



# Catholic High *Parent Newsletter*

For the Parents and Guardians of The Catholic High School of Baltimore Students

Winter 2011



## *From Dr. Barbara D. Nazelrod '68, President*

Dear Catholic High Parents and Guardians,

The words, Empowerment of Women, are well-known to the young women of Catholic High who fill our classrooms and halls each day. They are also familiar to those who know our Mission Statement or look on our website. It is no secret that an education at Catholic High is an empowering experience.

Members of our faculty and staff bring to life the words of our Mission Statement in lessons, special assemblies and programs, and in daily interactions with our students. All of us share in the commitment to empower our young women through their education at Catholic High.

This means that we work to actively engage our students in their education and to lead them to their potential, a process that does not end with a Catholic High diploma. It becomes a way of thinking and doing, a way of interpreting life experiences and facing challenges with confidence and good decision-making skills in order to be successful. It also means being capable of going through life embracing the inherent value of education with its many and life-long benefits.

Receiving a quality secondary education in the Franciscan tradition includes countless opportunities for growth and leadership for all of our young women at Catholic High. A student becomes fully invested in her school by being involved, which in turn, is empowering in a variety of ways.

I hope you experience a sense of pride that your daughter has the opportunity to be and feel empowered by her education at Catholic High. There is no greater gift a parent can give than the gift of an education that will endure a lifetime beyond high school. I commend you for your support of your daughter who will assume her place in society being very well prepared by her daily educational experiences at Catholic High. And I encourage all of our students to embrace the many opportunities available to them each day.

So when you see and hear the words, "Catholic High, empowering women since 1939," know that your daughter joins 13,000 women who have learned, lived, and grown in

the classrooms of our school during its remarkable 72-year history. Be confident that she is receiving an education for a lifetime.

With gratitude to you for the gift of education you are giving your daughter, I ask God to bless you and your families.

Most sincerely,

Barbara D. Nazelrod, Ph.D. '68  
President

## *From Ms. Madelyn A. Ball Principal*

Prior to starting at Catholic High, I was privileged to be able to attend graduation. Before it started I introduced myself to a beautiful graduate who was wearing several honors stoles. Her name was Delisha Thompson. She was bright and articulate as she explained that she was a merit scholar with a four-year scholarship to the University of Maryland. Marcy Shea-Frank, our Director of Institutional Advancement, recently heard from Delisha about her life after Catholic High. Delisha finished her first semester in the Honors College at Maryland with straight A's. She is an Honors Ambassador and her big thrill was meeting President Lowe at a dinner for the honor students. She has a double major – Japanese and Government – with a minor in Spanish. In reflecting on her experiences at Catholic High, Delisha was especially complementary of Mrs. Hart's English class because it put her way ahead of everyone else in her current Honors English class. Mrs. Shea-Frank's favorite quote was when Delisha said, "I have a good little head on my shoulders because of Catholic High." We are all very proud of Delisha, and she well represents our alumnae. I know that all our current parents are looking forward to being able to share the same story in the future about their daughters. Our faculty welcomes the responsibility of presenting rigorous curriculum that challenges our girls into being the best they can be. As principal, I often have an opportunity to chat with girls about "how hard" certain classes are. As I listen empathetically to them, it is oftentimes music to my ears. It is these same challenging courses that the girls will remember and appreciate when they move on to their next educational challenge; namely, college. When I spoke with Delisha last May, she asked me to do something for

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**Catholic High Parent Newsletter** is published quarterly for parents and guardians of Catholic High students.

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### *From Mrs. Jan Bandzwolek, Vice Principal*

This is the time of the year when we, as educators, feel that we are being pulled in two directions. As we prepare for next school year, we also have to keep our focus on the many important events that lie ahead for the second semester of this year.

As we begin this second semester, be sure to check your school calendar so that you are aware of important academic and social dates. With proms right around the corner, it is never too early to begin planning for the expenses that the prom will entail. Please be especially attentive to the calendar dates that indicate "formal uniform" as these are days when disciplinary action may result if students are not in compliance.

Hopefully, our sophomores are getting excited about the Sophomore Dance which will be held on Friday, March 18, 2011. This is their first semi-formal Catholic High dance and it is always enjoyable to work with them as they prepare for this event. Your daughter may bring a male guest to the dance or she may come alone. Trust me; our girls have a great time with one another so there is no pressure to have a date that evening!

In March, I will meet with the juniors to discuss the Junior Prom. Although our juniors are certainly aware of our expectations for dress and behavior, we always like to review and reinforce the expectations with them. We ask that you, as parents, review and support our expectations as well. I am always proud when people compliment our students' dress and behavior, but there is an occasional dress that is too short or too revealing. Please remember that your daughters are representing not only themselves but The Catholic High School of Baltimore.

I will meet with the seniors at the beginning of April. They will receive a detailed packet of information that covers all end of year activities. This information will also be available to you electronically. It is extremely important that you review this material and highlight important dates as it will include information about prom, exams, graduation, and awards assemblies.

Please know that I am always available to speak with you by phone or in person if you have concerns about your daughter or our school policies.

I am looking forward to a great second semester.

### *Charlie's Place*

Looking for the perfect gift for your graduate? Charlie's Place is now selling senior t-shirts and pillow cases for senior retreat (that can be autographed). They are \$10 each and are in limited supply. The school store is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:40 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. or you can contact Mrs. Denine Sperling Brown '85 at [dbrown@thecatholichighschool.org](mailto:dbrown@thecatholichighschool.org) to place your order.



