

THE GAEIL

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

Cardinals Rule!

Volume 12 - Spring 2012



St. Mary's Class of 1957 graduate Edwin Cardinal O'Brien received a special visit from Kennedy Catholic President the Rev. Mark Vaillancourt during a reception for the new Cardinal at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. For a profile of the Gael Cardinal, turn to page 5, or turn to pages 6 - 7 for Father Vaillancourt's running diary of the Consistory.



**KENNEDY
CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**

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

President's Page

Spring 2012



To all alumni, parents and friends of Kennedy:

To paraphrase Shakespeare, this has been the winter of our discontent. Not that we are a disgruntled bunch; rather, we are not content to maintain the status quo. Even during tough economic times that have left many uncertain of the future, we must keep pressing forward in fulfillment of the vision set forth for our school.

For starters, we have the pleasure of His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, as our President's Dinner honoree and inaugural Lux Christi Award recipient on Thursday, May 24, at Monteverde at Oldstone in Cortlandt Manor. Having attended the Consistory events in Rome over President's Weekend to be present for Cardinal Dolan and our very own Cardinal Edwin O'Brien '57, I can tell you this is an event you won't want to miss.

This summer, our gymnasium will receive a much-needed facelift consisting of all new bleachers and a resurfacing of the floor that includes one of the new Gael logos created by our very own Matt Walker '93 of Walk Design. We are also in the planning stages of a campaign to renovate our track to its proper dimensions so that Kennedy can once again play host to championship meets and invitationals. Then for those of you who remember Booster Hall, we have thoughts for an auxiliary gym to accommodate the growing practice and playing needs of all our teams.

Of course, we couldn't be more excited about the completion of our new athletic fields: new baseball diamond across the pond along Route 138, complete with dugouts and players clubhouse; new multipurpose competition field for field hockey, football, lacrosse and soccer; and new softball diamond with synthetic turf outfield. Finally, we have championship fields for our champion student-athletes.

We are also equally excited and proud of our new robotics club, which has quickly proved to be a force in competition. Despite a late start to the year, the Bionic Gaels enjoyed strong showings at both the FIRST Tech Challenge competition at Pace University, as well as the regional competition at the Javits Center in NYC.

And speaking of robotics, kudos to Joe Folchetti '85, who helped organize a trip for our physics students to the fabulous NanoFab complex at the University at Albany. As part of NanoCareer Day, our students were treated to informative presentations and interactive demonstrations on nanotechnology and the burgeoning number of careers in that field (read more on Page 4). Here at Kennedy, we will offer our own nanotechnology course for the spring of 2013, as well as robotics, AP physics and an introduction to engineering. And we expect an additional five National Merit Commendees to match the five we had this year.

Since the start of the year, we have replaced our file and e-mail servers, going virtual for the latter. We also replaced a number of aging machines with all new computers in our student Library Lab, as well as a new Faculty Lab that has been outfitted with PCs from Columbia University courtesy of Christina Araujo P '15.

Starting in September, we are excited to roll out Butterfile.com, a K-12 media-based learning management system that will provide our teachers and students with features that enrich the learning process through e-Social technology. This will be coupled with the integration of iPads for teachers to enhance interactivity in our growing virtual classroom.

So as you can see, Kennedy is not standing still. And as we prepare to welcome our largest freshmen class in years, a third of which is enrolled in our Honors Program, we need your help now more than ever to continue moving forward.

I hope to see you at our President's Dinner on May 24, at one of our fall slate of reunions, or simply on a trip down memory lane. I also hope you will support us in helping to make new memories for the current generation of Gaels.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

Kennedy leads the charge for school choice

Vaillancourt co-chairs Citizens Advisory Council

It's as natural a combination as salt and pepper, spaghetti and meatballs, Starsky and Hutch. Yet local Catholic and private school parents are concerned that there might not be any more buses for their kids...unless they move closer.

Closer to their kids' school, that is. Section 3635 of State Education Law requires public school districts to provide transportation to nonpublic students residing within said district, so long as their school is within a 15-mile radius from their home. That is a mandate from which some local districts are presently seeking relief.

