

# THE GAE

The Newsletter for Alumni and Parents of St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic High School

## *New Baseball Facility Opens at Kennedy Catholic*

Volume 10 - Summer 2011

Flanked by Board of Trustees Chair Joseph Costello '58 (left) and Coach Bob Fletcher (right), and with the entire varsity team looking on, Father Vaillancourt officially opens the Gaels new baseball facility with a snip of the scissors.



### Table of Contents

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| President's Page.....            | 2   |
| Cover Story .....                | 3   |
| President's Dinner .....         | 4   |
| Four More Titles.....            | 5   |
| Kennedy 'On The Town' .....      | 6   |
| Alumni News & Spotlights.....    | 7   |
| Annual Fund Report.....          | 8-9 |
| Remembering Sr. Christopher..... | 10  |
| Kennedy in Memoriam .....        | 11  |



### The Passing of an Icon

Beloved math teacher, administrator and consummate educator, Sister Mary Christopher O'Toole entered the arms of the Divine Compassion on June 18. Her friend and fellow teacher, Sister Barbara Heil, reflects on a life well lived on Page 10.



**KENNEDY  
CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**

*Founded as St. Mary's  
High School 1924-1966*

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Dear Alumni, Parents & Friends of Kennedy:

What an incredible year it has been. Thanks to your continued support, we have made progress the likes of which Kennedy has not seen since St. Mary's became John F. Kennedy Catholic almost half a century ago. Sadly, we have also lost a number of former educators this year, including three of our beloved Sisters of the Divine Compassion.

Predeceased by her fellow Sisters Freda Burns and Alice Shannon, Sister Mary Christopher O'Toole entered into eternal life with our Lord on June 18. The sheer number of alumni, from both St. Mary's and Kennedy, who came to pay their respects to this remarkable

woman is a testament to the impact she had not only on their lives, but on this school we call home. She will continue to be a source of inspiration to me as I attempt to follow in her footsteps and lead this great school forward. I hope you will share your favorite Sr. Christopher anecdotes and memories with us online at [www.kennedycatholic.org](http://www.kennedycatholic.org).

By the time you read this, the Class of 2011 will have officially entered the ranks of the St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic Alumni Association, adding to its already rich legacy with more than \$11.9 million in scholarship and entry into more than 300 colleges and universities across the country.

We have finished construction on our brand-new baseball diamond across the pond along Route 138, complete with dugouts and a custom-built clubhouse courtesy of our parents and friends of Kennedy Catholic. We have also broken ground and are ready to lay down the synthetic turf on our all-new multi-purpose and softball fields, located directly behind the Main Athletics Field. And thanks to the creative talents of Matthew Walker '93, our 2011 Hall of Fame inductee at the annual President's Dinner who also masterminded our new Web site, a four-color interlocking KC with battle sword will grace center field.

Our fundraising efforts have enjoyed unprecedented success, with major events alone—Ladies Night Out, Golf Classic, Auction and President's Dinner—raising more than \$100,000 for Kennedy Catholic programs. Moreover, your generous contributions have resulted in an Annual Fund campaign that had topped \$88,000 as of press time, thanks to more than 275 gifts. That's in addition to another \$100,000 in major gifts to the school. With your continued support, I am confident we will reach our Annual Fund target of \$100,000 when the campaign officially closes on Aug. 31.

Kennedy Catholic is as strong as she has ever been. That strength is due to the strong foundation you have helped lay for her. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for your prayers. Most importantly, thank you for being part of the Kennedy Catholic family. It truly has been an incredible year. I, for one, cannot wait to see what advances the next one has in store for the Blue and White.

With appreciation I remain,  
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Mark G. Vaillancourt, Ph.D.  
President/Principal

### Please join the Kennedy Community for the following events this Fall:

|                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ladies Night Out</b><br><i>Wednesday, Sept. 28, 7 - 10 p.m.</i><br><i>Le Chateau in South Salem, N.Y.</i> | <b>Kennedy Catholic Golf Classic</b><br><i>Thursday, Oct. 6, 11 a.m. Shotgun</i><br><i>Centennial Golf Club in Carmel, N.Y.</i> |
| <b>Grand Opening &amp; Homecoming</b><br><i>Saturday, Oct. 15, 1 p.m.</i>                                    | <b>30th Anniversary Auction</b><br><i>Saturday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m.</i>                                                             |

## COVER STORY

### 'If You Build It...'

### Kennedy celebrates new baseball field with league title

"This field, this game: it's a part of our past, Ray. It reminds of us of all that once was good and it could be again," James Earl Jones' Terrance Mann said to Ray Kinsella, played by Kevin Costner, in the iconic 1989 film, "Field of Dreams".

"Oh... people will come Ray. People will most definitely come."

And now that Kennedy has built it, this time with dugouts and a clubhouse across the pond along Route 138, people have most definitely come this spring. Our alumni, parents and friends of Kennedy Baseball came to help put it all together, from Christine Kern P '11, '13 of Pink Ladies Carpentry, which built individual lockers for the players, to William Hines '73 of William L. Hines Electrical Contractor Inc., who wired the whole thing and even manned the grill during the grand opening. Our alumni, parents and students also came to cheer their Gaels on to victory, first over Arlington as Kennedy debuted its new field with an 18-5 win, then all the way to a fourth consecutive league title.

