the athletic field. A handicap-accessible ramp to the field has also been added for game days!

His future plans for the next five years include implementing:

- A new practice turf field and lacrosse wall with a fence
- A freshly paved parking lot
- An outdoor lunch pavilion for seniors
- New gymnasium bleachers
- New locker rooms
- Light poles along the driveway of De Paul with banners of "Faith, Family, Community, Tradition, Excellence"
- An updated Flarity Hall with a business and welcome center, while keeping some classrooms

Mr. Gaffney enjoys spending time with students and faculty, getting to know everyone through his advancements at De Paul. You can catch him on the sideline of every Friday Night Lights football game, too!

Setting Spartans Up for Success—Study Tips

Hi Spartans! The school year is in full swing, and it's easy to feel overwhelmed. For seniors, college applications add extra pressure. Here are some tips to help you stay on top of things:

Organizing for Success

"The key to success is to start before you're ready." – Marie Forleo

Set academic and personal goals to stay focused. Use a planner or digital calendar to track deadlines and avoid last-minute stress. Break big projects into smaller tasks and study a little each day. Keep your study space tidy and free of distractions.

Effective Study Habits

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." – Robert Collier

Engage with what you're learning by summarizing it, teaching it to others, or applying it. Use the Pomodoro technique: study for 25 minutes, then take a 5-minute break. Quiz yourself to retain information better. Stay healthy with good sleep, hydration, and snacks. Study with classmates for new perspectives but stay focused!

College Applications

"Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, it comes from what you do consistently." – Marie Forleo

Stay organized with deadlines by using a spreadsheet. Ask for recommendation letters early to give teachers time. Take your time with essays and ask for feedback. Use resources like counselors, workshops, and online tools to guide you through the process.



Our Faith – Masses

GOD BLESS, AND ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, PRAY FOR US!

Quarter 1 of the De Paul 24-25 school year featured three Masses to start us off on the right foot under one Body of Christ. The year began with the Opening of School Mass on September 6th, uniting incoming freshmen and returning students to worship Jesus Christ and embody our school's mission of faith.

This was followed by the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul Mass on September 27th, honoring our patron saint's charity and compassion. Our Bishop's Mass, on October 18th, was led by Bishop Kevin Sweeney, offering insights on following the Lord. We ended our quarter with the All Saints Day Mass on November 1st which commemorated all the faithful departed. Our next Mass will be the Thanksgiving Mass on November 27th.



More Faith:

Senior Retreat:

- On October 3rd, the Senior class traveled down to Brick, NJ to see the shrine of Blessed Carlo Acutus. It was a wonderful day of growing in faith and connection with one another.

Midnight Run:

- Called to serve! On October 18th, some of our Spartans traveled into NYC to distribute donated food and clothing to the homeless population.

Interact X Covenant House: Sleep Out

- On September 28th, Interact held its first Sleep Out in partnership with Covenant House. Through this experience, Spartans were able to be in solidarity with the homeless and raise funds & awareness for homeless young adults.

Rosary:

- Hail Mary, Full of Grace...On World Rosary Day, students gathered in the Chapel to recite the Rosary together.

Baby Drive:

- Right to Life Club, run by Mrs. Campanile, has been incredibly active recently on their mission to ensure life is protected at all stages. Their most recent endeavor was a baby drive, where they partnered with Ms. Zaccardi's sophomore classes to collect donations such as diapers and Lysol wipes. These donations went to the Passaic Neighborhood Center for Woman and Several Sources Shelter.

If you are interested in diving deeper into your faith, see a Theology teacher for more ways to get involved in activities like these!



Clubs, Clubs, and More Clubs...

On September 29th, Spartans had the opportunity to visit the Club Fair in the gym during one of the three lunch periods. This gave students the chance to sign up for new clubs and get more involved in the DP Community.

We offer many clubs for students, if you were unable to make it to our club fair this year, and are interested in signing up, then each of our clubs are listed below and are available on the website:

- Art Club
- Book Club
- Chess Club
- Culinary Club
- Debate Club
- Entertainment Arts Club
- Forensic Public Speaking
- Interact Club
- Italian Club
- Jazz Club
- Leos Club
- Student Cultural Resource Group
- Young Lawyers Club
- Medical Science Club
- Morgan's Message
- Newspaper Club
- Peer Ministry Club
- Right to Life
- Spanish Club
- Swim Club
- Crochet Club



Pictures from the Spartan Club Fair



SPORTS

Great Sports Seasons So Far at DPCHS!