"The families that choose to send their children to parochial school are still paying school taxes and this busing is one of the few tangible benefits they receive," state Senator Ball said. "If this proposal becomes a reality, the state of New York will once again be unfairly targeting those parents who are merely attempting to provide their children with expanded opportunities and a great education. The assault on our families, Catholic families in particular, must end and common sense must prevail."

Rumors that transportation for parochial and private schools could potentially be an issue in this year's budget cycle first surfaced in January. A number of concerned parents from various districts noted that nonpublic student transportation was among the mandates from which their home districts might be seeking relief from the state. Central to the concern of those parents, now shared by countless others throughout Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties thanks to the efforts of Ball and his Citizen's Advisory Council on Parochial and Private Schools, is a recommendation put forth by the Lower Hudson Council of Superintendents. In a December 2011 position paper, the council suggested, among other recommendations, that the state either provide additional funding for nonpublic student busing or reduce the maximum busing mileage from the current legal requirement of 15 miles to 5.

The position paper was released just prior to the creation of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Mandate Relief Council, which is "charged with reviewing and advancing proposals to reduce the statutory and regulatory burden on local governments and school districts." On April 18, Kennedy joined Catholic and private schools from across the Lower Hudson Valley in Albany to lobby members of the Mandate Relief Council against including such a recommendation in any relief package they might put forth.

Following an initial forum at Kennedy on March 15, the Rev. Mark Vaillancourt has joined forces with Yorktown Councilman Terrence Murphy to co-chair Ball's Citizens Advisory Council. Since its inception, the council has hosted a conference call with more than 100 attendees, a second forum at Kennedy on April 16, and the April 18 lobbying day.

If you would like to learn more about this important issue facing our school and others like it across the state, please visit www.kennedycatholic.org/advisorycouncil, join the Citizens Advisory Council and sign our petition.

Photos by Alex Malecki



Citizen Advisory Council Co-Chairs Father Vaillancourt and Terrence Murphy elucidate the problem to New York State Sen. Greg Ball.



Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos promises Father Vaillancourt and Kennedy Catholic Trustee Warren Lucas '72 that the senate will not change state transportation law.



Ossining Councilman Peter Tripodi '03 pledges his support to Councilman Murphy of Yorktown.

Kennedy students get (nano)-bitten at UAlbany

Students in Georgia Ioannou and George Petryczka's physics classes were among 300 from across the state to converge on UAlbany's College of Nanoscale Science & Engineering (CNSE) for its March 7 NanoCareer Day.

From donning the "bunny suits" worn in the cleanrooms, to extracting DNA from a banana, students gained new insights into the world of nanotechnology that is literally all around them. And it was on March 7, as the Kennedy Catholic contingent was treated to hands-on activities and a tour of CNSE's state-of-the-art NanoFab facilities.

"It's an exciting, energetic place," Petryczka said of the upbeat atmosphere at the CNSE.

The NanoCollege is perhaps the only place in the world where splitting hairs isn't trivial. In fact, students learned that they'd have to split their 100,000 times to get the size of the particles the CNSE staff works with daily. But that's not to say they aren't doing big things.

The UAlbany NanoCollege is the world's most advanced university-driven research enterprise. From green energy initiatives to the latest in computer chip technology, CNSE is at the forefront of global innovations. But on March 7, the only thing being manipulated at the nanoscale was students' sense of wonder.

"It was very interesting," junior Peter Nunez, 17, said, *"especially the cleanrooms."*

Nunez got the chance to get his hands dirty, testing the purity of various types of water with Instructional Support Technician Steve Stewart during one of the day's demonstrations. Maika Delacruz, 17, even got to don one of the "bunny suits" worn in the cleanrooms for an acidity test that, to the students' chagrin, involved ingestible Country Time Lemonade.