"For what has been our most successful team over the past half decade, I am so pleased that we are finally able to give our student-athletes the championship-caliber fields they deserve," said the Rev. Mark Vaillancourt, president of Kennedy Catholic. "Thank you to all the members of the Kennedy community—alumni, parents, students, and especially the people of St. Joseph's Parish—who have worked so hard and given so much to make this field a reality."

Father Vaillancourt kicked off the ceremony with a formal ribbon-cutting, then threw out the first pitch to freshmen catcher Jason Agresti. The new baseball diamond is part of a larger capital project, with a new softball diamond and multi-purpose field—both with synthetic surfaces—presently under construction behind the current Main Athletics Field. By the time the fall sports season begins, Kennedy Catholic will have three new athletic fields for its students.

"From the dugouts to the clubhouse to the field itself, this is truly a facility worthy of the success we've had over the past few years." Coach Bob Fletcher said. "I certainly want to thank our benefactors for their immense support, but also the players themselves, who have volunteered countless hours this offseason performing the manual labor necessary to get this field ready for action."

Kennedy has built it. Another league championship has come. And as Yankees fans noted after capping the inaugural season of the new Yankee Stadium...

"Now it's home."



### They Built It

Kennedy Catholic would like to thank the following for all they have given to make the dream of our new baseball field a reality.

Fred Bade  
 Jeff Bauer  
 Brian Bennett  
 Dennis Berardi  
 Mickey Farina  
 Coach Fletcher  
 Dan Garay  
 Oscar Giret  
 Bill Hines  
 George Howell  
 Christine Kern  
 Ed Lyons  
 Patricia Maurer  
 Chris Mee  
 Ken Modico  
 Rich Saio  
 Jim Silverberg  
 Bill Smith  
 Tom Szczepaniak  
 Anna Torchia  
 Father Vaillancourt  
 2011 Varsity Baseball Team

## PRESIDENT'S DINNER

2011 President's Dinner Honors Walker '93, Torchia P '12, '13  
Black, Tieber named Teachers of the Year

Quoting Albert Einstein, Hall of Fame Inductee Matthew Walker '93 noted in his acceptance speech that "It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it." The 2011 President's Dinner at Colonial Terrace on May 21 was about recognizing those who have given back to Kennedy more than the lessons they have taken from her.



### Special Thanks to our President's Dinner Sponsors & Underwriters

Warren '72 and Susan Lucas  
**RECEPTION SPONSOR**

Friends of Kennedy Catholic  
**JOURNAL SPONSOR**

Leon & Alan Drogy and Colonial Terrace  
**ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR**

Rex and Nancy '76 Knight  
**DIVINE COMPASSION SPONSOR**

Dr. & Mrs. Majid and Rosemary Eshghi  
Rev. Thomas Lutz and Sacred Heart Church  
Ms. Linda Troani  
**GOLD SPONSORS**

Mr. & Mrs. Terence and Patricia Clair  
Dr. & Mrs. Frederick and Suzanne Faustini  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Michele Napolitano  
and Crown Awards  
**SILVER SPONSORS**

Mr. Robert Arminio '82  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph '58 and Jean Costello  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Anne Daly  
Ms. Gina DiPaterio and Little Sorrento/  
Piazza Roma  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Donworth  
Mr. & Mrs. Fresenius '77 and Golden's  
Bridge Fine Wines & Spirits  
Mr. & Mrs. Antonio and Susan Galvao  
Mrs. Christina Hastings  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Donna Jamieson  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Catherine Joyce  
Ms. Jane MacLeay  
Mrs. Jocelyn Sarro  
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred and Dawn Tinger  
**UNDERWRITERS**

Matt Walker has been instrumental in creating an online presence for the school, assisting with the design and implementation of the Kennedy Web site, as well as social media initiatives. Many of the logos you see in cyberspace, as well as those that grace our athletic uniforms, were all created by Matt...all because he wished to use his God-given talents to give back to Kennedy.

Likewise, this year's Divine Compassion Award was presented to Mrs. Anna Torchia P '12, '13, a parent who has spearheaded our athletic fundraising since the establishment of a formal Athletics Committee several years ago. Thanks to her efforts, we are able to have days like April 16, when we cut the ribbon on our brand new baseball field (see Cover Story on Page 3).

And who gives more to a school than its faculty and students. So congratulations to Teachers of the Year Mrs. Samantha Black and Mr. Brent Tieber, as well as the following Students of Excellence: Julia Abele, Cassandra Buontempo, Stephanie Conte, Douglas Crockatt, Jason Davin, Eric Empson, Kim Galaraga, Daniel Girolamo, Darien Greene, Steven Kessler, Meghan Lenzi, Christina Oros, Ryan Patterson, Dylan Salomone, Emily Thomas, Jacqueline Tosto and Daniele Unti.