## *From Mrs. Kari McBride, Athletic Director*

Congratulations to our Fall Sport IAAM All-Stars:

Ellie Gonzalez – Cross Country  
Gab DeJuliis – Field Hockey  
Katie Johnston – Field Hockey  
Annie Turcea – Field Hockey  
Alexis Siejack – Soccer  
Katelyn Ensminger – Volleyball  
Nicole Broccolino – Volleyball

Congratulations to our Varsity Basketball team who won the AACS Holiday Classic Tournament. Lindsay Torbeck earned the All Tournament Team award for the Cubs and Brittany Winborne earned the tournament's MVP trophy.



Indoor track star, Ellie Gonzalez, raced into the school record books at the first meet of the season. She broke the school record for the 1 mile run with a time of 5:17.97, and the 800 meter with a time of 2:27.41. Way to go Ellie!

Congratulations to our cheerleaders who earned 1st place in the Mayor's Christmas Parade.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Booster Club Spaghetti Dinner, Joe Corbi Sale, and Fisher's Popcorn fundraiser. The money earned will go towards purchasing items and needs for the athletic department at the end of the school year.

There is still plenty of time to join the booster club. The group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:15 p.m.

Would you like to acknowledge and congratulate your daughter on a fantastic sports year? Consider purchasing an ad in the Sports Banquet program. Forms will be sent home in March and will be available on the school website. For just a few dollars you can send a special "shout out" to your favorite Cub!

Please check out our sports schedules and results on the school website, as well as the IAAM website.

## *From Ms. Kimberly Becker '02, Coordinator of Alumnae Relations & Special Events*

The Office of Institutional Advancement is currently seeking creative, committed parents to join our Events Committee. The Committee plans and executes the Wine Tasting, Spring Fling, and Autumn Night. If you are interested in volunteering on this important committee, please contact Kimberly Becker at [kbecker@thecatholichighschool.org](mailto:kbecker@thecatholichighschool.org).

### **Upcoming Events**

*Wine Tasting: A Tour of Italy*

Sunday, March 27, 2011

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sister Arnoldine O'Connell, OSF Dining Hall

Tickets are \$35 each or \$250 for a table of 8 in advance; \$40 each at the door

*Spring Fling*

Friday, April 29, 2011

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Columbus Gardens

Spring Fling is always a sell-out event so reserve your table today!

## *From the Guidance Office*

Final application deadlines for many colleges are approaching. We remind you that seniors must submit their transcript requests at least two weeks before the deadline date to ensure timely mailing of these documents.

At the time of this mailing, all sophomores and juniors will have received the results of the PSAT testing which took place in October. If you have not yet seen these results, please ask your daughter for them. If your daughter has misplaced her copy, please contact us. We can supply you with an additional copy. Please also feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the interpretation of scores and their importance to your daughter's future.

A note to junior parents: SAT Prep is a required course for graduation, and is generally taken during the first or second semester of junior year. Some juniors opted to take another academic course in lieu of SAT Prep and will need to take the course in an out-of-school setting. Please contact the Guidance Office if your daughter is in this position. We can provide some options that will satisfy the requirement.

***From Mrs. Marcy Shea-Frank '63  
Director of Institutional Advancement***

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you know, the Office of Institutional Advancement is charged with creating, renewing and building relationships with various constituents of The Catholic High School of Baltimore – alumnae, parents, trustees, foundations, students and friends – to seek mutual opportunities that ultimately increase involvement with Catholic High activities and programs as well as generate critical financial support. Our goal is to increase levels of service and philanthropy to our institution while crafting meaningful links with those who care and wish to give to Catholic High.

Each year we reach out more and more to you – the parents and guardians of our students. In response, your giving participation increased and volunteers are stepping forward to assist with helping to tell the great story that is The Catholic High School of Baltimore.

As we work to advance our school, we are excited to work with you. To everyone who has given a gift of support, attended an event (or plans to attend), or volunteered, we say thank you.

Forever Catholic High.

Most sincerely,  
Marcy Shea-Frank '63  
Director of IA

***Learning Today,  
Leading Tomorrow...  
Forever Catholic High***



***From Ms. Madelyn A. Ball Principal (cont.)***

the girls at Catholic High. She wanted me to make sure that the girls “dream big” and “believe that they can do whatever they want to do and go to whatever college they truly want to attend.” We are doing our very best to make that happen for your girls. I know that you join me in creating a challenging atmosphere for that to come to pass.

I recognize that a part of this challenging environment is simply trying to survive in our current economic state of affairs and to pay tuition at the same time. The Council for American Private Education recently sent a notice to all private schools about the new tax law that extends the Coverdell Education Savings Accounts. These savings accounts allow families to earn tax-exempt interest on up to \$2,000 in annual savings for specified expenses, including high school tuition. The Coverdell Education Savings Accounts have been extended for at least the next two years. As April 15 quickly approaches, I hope that this might provide a slight positive outlook.

Now that we have reached the peak of the mountain, the mid-point of our school year, we all start racing to the finish line in June. Teachers are working fiercely to complete curriculum goals while at the same time differentiating their instruction to meet the needs of all students. The calendar for next year is starting to take shape. The major dates will soon be posted on our website and Edline so that families can plan their summer vacations. And speaking of summer vacation...we will have a new offering this summer. We are going to have an Algebra 1B course for anyone who feels the need for an extra boost of study of the material in the second half of Algebra 1. We believe this will fit the needs of many of our students moving into the upper levels of mathematics. More information about this course will soon be posted on Edline.

So far the winter has been relatively mild compared to last year. I am always a fan of snow days, but I am more concerned about instructional time than having these surprise holidays. Student achievement is our constant goal and we have to be here to make that happen! We are all looking forward to spring and its warmth and sense of renewal. I pray that all of you will experience this as we move towards June.

Peace be with you,

Madelyn Ball