Other activities included polymer making with doctoral students Karen Torrejon and James Williams, and DNA extraction from banana cells with graduate student Genevieve Kane and Chris Towlar, a junior who was one of 15 in CNSE's pioneer undergraduate class. UAlbany's NanoCollege has 200 total students compared to 50 faculty, so personal attention is the norm.

"I was amazed to learn just how much the technology has changed," Ioannou said.

That's the CNSEU for you – changing the world, one nanometer at a time.

Photos by Alex Malecki



Instructional Support Technician Steve Stewart suits up junior Maika Delacruz for an acidity experiment.



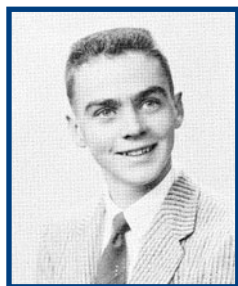
Doctoral student James Williams explains how polymers are made during one of the day's hands-on activities.



The 30 students from Kennedy Catholic were among the more than 300 from across the state who took part in the CNSE's NanoCareer Day on March 7.

The Road to Faith

Catching up with Cardinal Edwin O'Brien '57



"I don't take that for granted," Cardinal Edwin F. O'Brien told The Gael during a phone interview on Feb. 8, referring to the Catholic education he received growing up, first at Our Lady of Solace in the Bronx, and later at his alma mater, St. Mary's.

The truth is that O'Brien doesn't take much for granted in life, from his upbringing to his recent elevation to the College of Cardinals. Following his father's untimely death and a subsequent move north from the Bronx to Bedford Village during his sophomore year, on some days that outlook even included a ride to school in Katonah. As many Gaels did at that time, O'Brien would sometimes forgo the bus and hitchhike to St. Mary's. On several occasions, his Good Samaritan was none other than the legendary "Voice of the Yankees", Mel Allen. Little did Allen and the others know the precious cargo they carried.

'Insist on Catholic Education'

For O'Brien, his Catholic schooling was educational and social, athletic and spiritual. Priests were held in the highest esteem, and coming to St. Mary's opened up the future Cardinal to a whole new set of experiences. From coeducational classes, unique for their time, to the close rapport developed among classmates and between the Sisters of the Divine Compassion, to the small-town feel of the area where neighbor got to know neighbor, *"they were great,"* O'Brien said of his St. Mary's years.

O'Brien has a reputation for being accommodating. Fellow St. Mary's graduate and current Board of Trustees Chair Joseph Costello '58 recalls a time when he and his wife Jean were visiting Rome and the then-Archbishop took care to give them a personal welcome. Perhaps such a trait was picked up or at least fostered at St. Mary's, where O'Brien recalls being particularly awful at math and *"the late Sr. Christopher was very patient with me."*

Of course, O'Brien possessed a fair amount of patience himself, having been picked up one day by classmate Rocco Mancini in his 1952 Buick Riviera, driven out beyond the Katonah limits and left to walk back to St. Mary's in time for the bell. Fittingly, the good-natured prankster and his wife, Ann, also a 1957 St. Mary's graduate, were among the first to call O'Brien following the news of his elevation. O'Brien has just always had that kind of impact on people.

But when it comes to the future of Catholic education, the Cardinal has no such patience, only praise. *"Our Catholic people will insist on Catholic education,"* O'Brien said emphatically, encouraging parents to be aggressive by participating on local school boards and calling on government leaders to defend their basic right to educate their children in the Catholic faith without being doubly taxed.

"The values our schools bring to the common good are irreplaceable," said O'Brien, after whom the Commons at Kennedy Catholic is named. *"I owe so much to that tradition."*

To read the entire article, go to www.kennedycatholic.org/alumni



St. Mary's graduates John Hewes '57, Bob '57 and Jane Kurutz, and Frank McGuane '57 visit their classmate.



Then Archbishop O'Brien catches up with his 1957 St. Mary's classmates at their 50th reunion.



O'Brien flips through the yearbook with another St. Mary's legend, the late Sr. Mary Christopher O'Toole.

Cardinals Rule!