Thank you to the 250 members of the Kennedy Catholic community who came out in support of our gala event, which raised more than \$20,000 for Kennedy programs. Thank you one and all for a wonderful evening.

### Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

2012 President's Dinner  
Thursday, May 24th Honoring  
His Excellency Archbishop  
Timothy M. Dolan



## KENNEDY IN COMPETITION

Another Banner Year for Kennedy Athletics  
Volleyball wins first league title in school history

As the title suggests, it was indeed another banner year for Kennedy Catholic Athletics. And by banner, we mean the hanging of four new ones in the gym for this year's four league titlists. Volleyball kicked off the year with its first league championship in school history, followed by boys basketball, which won its second consecutive league title. The spring season brought two more championships in baseball and softball. For Coach of the Year Bob Fletcher, it was his fourth consecutive title despite a bump up to Class A.

Not to be outdone, fellow Coach of the Year Pat Hogan's softball squad won its second championship in four years. Kennedy track and field continued its legacy of sports supremacy by sending another four student-athletes—R.J. Aprile '12, Danielle Asaro '11, Michael Campobasso '12 and Anthony Djerdjaj '12—to States. All told, Kennedy was home to more than 70 All-League players in 2010-2011. Congratulations to all of our award-winning student-athletes.



### Monsignor Mulroy Award:

Kiera Hennessy '14  
Brett Trodden '14

### Danny Dwyer Award:

Natalie Burke '13  
Steven Santini '13

### Stephen Murphy Award:

Daniella Torchia '12  
Richard Aprile '12

### Allen Anthony Anderson Award:

Kathryn A'Hearn '11  
Daniel Girolamo '11

### Vincent Ingegneri Award:

Natalie Candarelli '11  
Zachary Furman '11

### Athletic Director's Award:

Danielle Asaro '11

### President's Athletic Award:

Ryan Hickey '11

### League Champions:

Baseball  
Boys Basketball  
Softball  
Volleyball

### Coaches of the Year:

Ellen Casey P '12, Volleyball  
Bob Fletcher, Baseball  
Patricia Hogan P '12, Softball

## KENNEDY IN PERFORMANCE

### Off the Hook for 'On The Town' – Kennedy earns 7 Metros Nominations for spring musical

In a year filled with firsts and records, the Kennedy Catholic Players continued that trend, earning a record seven Metropolitan High School Theater Awards with their spring production of "On The Town". Congratulations to Director Ines Wilhelm-Boston, Costumer Gina DiSenso '99 and Head Seamstress Sister Barbara Heil, as well as Mrs. Marianne Oros P '08, '11, Mrs. Donna Ruperto P '08, '11 and all the Fine Arts parents who worked so hard to make the show a success.



#### Outstanding Actress in a Leading Role

Kim Galaraga '11 as Hildy Esterhazy

#### Outstanding Duet

Kim Galaraga '11 as Hildy Esterhazy and Anthony Ruperto '11 as Chip in "Come Up To My Place"

#### Outstanding Dance Performance

Jena Lynne DiFrisco '12 as Ivy Smith

#### Outstanding Orchestra

R.J. Aprile '12 on timpani  
Mr. Clay Beard on trumpet  
Band Director Mr. Nathan Brewster on drums  
Mr. Cary Brown on keyboard  
Stephanie Carson '11 on percussion  
William Crockatt '12 on tenor sax  
Douglas Crockatt '11 on baritone sax  
Ms. Susan De Campo on oboe/English horn  
Mr. Ray Fitzgerald on trombone  
Kristen Gold '12 on trumpet  
Former Band Director Mr. Charles Gray on clarinet  
Musical Director Mr. Howard Kilik on piano  
Mr. Stephen McIntyre on bass  
Samantha Sindona '12 on piccolo  
Sylvia Smith '12 on flute  
Veronica Smith '12 on French horn

#### Outstanding Instrumentalist

R.J. Aprile '12 on timpani

#### Outstanding Stage Crew

Jason Davin '11, Master Electrician  
John Davin '13, Lighting Director  
Chris D'Angelo '12, Set Designer  
Sarah DiNome '12, Assistant Stage Manager  
Keriann Eliseo '12  
Matthew Espejo '11  
Rachel Grabowski '14  
Darien Greene '11, Stage Manager  
David Gomez '13  
Kathryn Halecki '13  
Chris "Charlie" Keogh '14  
Ashley Noda '12  
Jacqueline Tosto '11, Assistant to the Director

#### Technical Merit Award

Christina Oros '11, Senior Choreographer/  
Assistant Director

## ALUMNI NEWS & SPOTLIGHTS



### Kennedy Alumna Rubs Elbows With Emmy Award-Winner

LOS ANGELES – Three short years after relocating to the sunny-side coast, Kennedy alumna Cheryl Texiera '00 began making significant strides in her entertainment career as an actress. Along with working in independent films and numerous Web series, 2009 brought Texiera her first of many television successes after working opposite SNL favorite, Amy Poehler, in the NBC comedy, "Parks and Recreation".

