

Knighline

CM Illuminates Christmas

"From One Generation to Another"- from the Book of Luke

The beginning of December brings annual certainties: cool air, frost-covered trees and wonderful Christmas music courtesy of the annual Catholic Memorial Christmas Concert. This year's offering will be performed on Tuesday, December 2, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Name Parish in West Roxbury.

Under the baton of CM's Director of Music, Craig Spaner, this year's concert will feature the Eighth Grade Chorus, the CM JazzMen, CM's Chamber Ensemble, various soloists and readers from the Forensics Team. There will also be several special guests, and some musical selections which will be unique, having not appeared before at any of CM's Christmas Concerts.

Mr. Spaner elaborates, "This year I wanted to include some instruments and combinations of

instruments that I haven't used in the Christmas concert before. I quite like the songs in this concert. I think it's going to be a really beautiful program. All of the performers have been working extremely hard and diligently towards making this concert a huge success."

Admission is free. Please come out and support the performers from CM. Help to ring in the Christmas season this year by listening to Christmas tunes performed by our talented students and guest performers.

Mr. Spaner added one final thought: "This concert is truly a reflection of the beauty and prayerful nature of the Christmas season, which is indeed a special and heart-warming time of year. Many people have assisted to make this concert a success and for that, I am quite thankful."

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In Memory

Please remember those members of the Catholic Memorial community, both past and present, who recently died:

Gloria Klint – grandmother of Cameron '13 and Carl '05

John Maciejko – father of Paul '82 and grandfather of Brendon '10

Antoinette Saveriano – mother of Bert '80

Helen DeGiacomo – great-grandmother of Mark Collins '12

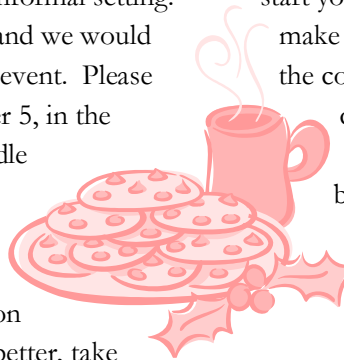
George Wright – uncle of Herb Andrews

All the veterans who have lost their lives defending our country

For this we pray.

Coffee Break

For the past several years the Parent Council has held a coffee for parents to get together and meet each other in an informal setting. It has been a great success and we would like it to become an annual event. Please join us on Friday, December 5, in the Resource Room at the Middle School. The coffee will be held from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m., and we'd love to see you. Stop by for a minute on your way to work, or even better, take the morning off and meet a few new friends. Coffee, tea and breakfast pastries will be served.



Wreath Making Social

Come join us on Thursday, December 4, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria and start your holidays early. Each person will make a wreath for their home and enjoy the company of friends at a wine and cheese social. We will also work together to create large wreaths for both the Middle School and High School. Attendance is limited, so reply early. The cost of the evening is \$40.00.

If you have any questions about either event, please call Mrs. Debra Buckley at (617) 325-3319 or Mrs. Marilyn Shea at (617) 327-4114.

Guidance Corner with Mr. Tegan



“How much time do you spend on homework, on average, Monday through Thursday?” I ask this question regularly, especially to the freshmen and sophomores. The

answer is often the key to the student’s grades. Students who respond in the 30-60 minutes range are usually in the C-/D category. Students who respond in the 1 ½ to 2 hours range are usually in the B/C category. Students who respond in the 2 ½ to 3 ½ range usually are A students.

We say that a student should be working

for 30 minutes each night for each subject. That includes: reviewing notes, reading, writing/answering/solving, and preparing/reading ahead for the next day. Long range assignments are extra. Students who follow this formula will generally be very well prepared. Students who just do the written work will have problems.

We know that all students will not achieve according to this simplistic result formula. There are some very bright students who can “get by” just doing the writing. They do themselves an injustice. In the long run they will not have developed the tools needed for success. They will not receive the grades they are capable of achieving. They will not be accepted by selective colleges. They will not be offered the

merit scholarships that they might have been offered with better scores (grade point average, ACT, SAT).