Kennedy's Connect to both U.S. Cardinals



To say that the Rev. Mark Vaillancourt had twice as much fun as anyone else who made the pilgrimage to Rome for February's Consistory of Cardinals would be an understatement. Then again, what other school president has connections to both of the Cardinals elevated by Pope Benedict XVI?

While the first might be obvious, especially considering our recent announcements about His Eminence, New York Archbishop Timothy Cardinal Dolan, being our guest of honor at the annual President's Dinner on Thursday, May 24. The second is deeply rooted in the St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic tradition as a member of the Class of 1957 and the namesake of the Kennedy Commons – Archbishop Edwin Cardinal O'Brien (who is profiled on page 5).

Of the 22 elevated Cardinals, only two were from the United States, leaving Father Vaillancourt in high demand by local media. To keep the Kennedy community and, indeed, the entire Lower Hudson Valley, current with Consistory events, Father Vaillancourt blogged for Gannett's The Journal News and other outlets. Read the transcript of Father's pilgrimage below:



2.16.2012 (6 a.m. EST) – Arrived to find Rome sunny at a brisk 32 degrees. Snow in the Eternal City is a curious sight. After a prayerful stop in St. Peters, I will concelebrate Mass with Cardinal Designate Dolan in the basilica of St. Mary Major later this afternoon. I have met many clergy and religious from New York already who have come here to share in the celebration with their archbishop. Everyone is looking forward to the consistory events of this weekend.

2.16.2012 (1:37 p.m. EST) – The Mass with Archbishop Dolan at St. Mary Major was truly an uplifting event. Along with 70 priests and 5 bishops who concelebrated were hundreds of pilgrims who traveled to Rome to be with Cardinal Elect Dolan on this happy occasion. During the Mass, the Archbishop reminded the faithful that they were in the oldest church in Christendom dedicated to Mary the Mother of God. He said that this pilgrimage was all about "Faith, family and friends" and that without a mother there is no family, and that devotion to the Mother of God was the surest way to build up the family of faith. The enthusiasm of Archbishop Dolan has resonated strongly with everyone, and promises to make this a great experience for everyone.

2.17.2012 (3:04 p.m. EST) – Today was another day in Rome filled with brilliant sunshine, crowned by a beautiful Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. Today's Mass was the third of four said for the pilgrims in the major basilicas of Rome. The fourth will be on Monday at St. Paul's. The enthusiasm continues to remain high among everyone and the Mass in St. Peter's was a great experience of the faith. Tomorrow promises to be a busy day, starting with the consistory itself which will elevate Archbishop Dolan to the rank of Cardinal, followed by a reception at the North American College and a private tour of the Sistine Chapel.

Photos by the Rev. Mark Vaillancourt

2.19.2012 (6:53 a.m. EST) – The past day and a half have been busy, filled up with events that make up the heart of the consistory. Yesterday morning was the ceremony where Archbishops Dolan and O’Brien were created cardinals of the Church of Rome, symbolized by the bestowal of the hat and the ring. A reception at the North American College for the two former rectors of the college followed. This morning was the Pontifical Mass of thanksgiving, concelebrated by the new cardinals with Pope Benedict. It was a particular honor for me to accompany Cardinal Dolan into the basilica for Mass, and to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. The spirits of all who traveled with Cardinal Dolan for the event remain high, due in no small part to the joy radiating from the Cardinal himself.



2.20.2012 (6:38 p.m. EST) – The consistory pilgrimage to the beautiful city of Rome is at a close following the final Mass at St. Paul’s Basilica, and the rain on the last day dampened the spirits of none. Whether it was a cheer for the Holy Father or a newly created cardinal, everyone seemed to have the same joyous spirit throughout the pilgrimage. And that was what impressed me the most – the enthusiasm of everyone involved. Rome is probably the only place on Earth where Christianity’s past and present come together in an almost perfect harmony. Whether on a city street or in a church, joy seems to be the common

quality that connects them both. This is what I saw in Rome this week, this was what I myself experienced, and why I am glad that I was a part of it.



