

# Knighline

## Letter from the President

Dear Parents,

Catholic Memorial School opened its doors this September to its 52nd year of operation. I am glad that I was there to see it happen. It brings me great pleasure to return to my alma mater forty-six years after graduation. A lot of sights were familiar to me and called forth pleasant memories when I began my tenure as President this July. But much was new to me, too.

Today we are a school, not a high school, having welcomed a 7th and 8th grade a little over 15 years ago. I'd like us to think of ourselves in that way, too, as a School. Second, what was once a nondescript parking lot on the side and the back of our property is now a very impressive athletic complex which plays host to some of the greatest teams in Eastern Massachusetts. Our campus, small as it is, has filled out nicely. Third, I don't believe we had more than two or three minority students -- students of color -- when I was graduated. Now the number is close to 20%. It shows, and it is a most welcomed change. Finally of course, nearly all of my teachers were Christian Brothers. Today we have four, three of whom are active in the classroom.

I come to Catholic Memorial as its eleventh head of school at an exciting time in the

school's history. Having taken the time to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary last September, we now face the future with anticipation and fervor. You might say the school rolled up its sleeves in that first half-century and is now immersed in its most important work: a competitive, college-preparatory curriculum, advancements in

technology, growth in the school's footprint, and an expanding devotion to the school's mission through outreach and travel.

Autumn is the time for reflection on those who have passed and remembering those who came before us -- we do this as a school community in a variety of ways. But autumn is also a time for anticipation and planning. To that end, I have begun to work with all constituencies at CM this fall to form a collective

vision and direction for the school, one that builds on the good work of the nine-year term of Brother James J. MacDonald, whose outstanding record in growing the school's resources and achievements humbles me. With over thirty years of work in secondary and higher education, my career path has given me the foundations to think big, and CM is the place I've come to do just that.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Sheff, President



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### In Memory

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

**Tom Robinson – former faculty member**

**Barry O'Leary '68 – father of Joe '99**

**Eugene Condon – father of Eugene Jr. '80, Mark '81 Bernard '83 and David '88**

**John Manning – father of John '90**

**Paul Walker '69**

**Christine Dunphy – wife of John '63**

**Sonia Grigorian – grandmother of Hagop '10 and Raffi '12**

For this we pray.

## Guidance Corner with Mr. Tegan

### Sophomore Parent Guidance Information Night - November 5, 2008

Parents of sophomores should plan to come to an information night provided by our guidance staff. Whether you realize it or not you are right in the middle of the College Process. It is not too early to get started with your plans. Additional information about testing, careers, summer planning and volunteer activity will be presented.

### College Planning for Seniors

Parents of seniors are reminded that students should be making final plans for applying to college. Fall college visits are still possible and greatly encouraged. Transcript request forms must be returned to the counselor by December 1, 2008.

The date has been set for our annual Financial Aid Information Night in the Martin Center at Stonehill College: Tuesday, January 6, 2009. Parents of seniors who wish to receive financial aid for college should definitely attend this

informative meeting! Get there early for a good seat. Start time is 6:30 p.m. Mrs. Eileen O'Leary, Director of Student Financial Services, will host parents from CM and six other area high schools. Directions to Stonehill can be found on the Stonehill website. They will also be given to students the week before the event. Pray for good weather!

### Guidance Testing for Underclassmen

*(Please note date change from school calendar -- incorrectly listed as Oct. 22.)*

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will take standardized tests on Wednesday, October 15, 2008. There are no classes on this date. Seniors are expected to visit colleges that day. Dismissal for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will be before noon. Results will be distributed and explained to students before Christmas break.

9th Grade---NEDT  
10th and 11th Grades---PSAT



*Mr. Tegan guided 8th graders on the American West Expedition in Yellowstone this summer.*

### Guidance on the Edline Page

The Guidance page on EDLINE has been (and will continue to be) updated with important information about careers, colleges, testing, wellness, and much more. Please check it out. Feel free to make any suggestions for future use by contacting Mr. Tegan at: roberttegan@catholicmemorial.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

## Mandarin Chinese Adult-Ed!

Thanks to a special partnership instituted by Catholic Memorial and the People's Republic of China, over 100 CM students are currently receiving instruction in Mandarin Chinese this year. The partnership adds two full-time, bilingual Mandarin instructors to CM's faculty to help students in grades 7-12 gain facility in the most commonly spoken language on the planet. It also gives our students a serious leg-up in today's global economy.

CM is now extending this opportunity to adults.

Adult-education sessions in Mandarin Chinese I will begin on Saturday, November 8, 2008, and continue through Saturday, April 4, 2009. Classes will meet each Saturday morning in Donahue Hall from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. The cost for the class is \$300.00 per student.

This is a great chance for those in the private sector to develop proficiency in Mandarin and an understanding of Chinese culture. To register, email JamesKeane@CatholicMemorial.org or call Dr. Keane's office directly at: 617-469-8048.

## BERSI Travels to New York City

This summer, twenty students and two teachers ventured to New York City on the 6th annual Blessed Edmund Rice Summer Institute, part of the BERSI program (Blessed Edmund Rice Solidarity Initiative).

Students in grades seven through twelve took in the sights of New York like the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty, but also engaged in academic discussions with scholars at Yale and Farrar Strauss Publishers in Union Square. They ate at Sylvia's Soul Food and at the ESPN Zone in Times Square, visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Natural History Museum, and toured Frederick Douglass Charter School and Rice High School in Harlem. Dr. James Keane and Mr. Joseph McGonegal chaperoned the trip. This year's BERSI voyages include a return to El Salvador, as well as a possible June trip to South Korea. Visit [www.riceinstitute.com](http://www.riceinstitute.com) for more information.