As she continues moving up the Hollywood ladder, her resume continues to grow. Working in some of the industry's most acclaimed comedies, including "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia", Texiera can now include working opposite Emmy Award-winner William H. Macy on Showtime's new hit, "Shameless". Texiera plays the role of Tina, a flirtatious bar patron whose advances force one of the regulars to admit a hidden truth about their character. Contrary to your typically stressful casting process, Texiera had this to say about her experience: "I literally had a blast reading for John Levey ["Shameless" casting director]. I do not recall having that much fun at an audition. Ever. It reminded me why I love this profession so much."

Before graduating in 2000, Texiera performed on the Kennedy stage in any and every production that was offered. The actress reminisces about that time when she says, "I had my very first audition experience at Kennedy in my freshman year. I had no idea what I was doing. Luckily, at the time, everyone who auditioned for the play got in. And I was so proud to deliver my one line as 'Witch's Army Member Number Four,'" she laughs. Texiera is currently focusing her efforts on booking in this year's pilot season. She already has upcoming appearances set for later this year in the highly anticipated ABC comedy, "Happy Endings".

Cheryl's episode of "Shameless" aired Jan. 30, but you can watch it online and on demand at [www.sho.com/shameless](http://www.sho.com/shameless). For more on our alumna turned actress, visit [www.CherylTexiera.com](http://www.CherylTexiera.com).



### St. Mary's Graduate John E. Gould Honored

John E. Gould '62, Executive Vice President and General Counsel at CH Energy Group, Inc., was named to the 2010 Irish Legal Top 100.

The Irish Legal 100 was prepared by the Irish Voice Newspaper to recognize top lawyers of Irish heritage from around the United States for their superior achievements in the legal profession. Others in the group of honorees include U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts; U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy; Deans John Feerick and Robert Reilly of Fordham Law School; New Jersey Governor Chris Christie; and Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court Maureen O'Connor. Prior to his current position, Gould was a senior partner and member of the Executive Committee at Thompson Hine, LLP in New York, and served as external chief legal counsel to CH Energy Group for more than a decade.

Gould is also the chairman of the American Geographical Society; president of the New Choral Society of Westchester; a director of Gerber Life Insurance Company and Veramark Technologies, Inc; and a director of the Blue & White Fund, a foundation created to support John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in Somers, N.Y, successor school to St. Mary's in Katonah, N.Y. from which he and his wife, Bonnie '62 (Jenkins), graduated. He was named a Super Lawyer in New York by Super Lawyers Magazine in 2006 and 2007.

Gould earned a bachelor's degree in science from Fordham College, and a Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School. His paternal grandparents hailed from counties Cavan and Cork, and maternal great-grandparents from Galway, Clare and Cork.

### Reunion Central

#### CLASS OF 1961

October 14 – 16

#### CLASS OF 1981

October 7 – 9

#### YOUR REUNION?

Call (914) 232-5061 Ext. 134 or e-mail [alumni@kennedycatholic.org](mailto:alumni@kennedycatholic.org) today to get your party started.

#### CLASS REPS WANTED

Are you the person who always keeps in touch? Help the St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic Alumni Association keep in touch with your high school classmates. For more information on becoming a Class Representative, e-mail [alumni@kennedycatholic.org](mailto:alumni@kennedycatholic.org).

KENNEDY IN THANKSGIVING  
Annual Fund nearing \$100,000 as Aug. 31 closing date approaches

St. Francis tell us that “it is in giving that we receive”, and indeed, the alumni, parents and friends of Kennedy Catholic have giving generously this past year. Donations to the 2010-2011 Annual Fund currently total almost \$88,000 toward an overall goal of \$100,000. The Kennedy community remains confident that goal, which would be a school record, will be reached and surpassed by the time the Annual Fund closes on Wednesday, Aug. 31. The following individuals and families have given. Our most sincere apology if we have overlooked anyone prior to press time, but please receive our most heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

PRESIDENT’S CLUB

Divine Compassion Elite (\$10,000+)

A Patron of Kennedy Athletics  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Donna Cloherty ‘65  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter and Martha Marron of the Marron Foundation  
Ms. Linda Troani

St. Mary’s Associates (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick and Heather Geraghty ‘77

Courage and Compassion Club (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph and Ellen Agresti P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian and Joanne Burke P’08,’10,’13  
Mr. & Mrs. Terence and Patricia Clair P’13  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Girolamo ‘71  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald and Deena Salkow P’14  
Mrs. Dawn Tinger P’13

Blue and White Society (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Mr. Joseph M. Costello ‘58  
Mrs. Margaret A. Collins ‘80  
Mr. Robert J. Darretta ‘64  
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew and Maura Devey ‘83, P’13  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen and Geraldine Farrell P’14  
Mr. Michael D. Faughnan ‘87  
Mr. & Mrs. John and Bonnie Gould ‘62  
Mr. & Mrs. John and Jackie Holzinger P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Catherine Joyce P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. James and Joanne Kastberg ‘83, P’09, ‘12  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward and Lorraine Kelly P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Rex and Nancy Boutross Knight ‘76, P’07, ‘10  
Mr. & Mrs. John and Kathleen McAvoy P’06, ‘07, ‘12  
Dr. Frank X. Pedlow Jr. ‘77  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan and Angela Sniffen P’12, ‘14  
Mrs. Jessica Swolfs Kisling ‘92