Kennedy toured the colleges of Philly like this fictional champ.



Kudos to guidance counselors Margaret White, Dana Morando '98 and Robert Schwartz for putting together one of the high school college trips in all of Westchester.



You can't leave Philly without first sampling a cheesesteak.



Juniors Shannon Donohue, Amanda Peters and Dennis Devey tour the facilities at Rutgers.

The 'Rocky' Road to Philly

Guidance gives college tour of City of Brotherly Love

As part of its regular offerings, each year the Kennedy Catholic Guidance Department takes students to a different city and visits the surrounding colleges. This March, the Gaels were in Philadelphia, City of Brotherly Love and home of the Philly Cheesesteak.

Over three days and two nights, students took in the sights and sounds of six area colleges and universities: Drexel University, Rutgers University, St. Joseph's University, Temple University, University of Pennsylvania and Villanova University. For Kennedy's Guidance Department, the point is to show students the different options available to them. For sophomore Yaroslav Jakymec, it gave him a few new ones.

Jakymec said that while he signed up to get a jump start on the college process and was interested in UPenn, he left particularly impressed with Drexel's pre-med program, as well as its new buildings and facilities. Rutgers and St. Joe's will also be getting a second look now, he said, following the Guidance trip. Even the city itself got a passing grade from the sophomore, who was initially uncertain that Philly was the place he wanted to spend four years of his life.

"It's really opened my eyes to the other options that I have," Jakymec said.

Junior Shannon Donohue, who wasn't interested in any Philadelphia-area schools heading into the weekend, told of a similar conversion. Although she signed up for comparative analysis, Donohue came back with St. Joseph's, Villanova and the University of Pennsylvania on her list. She particularly liked the dichotomy of UPenn, which offers a campus feel in a city setting. For Donohue, the Guidance trip helped her more clearly define the qualities she is looking for in a school.

"I would definitely recommend it to anyone who hasn't already committed to a school," Donohue said, noting that seeing schools you don't like is equally helpful. *"You'll definitely get something out of it."*



Students enjoyed the view from atop the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Photos by Dana Morando '98

Costume Creations

Behind the scenes for "Anything Goes"

By Tillie O'Reilly '14

Editor's Note: This article appeared in the March edition of the Gael Winds student newspaper.

The time of the year had come again to start stitching, sewing, cutting, pinning and labeling costumes for Kennedy Catholic's annual spring musical. But while the cast was busy prepping the "Anything Goes" seen on the stage, not many people are aware of the time-consuming process that is undergone behind the scenes when fabricating these fabrics into time-period authentic costumes.



Matt Infantino '12, Ms. Gina DiSenso '99, Emily Mittelstadt '13, Nicole Alleva '13 and Tillie O'Reilly '14 and Sister Barbara pin down a pattern to be cut out and turned into a pink dress for one of the student actresses.

This intricate process of assembling one dress can take several steps until it finally reaches completion. Usually, the first component when creating a costume entails finding and cutting out a pattern of the article of clothing that you want to construct. Once the pattern is cut out, it is then pinned to the fabric that is used for the dress. The fabric and pattern is then collectively cut out and ready to be sewn together with other pieces that make up the dress as a whole. In the end, all the hard work is definitely worth it. What was once just a picture has come to life as a real dress. Although this is just a general overview of the dress making process, one can only imagine how much time this can amount to when done properly. It is sad to see that the manufacturing of clothes in the home is becoming extinct; however, dress making is alive and well at Kennedy Catholic.

Not every article of clothing that is worn by the actors and actresses are made by hand. The endless supplies of costumes down in the dressing rooms consist of casual and formal clothes which provide a great variety for the cast to wear. The students in the play are sure to find the perfect-fitting costume for their character, considering the personality, time era and fit.