VOLLEYBALL

The De Paul Girls' Volleyball team holds a 9-9 record this season, with notable victories including shutouts against Passaic, Holy Angels, Wayne Hills, and Eastern Christian. They also made it to the semifinals of the Passaic County Tournament after defeating Paterson Kennedy and West Milford, but eventually fell to Wayne Valley. Seniors like Michelle Bodnar, Lisamelia Espinal, and Gianna Nelson have been key contributors alongside underclassmen Alexis Guia and Daniela Scrofani. The team continues to display strong performances and talent as they prepare for their upcoming matches.



Girls' Volleyball: picture of the before their Morgan's Message Game, with DPs therapy dog, Bear.

Boys Soccer

De Paul Catholic's boys' soccer team, led by Coach Dan Christian, has had an impressive season, boasting a 13-3 record and a 6-2 standing in the Big North - United division. Key victories include a 1-0 win against Bergen Catholic and a 6-0 blowout over Paramus Catholic. Notable players include sophomore Ayden Santiago, who leads with 13 goals, and senior Andrez Santana, who has 7 goals and 4 assists. Goalie Teddy Handler has anchored the defense with 78 saves in 15 games. Despite a tough loss to Clifton in the Passaic County Final, the Spartans are looking strong as they prepare for postseason play.



Cheerleading

This year's cheer team has proved to be good with an outstanding performance of halftimes. The girls bring lots of pep to every game and high spirit. Each football game is filled with light and lots of cheerfulness with the Varsity De Paul cheerleaders. They have cheered alongside the football players' striding victories this season. The cheerleaders have had an important role with keeping school spirit and always have a positive attitude with a smile on their faces.

Girls' Soccer Wins Counties

On Saturday, October 26th, the De Paul Girls' Soccer team continued their undefeated streak with a commanding 7-1 victory over Wayne Hills. The win pushed their record to an impressive 16-0 as they set their sights on the state tournament.

Gabrielle Sanchez and Jasmine Ouatu led the charge, each contributing two goals and one assist. Nicole Crane added a goal and an assist, while Gabriela Berrios and Tommi Valente each found the back of the net as well. Leah Bolson's two assists helped keep the offense flowing, and Alexis Kochan also contributed with an assist.

The defense, along with two saves from the goalkeeper, Ella Guarini, played a strong game, holding Wayne Hills to just one goal. This solid performance keeps the Spartans' season alive with the state tournament on the horizon.

We are incredibly proud of the girls' continued success and are eager to see how they perform in the upcoming tournament. Could a state title be next for De Paul? Stay tuned, Spartans fans!



The Emerald – A closer look at all the reasons why De Paul is the place to be!

Stay tuned for our next edition coming soon, with more articles about academics, arts, sports, extracurriculars, and everything DPCHS!

The Football Season

De Paul Catholic's football team, led by Head Coach Nick Campanile, has had an impressive season with a 7-1 record and a 3-1 standing in the SFC - United White division. The Spartans kicked off their season strong with notable wins against Pope John (47-15), Good Counsel (28-17), and Don Bosco Prep (21-20). Although they faced a close loss to Delbarton (52-51), the team remains a dominant force.

Key Players:

- Derek Zammit (Junior, QB): 1,842 passing yards and 25 touchdowns.
- Nolan James Jr. (Senior, RB): 1,248 rushing yards and 14 touchdowns.
- Elijah Burress (Senior, WR): 686 receiving yards and 11 touchdowns.

Upcoming Game:
- November 2, 2024 - St. Joseph (Mont.), 2:00 PM



SPARTAN STRONG!



The Mental Health Corner: Inspired by Morgan's Message Club

Our De Paul Catholic community strongly supports student mental health, which includes emotional, psychological, and social well-being. As Quarter 1 wraps up, stress from sports, school, and life can increase. Here are some tips for Spartans to maintain good mental health: establish a routine, create a healthy sleep schedule, prioritize self-care, seek support from peers or teachers, practice positive self-talk, keep a balanced schedule, set realistic goals

De Paul Catholic's Morgan's Message chapter aims to reduce the stigma around mental health for student-athletes. The club provides support and resources, encouraging peer discussions and advocacy to improve mental health in our athletic community!

The Emerald is brought to you by the members of the Newspaper Club:

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