PATRONS

Gaels Group (\$500-\$999)

Mr. Robert J. Arminio ‘82, P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Preston and Kathleen Bruenn P’12  
Mr. Kevin Casey ‘77  
Santa Claus ‘75  
Mr. Thomas P. Desmond ‘74  
Mr. Dean J. DiPierro ‘88  
Mr. Daniel Dunleavy ‘92  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy and Judith Fitzgerald Gould ‘86, ‘83  
Mr. & Mrs. Brian and Amy Hand ‘77  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Donna Jamieson P’14  
Mr. Timothy Lane ‘81  
Mr. & Mrs. Jack and Kathleen Lange P’12, ‘14  
Mr. Daniel F. Leary ‘77  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren and Susan Lucas ‘72, P’98,’00,’04’10  
The Martin Family P’13  
Mr. Kevin McKegney ‘92  
Mr. James S. Minogue ‘72  
Mr. & Mrs. Denis and Joanne Hack O’Meara ‘68, ‘69  
Mrs. Terry Yurkowski P’13

Friends of Kennedy (\$250-\$499)

Mr. & Mrs. Jesus and Nieves Angulo P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. James and Judith Buck Beale ‘62  
Mrs. Marie Tassini Ceccatti ‘77  
Mr. Richard M. Constantine ‘75  
Mr. Leo L. Cunningham ‘85  
Col. Jan D. Curran ‘52  
Mrs. Diane Damato P’13  
Ms. Alicia M. D’Arcy ‘86  
Mr. Brian H. Duffy ‘92  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Jeanne Eliseo P’10, ‘12  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob and Patty Bruder Girolamo ‘74, ‘75, P’05,’08,’11,’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Itamar and Greys Guiracocha P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris and Christina Hastings P’11  
Dr. & Mrs. Frank and Fedela Tranzillo Kessler ‘73, P’02,’04,’07,’11  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond and Katherine Barramen Knox P’14

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel and Ann Longest P’13  
Mr. Anthony Loran P’14  
Mr. Charles M. Lucas ‘00  
Mr. Peter C. Manbeck P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank and Anne Marie Mengler ‘79, P’13  
Mr. Arthur E. Menna ‘80  
Mr. John C. Petry ‘75  
Mrs. Susan Ambrose Plaine ‘69  
Mr. James C. Riley ‘78  
Mr. & Mrs. Hadley and Mary Lee Fox Roe ‘66  
Mr. & Mrs. John and Theresa Rofrano’ 80, P’10, ‘13,’14  
Ms. Renate Russ P’13  
Mrs. M. Lavelle Dwyer Shields ‘59

Loyalty Club (\$100-\$249)

Mrs. Susan Agnew P’14  
Mr. William F. Banks ‘42  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey and Elizabeth Bauer P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony and Marianne Becker P’12  
Mrs. Christine Bellarosa ‘88  
Mrs. Judith A. Bruen ‘55  
Mr. John B. Carron ‘89  
Mr. & Mrs. Craig and Christine Cecere P’10, ‘12  
Mr. Christopher Chiantella ‘69  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim and Andrea Chillemi P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard and Mary Craig P’12  
Mr. John L. Daly ‘70  
Mr. Kieran P. Delamere ‘85  
Mr. & Mrs. Desi and Roseann DiSisto P’13  
Mr. & Mrs. Prek and Gloria Djerdjaj P’12  
Mr. Andrew Donovan P’05, ‘08  
Mr. Thomas J. Dunleavy ‘82  
Mr. Raymond C. Durkin ‘81  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl and Debra Eberle P’13  
Mrs. Kellianne Q. Erath ‘89  
Ms. Eileen Eustace ‘88  
Ms. Jeanne J. Farnan ‘45  
Mr. Gerald J. Finnerty ‘69  
Mr. Warren G. Frisina ‘72  
Mrs. Karen Gormley-Vitale P’05