There are some other students who might have attentional problems or learning disabilities. These students may have difficulty finishing assignments every night. They should do the best they can in as many areas as they can. Parents should make sure that these students do not get too stressed over the requirements. Parents should make contact with the teachers about the special needs so that the teachers are well informed. Guidance counselors should also know.

Let’s work together. We all have the same goal: your son’s success!

Lending a Hand

Freshmen Students Make Care Packages for Soldiers

As part of our neighborhood outreach, over 150 CM freshmen made care packages for the 1st Platoon, Transportation Support Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 2, stationed in Baghdad. Students wrote letters and made packages containing basic supplies – razors, toothbrushes, snacks and other materials. Each letter and supply package was sent to a specific soldier. The idea came from Spanish teacher, Ms. Tara Kfoury, but it was senior Dino Cauteruccio who suggested a more school-wide approach.

Notes from Dean Ryan

Two reminders about attendance:

Illness: If your son is to be absent due to illness you must notify the school before 10:00 a.m. on the day of his absence and also send him in with a note explaining his absence on the day that he returns. Also please note that your son may receive an automatic 55% for each class in which he has missed more than 15%.

Tardy: When your son is late without an excuse he will receive detention. The excuse must be verbally communicated or written on a note in order for the child to be excused. When a student has been late 10 times, whether excused or unexcused, he may receive a suspension or other form of serious discipline.

Catholic Memorial to Donate Thanksgiving Baskets to St. Patrick’s Church in Roxbury

Catholic Memorial students will again partner with St. Patrick’s Church in Roxbury to provide Thanksgiving baskets to needy Boston families. “As you are well aware,” writes Father Waldron, pastor at St. Patrick’s, “these are particularly trying times economically, so we expect more people than usual looking for help.” Grade levels will be asked to supply specific food items through homerooms from November 12th through the 20th. The drive will culminate with our Thanksgiving liturgy.



CM Bookstore Christmas Sale

Sunday, December 14, 2008
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bring this coupon for
\$10.00 OFF a purchase
of \$50.00 or more

MasterCard, Visa, Checks and Cash Accepted

The Friends of Catholic Memorial Athletics Association

Fall Sports Update

The cross country team has had some great successes lately. In the Manhattan College Invitational, Ed Colvin placed 8th (13:08) and Nahed Lakkis 19th (13:25) out of 254 finishers. At the 49th Annual CMI, Colvin placed 3rd (16:17) while Lakkis came in 14th, with a time of 16:50. At the Conference Championships, Colvin again finished 3rd (16:17), and Lakkis came in 10th with a time of 17:14. Congratulations to all the other Knights who finished in these races.

The golf team qualified for the Sectional Tournament and Joe Harney qualified for the State Tournament and placed 2nd.

The soccer team has also qualified for the Sectional Tournament with 11 wins, 5 losses and 1 tie. Will Donovan and Kevin Butler rank 1st & 3rd as leading scorers in the Catholic Conference. Goaltender Connor Askins places 2nd among Catholic Conference Goalies.

The varsity football team remains undefeated at 6 – 0 as this is written. With a 46 – 12 win over Malden Catholic they continue to look promising. Leading scorers are Delroy McDonald, Andrew DiBartolo and Lorenzo Warren.

The 5th Athletic Hall of Fame

You are invited to join us in paying tribute to some of Catholic Memorial's best athletes and coaches at the 5th Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony that will take place on Friday, November 28th at Moseley's on the Charles in Dedham.

For more information or to purchase tickets to this event, please call Dave Erwin at 617-469-8052 or contact him by email at DavidErwin@catholicmemorial.org. Tickets are \$75 per person. The event will begin with a reception at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner and the induction ceremony.

Thanksgiving Football Game

This year CM will travel to Morrissey Boulevard to play B.C. High for the "Pumpkin Trophy." After close games the last few years, the Knights intend to bring the Pumpkin back to Baker Street. Game time on Thanksgiving Day is 10:30 a.m. At press time, CM is 6 – 0 and B.C. High is 5 – 1 so we look forward to another exciting game.