## The Friends of Catholic Memorial Athletics Association

### CATHOLIC MEMORIAL PRIDE

By now all families have received in the mail their new "Friends of CM Athletics" bumper sticker. Please display this sticker proudly on your car. You don't have to be a member of the Association to show your pride in Catholic Memorial. It is also important to show your school pride by attending games and supporting all of our teams. Everyone also received a schedule of CM's fall sporting events and we hope to see you at upcoming events. If you need another sticker or schedule, please feel free to stop by the Athletic Office, Room 102, to pick one up.

### CONGRATULATIONS

The Catholic Memorial Community would like to congratulate Brian Keane, who won a Silver Medal for softball in the Special Olympics this past summer. Brian is a faithful supporter of CM Athletics and he has been working on the Chain Crew for the last four years keeping track of the downs for our varsity football games. Way to go, Brian!

### CATHOLIC MEMORIAL INVITATIONAL

On Saturday, October 18, cross country runners from the New England area will be gathering at Franklin Park to participate in the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual CMI. This event, which begins at 9 a.m., has been one of the premier school track classics for many years. Members of the *Friends of CM Athletic Association* have helped out at this event in the past. If you would like to help out this year, please contact the Athletic Department at 617-469-8061.

### FALL SPORTS OFF TO A GREAT START

Our fall sports teams all began preparation for the season in late August. Our new golf coach, John Palermo, had the boys out on the course the last week in August teeing off against Foxborough High. Coach Finn had his soccer teams playing numerous scrimmages to work out the kinks before school started and the cross country team was off to Vermont to do their prep work. The JV and varsity football teams once again held camp on campus with two overnights, three scrimmages

and a big cookout to wrap up camp. The team would like to thank all the parents who came each day to prepare food for them so that they were well fed. A special thank you to Patty Marchand and Karen Blodgett for all their assistance.

### SPRING CALENDAR DRAWING

Our Second Annual Spring Calendar Drawing was a huge success! The items that were donated enabled us to run the drawing for 32 days and we had over \$3,600 in prizes. Proceeds went into the Student/Athlete Scholarship Fund. Please encourage your sons to inquire about these scholarships. There are two each year, one for an underclassman and one for a senior, of \$500 each. If you or your son would like more information about how to apply for these scholarships, please drop by the Athletic Office, Room 102.

**BREAKING NEWS:** At the September meeting of the *Friends of CM Athletics Association*, it was unanimously voted to also give a third scholarship just for Middle School student/athletes. The scholarship will be in the amount of \$250.00 to be used towards tuition or books. Look for more info early in 2009.

### START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY

The *Friends of CM Athletics Association*, for their fundraising project for the fall/winter, will be selling two items – an 11 oz. coffee mug as well as a travel mug. Both items will have the Catholic Memorial Knight logo. Look for these two items to be on sale at the Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 22.

We also have available some cookbooks, aprons, tote bags and Christmas ornaments. These all make great gifts for family members, alumni and students new to CM. They can be seen in the Athletic Office, Room 102.



The next meeting of the Friends of CM Athletics Association will be on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 6:45 p.m. in the new Faculty Dining Room (in the former monastery). Pizza will be served.

## Catholic Memorial Walks for Breast Cancer!



The CM community came together to support the "Walk for Breast Cancer" on Sunday, October 5, on the Esplanade. Over 300 of our students participated and, through their efforts, raised more than \$25,000.00 for this worthy cause. Many thanks to our students, parents, and faculty for making this day such a success. Also, a special thank you to Mr. Brian Scott, Director of Campus Ministry, for coordinating this event.

## *Catholic Memorial Open House*

**Sunday, October 19**  
**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Admission Director John Mazza and the entire Catholic Memorial School community will host the annual Open House celebration on Sunday, October 19, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In addition to our student ambassadors, parents will be needed to volunteer that day. The Parent Council will be contacting homes soon, so please welcome the opportunity to help out at this very important event.

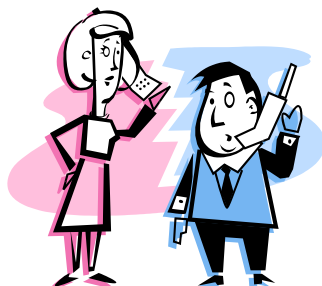
Also, please take the time to encourage prospective families in your parishes, neighborhoods and communities to attend Open House. If everyone invites a family or two, the day will be a great success!

Thank you for your support!

## **Volunteers Needed!**

Any parent who is willing to volunteer for the Annual Fund Phonathon, please contact Mr. Dave Erwin '96 at (617) 469-8052 or [DavidErwin@CatholicMemorial.org](mailto:DavidErwin@CatholicMemorial.org).

Dinner and training will be provided. The dates for this year's phonathons are: Oct. 20, 23, 27, 29, Nov. 3, 10, 17, and 19. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated!



## *Dates to Remember*

- 10/17 Faculty Professional Day - no classes
- 10/19 CM Open House 1-3 p.m.
- 10/20 - 10/24 NHS Clothing Drive
- 10/22 Faculty Meeting - 1 p.m. dismissal  
Parent/Teacher Conferences - 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.
- 10/24 High School Dance - 7:30 - 11:00 p.m.
- 10/25 ACT Exam - 7:30 a.m.
- 11/1 SAT Exam - 7:30 a.m.
- 11/2 Mass for Deceased Alumni, Their Family and Friends - 9 a.m.
- 11/5 Guidance Night - Sophomores and Parents - 7 p.m.
- 11/7 Report Cards Mailed  
NHS Induction
- 11/11 Veteran's Day - no classes

## **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](mailto:dotti.saroufim@verizon.net)