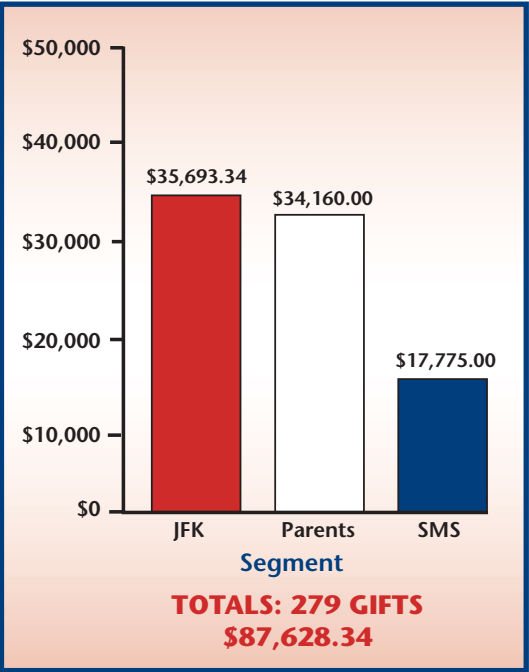
Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Monica Guidotti P’00,’04,’08,’08  
Mrs. Catherine P. Hammer ‘76  
Ms. Esther V. Hanzlik P’13  
Mrs. Maureen A. Hebert ‘78  
Mrs. Colleen Walsh Heinrich ‘86  
Mr. Gerald Heintz P’13  
Mr. Douglas C. Hengel ‘72  
Mr. Peter J. Hickey ‘85  
Mr. Raymond D. Hickson ‘75  
Ms. Susan M. Hickson ‘76  
Mrs. Susan Hillery-Groth ‘81  
Mr. Robert A. Hunter ‘74  
Mr. John Jordan ‘70  
Mr. & Mrs. William and Janet Keyes Josiger P’07  
Mr. Diarmuid Kelleher ‘93  
Mrs. Anna P. Kinghan P’13  
Mr. Joseph J. Lambertus ‘76  
The Lieske Family P’14  
Ms. Joan E. Martabano ‘76  
Ms. Christina M. Martabano, ESQ ‘81  
Drs. Martin and Bridget McGrath P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Lorraine McGuckian ‘67  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas and MaryEllen McLaughlin ‘82, P’13  
Ms. Maureen T. McLoughlin ‘74  
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund and Joan McMahon ‘72  
Mrs. Elizabeth D. McMillan ‘82  
Ms. Bernadette Meehan ‘93  
Mr. Ben R. Miraglia ‘86  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Michele Napolitano P’08, ‘13  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter and Angela Nicklin P’14  
Mr. James E. Norton ‘76  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Patricia O’Donnell P’00, ‘01  
Ms. Margaret A. Orth ‘82  
Ms. Carmel O’Sullivan ‘88  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Darleen Patterson P’11, ‘14  
Mr. Robert Peyton ‘71  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice and Lucia Poisson P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald and Mary Polverari ‘89  
Mr. & Mrs. Vladimir and Olena Pryjdun P’14  
Ms. Anna Psomas P’13  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Margaret Ribaudo ‘85  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark and Christine Rossiter ‘85  
Mr. Peter C. Schweitzer ‘84  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Maria Sorrentino P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. George and Patricia Stone P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Chris and Christine Terceira P’14  
The Tolan Family P’09, ‘12  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald and Barbara Tomaskovic-Devey ‘74, ‘75

Mr. & Mrs. Rob and Jayne Turner P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher and Virginia Vettoretti Mee P’11, ‘14  
Mrs. Anna M. Wagner ‘58

Supporters (\$1 - \$99)

A Kennedy Family ‘12  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert and Bridget Abatecola P’13  
Ms. Laura Ambrose ‘73  
Mrs. Frances Albanese ‘82  
Miss Aubrey Anello ‘00  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Rita Baris P’11  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip and Ellen Baudinet P’11  
Mr. & Dr. Jacob and Diana Mejias-Bergmeier ‘98  
Ms. Christa Bissell ‘68  
Mr. Thomas Bonomo P’12  
Ms. Pasqualina Bueti P’11  
Ms. Lindsay M. Burke ‘08  
Mr. Joseph Butler ‘91  
Ms. Mary Byrne ‘50  
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony and Deborah Carroll P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen and Joanne Connor P’12  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher and Susan Conte P’10, ‘11  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Diane Cremin P’11  
Mr. & Mrs. Virgilio and Mildred Cruz P’06,’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Rosemary Davin P’05, ‘07, ‘11, ‘13  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin and Donna DeEsso P’13  
Ms. Mary R. Desandolo P’08  
Mr. Robert B. Filippi Sr. ‘80  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome and Christina Fleck P’13  
Mrs. Jennifer P. Fogle ‘89  
Mr. James R. Gilchrist ‘86  
Mrs. Ivana Gomez P’13  
Mr. Michael Gumb ‘01  
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy and Barbara Halecki P’13  
Mr. & Mrs. James and June Hennessy P’14  
Mr. John Hewes ‘57  
Mr. Kevin G. Hillery ‘86  
Mr. George T. Hojnoski ‘49  
Mr. Matthew Kessler ‘04  
Mr. John J. Komar ‘73  
Mr. John E. Lambertus ‘76  
Mr. James R. Lancaster ‘95  
Mr. Kenneth R. Larywon ‘70  
Mr. & Mrs. Gino and Cynthia Lucadamo P’12  
Ms. Quintilia Luna ‘85  
Mr. & Mrs. John and Clair Magnesio P’11

