



DEPAUL CATHOLIC

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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Hello Friends of DePaul Catholic High School,

I would like to report on the first 100 days of my time as President of DePaul Catholic.

We welcomed 138 members to the Class of 2025 to DePaul in September. This is the largest class in 5 years, and a great group of new Spartans. We also welcomed 12 students into our 8th Grade Prep Program. The new students seem to be settling in as they begin their journey at DePaul Catholic.

The athletic teams have practiced and prepared well, and are now in mid-season form. Almost half the population of the school is involved in a sport or extracurricular activity at this time. Student participation is at an all-time high, and we are proud of their preparation and their performance.

This year marks the 65th birthday for DePaul Catholic High School. Opening at Holy Spirit in Pompton Plains in 1956, the school has graduated over 12,000 students who have gone on to live faith-filled lives. To this day the Spartan tradition which began in 1956 is still strong.

The Bishop of Paterson, Bishop Sweeney, celebrated Mass at DePaul on September 10th. For the first time in over a year, this Mass brought together all the students and faculty of DePaul in the Gym for Liturgy. (Of course, we were 3 feet apart!)

Liturgy was recently celebrated to honor St. Vincent de Paul, and we also celebrated all the Honor Roll recipients from the 4th marking period of last year. The Mass was a great way to start our 65 Hours of Giving that concluded last Wednesday and to recognize the academic success of our students.

The Giving Days of 65 hours saw an outpouring of support from Spartan Nation. Our goal of \$25,000 was doubled with over \$50,000 in donations from graduates and friends of DePaul Catholic.

On October 7th, we hosted our 6th annual 9 and Dine. The event was sold out, and again, we welcomed current and past friends of DePaul. Some good golf and some bad golf were played, but a good time was had by all.

We are now well into enrollment season for the class of 2026. The Open House scheduled for Sunday, October 17th already has 200 families pre-registered. The Open House will provide tours and information led by our students. Our kids are great tour guides. Please check the website if you are interested in attending.

All in all, we are off to a fine start. The teachers, as always, are outstanding as they educate the students of DePaul. The coaches and staff provide the extra that all kids are looking for when they attend high school, and the Diocese of Paterson has been, as always, incredibly supportive.

We are anticipating a great Fall season, and I will update you again day 200.

Best and Be Well,

John Merritt '71
President
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