The original production of "Anything Goes," written by Cole Porter, took place in 1934. This charming musical takes place on the luxury liner S.S. America, sailing from New York to England with some interesting characters aboard. The distinct fashion of the 1930s made creating costumes for the play so much more enjoyable. Women generally wore long, stylish dresses either as a solid color or with a pattern. A hat almost always accompanied the dress. Men's fashion consisted of double breasted suits, full-cut trousers and tuxedos. This dramatic love story, filled with suspense and humor, encompasses 1930s fashion to its fullest.

Of course we must not forget all the people behind the action who spend countless hours devoting their time to create such a wonderful look through the costumes they create and choose. Ms. DiSenso '99, an English teacher, plays a tremendous role in this whole process. Without her, the production would definitely not have been possible. Sister Barbara should also be recognized for her hard work, knowledge and continuous dedication to this activity. The volunteer students and parents are also to be thanked for giving their time to accomplish all tasks within this arduous production.

Audiences get a kick out of "Anything Goes"

By Lara Manbeck '14

This March, Kennedy Catholic played to packed houses with a production of the Cole Porter musical, "Anything Goes". This classic tells the story of Billy Crocker (Dennis McDaid '12), who is trying to win the love of his life, Hope (Jenny Weisberger '14, Natalie Burke '13), while traveling on the S.S. American. Along the way, he gets help from nightclub singer Reno Sweeney (Megan Callaghan '12, Lara Manbeck '14) and gangster Moonface Martin (Philip Prinzivalli '12, Matthew Pereira '12).

"Anything Goes" was packed full of excitement, romance and famous show tunes. It was a musical like no other. Its famous songs include "I Get a Kick Out of You", "You're the Top", "It's De-Lovely", and of course, the title song, "Anything Goes". The show also had countless exciting dance numbers, in styles ranging from ballroom dancing to tap dance.

The production was directed and choreographed by Ms. Dana Merritt, with musical direction by Mr. Kuhn and Ms. Boston. The cast worked diligently since October, and now awaits the announcement of nominations for this year's Metropolitan High School Theater Awards on Friday, May 18. Visit www.hstheaterawards.com to follow along.



Dennis McDaid '12 donned several goofy getups as his Billy Crocker wooed Hope Harcourt (Jenny Weisberger '14), while avoiding the suspicion of his love's fiancé, Sir Evelyn Oakleigh (Matt Infantino '12), and her mother.



Philip Prinzivalli '12 as Moonface Martin gets schooled in a game of dice with stowaways Monica Tao '13 and Michelle Weng '13.

Photos by Lester McGuire

Still Got Game

2010 out-'classes' 2011 in friendly football game

On the heels of Black Friday's annual Turkey Bowl, the Classes of 2010 and 2011 scratched an itch that had lain just beneath the surface since they played varsity football together. Namely, which class was better?

Thanks to the inquisitive mind of Tim Kazinduka '11, some Facebook encouragement from Coach Rob Schwartz, and some friendly back-and-forth banter in cyberspace, the long-running question was answered over Christmas Break. And the answer was that the Class of 2011 had no answer for its 2010 counterparts in a 44-14 loss on the new synthetic turf competition field.



Photo by Rob Schwartz

Representing the Class of 2010 were Marc Palmer, David "Boomer" Odell, J.T. Flanagan, John Manzo, Dylan Tragni, Matt Burke, Dylan Schuck, Tyler Trodden, Joe Lulgjuraj and Joe Candarelli. Tim Kazinduka, Joe Cox, Gary Kiernan, Dan Girolamo, Sam Limata, Zach Furman, Noah Gitta and Jon Concepcion came out for the Class of 2011.

"I thought it would be a great idea to see all of my former players and have some competitive fun," Coach Schwartz said. "Looks like the Class of 2010 still has it."

Available Internships for Summer 2012

Soaring Eagle Physical Therapy, PC
Yorktown Heights, NY

George Apap Painting and HPM
Carpentry
Patterson, NY

Ever Clean Colonics
Briarcliff Manor, NY

Town of Bedford Justice Court
Bedford, NY

Independent Living, Inc.
Newburgh, NY

Carmel Recreation Department
Mahopac, NY

HDR Engineering
White Plains, NY

Competitive Telecoms Group Inc.
Lincolndale, NY

Summer Internship Program Established

Kennedy Catholic High School has established a Summer Internship Program beginning this June. It will be offered to juniors rising to their senior year and graduating seniors at businesses and institutions in the region.