Mr. John Manzo P’14  
Mr. & Mrs. Nino and Norina Mariani P’11  
Mr. & Mrs. Victor and Marianna Matsuyama P’14  
Ms. Karen M. McGinnis ‘83  
Mrs. Peggy M. McInerney ‘90  
Mr. Bill P. McKinney ‘89  
Mr. Michael W. Murphy ‘78  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Frances Neithardt P’14  
Mr. John Nowinski P’06,’09,’14  
Mr. Thomas O’Connor ‘68  
Ms. Lisa M. Palmietto P’09  
Ms. Maureen M. Palmietto P’13  
Mr. John D. Poling ‘80  
Mrs. Elaine R. Reynolds ‘66  
Mr. Stephen J. Rogan ‘73  
Mr. Walter H. Ruehle ‘72  
Mr. Richard T. Sbuttoni ‘89  
Dr. Mary K. Schratz ‘71  
Mr. Paul J. Smith ‘70  
Mr. Russ Smith ‘73  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis and Jeanne Teague P’11  
Ms. Diane Tedesco ‘79  
Mr. & Mrs. James and Dawn Tosto P’11  
Ms. Chelsea D. Ventimiglia ‘02  
Mr. Brian W. Wasko ‘68  
Mrs. Stephany K. Woodin ‘57  
Mr. & Mrs. Orlando and Lorraine Xavier P’14



## 'TEACH THEM WELL'

### Remembering Sr. Christopher By Sr. Barbara Heil

*Editor's Note: Sr. Barbara read the eulogy below at the conclusion of Sr. Christopher's Funeral Mass at the Chapel of the Divine Compassion on June 21.*

Thank you all for coming; for your prayers, support and encouragement these last few months, especially. On Sr. Christopher's bedroom wall at Kennedy, there is a picture with this quote: "Children are always the only future the human race has. Teach them well." This sums up the life of Sr. Christopher in a nutshell, as she spent 66 years doing her favorite thing—teaching, geometry especially.

How many students have benefitted from her patience, understanding and encouragement, especially those who found math difficult, took the Regents a number of times, and finally made it thanks to her. Some of you here...

In the Commons at Kennedy, there is a Tree of Life on the wall [across from St. Mary's Chapel] dedicated to her, with such quotes as:

- "Our heartfelt gratitude for your endless love and support"
- "In appreciation for your inspiration to my career as a math educator."
- "Thanks for guiding my family through math, computer and life."
- "With deepest appreciation for all you have taught us—lessons in math and in life."

Growing up in a house of boys in New York City and Astoria, and losing her mother when she was 11, she was sent to St. Clare's Boarding School in Hastings to become a "lady". Good Counsel was the next step for college, and then the other side of the campus became her home—a religious of the Divine Compassion for 68 years. As a very new nun, she was quickly sent to Our Lady of Mount Carmel School to teach second-grade. Her past football experience of playing with her brothers was put to use, as she taught the boys football, as well as math. One of her protégés ended up as a football all-star.

After four years at Preston High School, she was sent to St. Mary's in Katonah and was one of the pioneers in the 1966 move to Kennedy, where she taught math and served as academic dean and principal. Retirement was not in her vocabulary, as she volunteered to teach a math class, as well as second-grade CCD for six years at St. Patrick's in Armonk, both right up until this past December.

Extremely patient, but firm, she served as mentor to the younger Sisters. It didn't take us long to catch on to the "Don't smile 'til Christmas rule". It would take higher math to calculate the number of students she taught in her long history. Calculators, computers and SMART Boards—she took full advantage of all the new technology in her teaching.

She did have another life, though. This included reading, listening to music, playing cards, watching sports (and not just the Yankees), doing crosswords (even difficult ones) and traveling—England, Austria, Germany and Switzerland, as well as Alaska and many places in the U.S.

Two of her favorite pastimes were photography and cooking. She was famous for her homemade soup. I'm so glad I helped by cutting up the vegetables; it was a great learning experience for me. Even though I did a lot of dishes, I learned so much working with her.

Super Bowl Sunday was another Kennedy tradition, because it meant Reubens for supper, handmade by Christopher. We had our delicious Reuben sandwiches...then left her to watch most of the game.

A legend in her own right—strong in life and in faith—there wasn't a person who worked with her that wasn't better for the experience. She was caring, generous, compassionate, thoughtful and patient; always willing to lend an ear or a helping hand. We have all benefitted from her wisdom and counsel.

Well done; rest in peace. The outstretched arms of the Divine Compassion await you.

For more remembrances of Sr. Christopher, please visit [www.facebook.com/kennedycatholic](http://www.facebook.com/kennedycatholic).



## KENNEDY IN MEMORIUM

The St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic community has mourned the loss of four former administrators and educators already this year, too large a number for any six month period. On behalf of the administration, faculty, staff, students and Sisters, we thank you for your prayers for our faithfully departed Gaels. Below are brief tributes to the lives and good works of Sisters Freda Burns and Alice Shannon, as well as the Rev. Fred Sullivan. You will find a reflection on Sister Christopher on the adjacent page.