Tickets can be purchased at CM beginning Monday, November 17, for \$5.00. You can purchase your tickets between 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Athletic Department. All tickets sold on game day will be \$7.00. Come out and cheer on your "CM Knights!"

Winter Sports and Physicals

As a reminder, if your son wishes to play a winter sport, he must have an updated physical on file in the nurse's office by November 24. If you have any questions as to whether his physical is current, please have him check with the nurse.

Christmas Shopping at CM

In the last issue of *Knightline* we told you about the two items that we have on sale this year – an 11 oz. ceramic coffee mug (\$5.00) and a 16 oz. hot/cold travel tumbler (\$10.00). The CM Knights logo is on both items, which can be purchased in the Athletic Office, at the Wreath Making Night, at the Bookstore Christmas Sale on Sunday, December 14, or by calling Sue Sullivan at 617-469-8061 to reserve them. We have a limited amount of both items. Also available are the CM tote bags, aprons, Christmas ornaments and cookbooks, and no item is priced more than \$12.00. Be sure you start your shopping soon for all members of your family so they can display their CM pride.



Congratulations

Congratulations to senior Brennan Williams who has been selected to play in the prestigious U.S. Army All-American Bowl at the Alamo Dome Game in San Antonio, Texas, on January 3, 2009. This game has long been a benchmark for college coaches who are recruiting the next generation of college and NFL players. Many future NFL players, including Reggie Bush, Vince Young, Adrian Peterson and Tim Tebow, earned a spot on their respective teams during their high school careers.

One of only 90 football players nationwide to receive the honor, Brennan (6' 6", 275 lbs.) is an offensive and defensive lineman for the Knights and is one of the team captains. He earned acclaim in 2007 as a Catholic Conference All-Star for Catholic Memorial. Brennan is also a member of the National Honor Society, Art Club and Ambassadors Club at CM.

Brennan was formally recognized for this honor during a ceremony on Monday, November 10, here at CM.



The next meeting of the Friends of CM Athletics Association will be on Monday, January 26, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the new Faculty Dining Room (in the former monastery).

Christmas Raffle

Planning for our annual *Christmas Raffle* is underway. The raffle will begin this month and will run through January 6, 2009. Parents will be receiving their raffle tickets in the mail shortly. The *Christmas Raffle* is the school's largest fundraising event.

This year the proceeds from the *Christmas Raffle* will be used for an electronic bulletin board in the main lobby so that we can keep parents informed about all that is happening at CM on a daily basis. We also hope to continue the landscaping work that was done at the main entrance to the school with new trees.

We are asking each CM family to participate and sell one book of raffle tickets (each book contains 20 five dollar tickets). Any family that sells more than one book will be added to a separate drawing for numerous prizes. The list of additional prizes will be listed in the letter with your raffle tickets.

The *Christmas Raffle* provides the entire CM community with an opportunity to raise money for the school. In addition to this important fundraiser, the raffle is also a great community building event for students, parents, friends, faculty and staff as we come together for a truly blessed and festive holiday season. CM parents are an invaluable part of this effort. In order to make this Christmas Raffle a success, we ask for your continued support and participation. Your participation in this annual effort will help ensure that a CM education remains a unique and enriching experience for our students now and in the years to come.

Thank you in advance for your generous support,

Mrs. Karen Petrucci and Mrs. Beth Leney
Parent Council Coordinators of the Christmas Raffle



Open House a Great Success

The Admissions Office would like to thank the many parents and students who volunteered to help with the Catholic Memorial Open House in October. As you know, Open House is CM's major showcase event and we were very blessed to have so many enthusiastic families represent our school that day. Special thanks go to Mrs. Jean Walsh and the Parents' Hospitality Committee for all of their planning and coordination leading up to this important event.

Upcoming admissions calendar:

High School Entrance Exam - December 13

Middle School ISEE - December 20

Grade 7 and 9 Financial Aid Deadline - December 31

Middle School Information Night – January 21, 2009



Knightline **Catholic Memorial Parent Council Newsletter**

A special publication by Catholic Memorial
for the parents of Catholic Memorial.

We welcome questions and comments.

Editor: Dotti Saroufim (617) 327-7096

dotti.saroufim@verizon.net