Capitalizing on the good work of the Guidance Department and, in particular, counselor Dana Morando '98, in organizing previous Career Days involving alumni and parents, Kennedy is taking a two-fold approach to its new internship program.

The primary goal is to help students explore professions they might not otherwise be exposed to before college, at businesses where they can gain experience in the workplace, as well as interviewing skills. Of course, this is also an excellent opportunity for Kennedy students to showcase their school as a place of quality education and preparation.

A number of corporate, private, public and governmental entities have already enlisted to host these internships, which can be either paid or unpaid (see adjacent sidebar). This will be a great chance for upperclassmen to explore potential future careers, and another unique aspect of the Kennedy experience.

If you are interested in offering an internship at your place of business or wanted to suggest an organization for us to call, please contact Director of Advancement Bob DeMicco at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 121 or alumni@kennedycatholic.org.

Gael Giving

As the St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic tradition continues to grow, so have the ways you can support future generations of Gaels. Please peruse the following giving options and consider one that is right for you and your family.

Gift a little. Leave a legacy.

The **Annual Fund** is our yearly campaign that comes in two installments, a fall and spring appeal, which are supplemented by a phone-a-thon. The easiest and most helpful way you can support your alma mater, your children or Catholic education in general, the Annual Fund keeps Kennedy's tuition among the lowest in Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess counties, while providing for instructional and technological upgrades to our facilities. Last year, we topped the \$100,000 mark for the very first time, not counting events, grants and major gifts. With your help, we can do it again in 2011-2012.



Our current **Capital Campaign** is the renovation of the Monsignor Boyle Gymnasium this summer. Scheduled work includes a complete resurfacing of the gym floor with the installation of a new center court logo, courtesy of Matthew Walker '93 of Walk Design, as well as all-new bleachers. We are looking to athletic Gaels past and present to help us reach our \$175,000 goal for this project.

The **Sister Christopher Tree of Life** recognizes the life and legend of longtime math teacher and former administrator Sister Mary Christopher O'Toole, who returned home to our Lord in June of 2011. Few who passed through the halls of St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic were not touched in some way by her toughness, tutelage or tenderness. Every alumnus has a Sister Christopher story to share. The Tree of Life is the place to leave yours on engraved brass plaques in the shape of leaves (\$300), acorns (\$500), stones (\$1,500) and miniature trees (\$5,000). St. Mary's is the root from which Kennedy Catholic has grown. Sister Christopher helped nurture those "seeds" for more than 55 years. Now you can, too, with a gift to the Sister Christopher Tree of Life.



The **Name for the Game** represents our current bleacher appeal. With so many new facility and field renovations taking place, this is your chance to own a piece of the action. With a Coach's (\$500), Athletic Director's (\$1,000) or Chairman's (\$2,000) sponsorship, you can have your name on a row on one of the new sets of bleachers surrounding our new multipurpose field, softball diamond or gymnasium. We have already raised more than \$60,000 toward our \$160,000 goal. With your support, we can name our game an overwhelming success.



Begun by the Class of 2006, our **Legacy Walkway** is an opportunity for alumni, parents and friends of our school to leave their mark by adorning the footpath that leads from the student parking lot to the Lakeview Room. For a generous gift of \$300, you can have your name or a short message sandblasted into one of the bricks flanking the footpath. Just as students ascend the walkway each day, you help us ascend to our Legacy Walkway goal.



For more information about any of these giving opportunities, please contact the Advancement Office at (914) 232-5061 Ext. 121 or advancement@kennedycatholic.org.



KENNEDY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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**It's not too late
to reserve your
seats for the 2012
Kennedy Catholic
President's Dinner.
The Rev. Mark
Vaillancourt cordially
invites you to
celebrate Catholic
education with us.**



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