### Sister Freda Burns - 1917 – 2011

Formerly known as Sr. Mary Victorian, Sr. Freda died peacefully on Feb. 28 at Good Counsel Convent in White Plains. Born in New York on Jan. 7, 1917, the daughter of Fred and Jessie (Goodspeed) Burns, she entered the Sisters of the Divine Compassion in 1940 and professed her final vows in 1948. Sister Freda attended Good Counsel College and graduated with a degree in English. She continued her studies at Fordham University and received a master's in English. Sister pursued additional advanced work at St. John's University, Teachers College Columbia University and Colgate University. Sister Freda was at St. Mary's High School from 1944-1966 as the yearbook advisor. Her leadership and her students' work gained applause by winning the Columbia Award for outstanding yearbook for several years. Sister continued her leadership at John F. Kennedy High School from 1966-1994 teaching English and leading the Yearbook Club. She was an intellectual who read a book-a-day, did the New York Times' crossword puzzle before Mass each morning, and actively utilized her e-mail on a daily basis. Sister Susan Merritt, President of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion commented, "Sister Freda was her own woman, clear about who she was and what she was about. An "early adopter", she was using computers long before her peers, and teaching those much younger. She never relinquished her extraordinarily clever and insightful sense of humor." Sister is survived by her Sisters of the Divine Compassion, and her niece, Maureen Stano. Sister Freda now rests at Calvary Cemetery in White Plains.



### Sister Alice Shannon - 1922 – 2011

Formerly known as Sr. Mary Imelda, Sr. Alice died peacefully on Jan. 22 at Good Counsel Convent in White Plains. Born in the Bronx on Feb. 11, 1922 the daughter of John and Alice (Herily) Shannon, she entered the Sisters of the Divine Compassion in 1939 and professed her final vows in 1947. Sister Alice attended Good Counsel Academy and graduated from Good Counsel College with a bachelor's in Mathematics, as well as a master's from Fordham University, and pursued additional advanced certification at Columbia University. She began her teaching career at St. Frances de Chantal School, 1947-1950, and later Preston High School in the Bronx. In 1951, Sister Alice joined the faculty at St. Mary's High School in Katonah, N.Y., teaching multiple subjects, including French. Sister became Principal of St. Mary's High School in 1963, serving as its last principal until 1966 when the school became John F. Kennedy High School and she its first principal. Sister served in this capacity from 1966 until 1972. After that she served at Karafin School and Lincoln Hall until she accepted the position as Assistant Director of Admissions at Manhattan College, a post she held until 1990. Upon "retirement", Sister Alice returned to Kennedy Catholic to share her many talents and her bright personality with the faculty and students as registrar and a guidance secretary. Sister Susan Merritt, President of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion commented, "Until her last breath Sr. Alice was a gracious and loving woman, always welcoming and always with a smile." Sister is survived by her Sisters of the Divine Compassion, her sister, Mrs. Ruth Smith, and many loving nieces and nephews. Sister Alice now rests at Calvary Cemetery in White Plains.

*Editor's Note: The next edition of The Gael will feature the first of a three-part series written by Sister Alice entitled "Memoirs of St. Mary's/Kennedy High School".*



### Rev. Frederick J. Sullivan - 1927 – 2011

The Rev. Frederick J. Sullivan of Riverdale, N.Y., passed on Jan. 31 at St. Joseph's Hospital in Yonkers. He was 83. Born on March 10, 1927, in Bronxville, N.Y., he was the son of the late Walter E. Sullivan Sr. and Regina M. (Morris) Sullivan. A graduate of Fordham Prep, he studied for the Holy Priesthood at Cathedral College and Saint Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. He was ordained in May of 1953 at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. He taught at Cardinal Hayes High School in the Bronx and later served as the business administrator for several diocesan high schools including Kennedy Catholic, Cardinal Spellman in the Bronx and Archbishop Stepinac in White Plains. He was also Pastor at St. James the Apostle parish in Carmel, N.Y., and at Our Lady of Loretto Parish in Cold Spring, when he retired. He was the brother of Walter E. Jr., Thomas E., Josephine Lyons and the late Marguerite Foley, and is survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. Father Sullivan now rests at Holy Mount Cemetery in Eastchester.

*Should you wish to recognize one of our faithfully departed Gaels, memorial donations may be made to the Blue and White Fund in their memory. If you would like a Mass celebrated inside St. Mary's Chapel for a departed loved one, please let us know that, as well. For more information, please contact the Advancement Office at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 134 or [alumni@kennedycatholic.org](mailto:alumni@kennedycatholic.org).*



**KENNEDY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

*Founded as St. Mary's High School 1924-1966*

Office of Advancement & Alumni Relations  
54 Route 138  
Somers, NY 10589

NON PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WHITE PLAINS, NY  
PERMIT NO. 825

The Gael is produced by the Advancement Office of Kennedy Catholic. If you have questions, comments or news you would like to share with us, please call (914) 232-5061 ext. 134, or email us at [alumni@kennedycatholic.org](mailto:alumni@kennedycatholic.org).

Publisher: Rev. Mark G. Vaillancourt, Ph.D.

Editor in Chief: Alex Malecki

Associate Editors: Jacob Bergmeier, Nancy Knight '76,  
Donna Ruperto

Contributing Writers: Alex Malecki, Sr. Barbara Heil

Photographers: Jacob Bergmeier and NoDo Photography Inc.,  
Alex Malecki

Design: Delfino Marketing Communications, Inc.

Printing: Graphic Management Partners, Inc.

Join us for our  
**GRAND OPENING**  
on Homecoming

**Saturday, October 15th**  
**Kennedy vs. Briarcliff**  
**1:30 p.m. Kick-Off**

