



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

NEWSLETTER

From the Office of the Principal

www.catholichigh.org

December 1, 2018

DECEMBER SPECIAL SCHEDULES:

Tuesday, December 4: Schoolwide liturgy at 9:47 a.m. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m.

Thursday, December 6: Pep rally schedule. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m.

Monday, December 17: Choir/Band Christmas Concert for student body. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m. (streamed live on www.bruinbroadcast.com at 9:47 a.m.)

To view the full calendar, please click here:

[CHS Calendar](#)

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME:

Congratulations to Mrs. Margie Alexander on being selected by the Catholic High School Board of Directors for induction into the Catholic High School Hall of Fame.

Catholic High is honored to induct this generous and accomplished woman into the Hall of Fame. Margie is an indispensable part of the Catholic High community and is a role model through her incredible work-ethic and her generous spirit. She began working at CHS in 1985 as an assistant in the Finance Office. She was named Treasurer in 1987 and 24 years later she was named Director of Legacy Gifts. Her other roles include Grants Coordinator, CHS Capital Campaign Coordinator and Archivist. She serves as Financial Advisor for the CHS Mothers' Club. Margie serves on the Investment Committee of the CHS Foundation Board, Budget Committee of the Catholic High School Board and Financial Aid Committee.

Margie is a member of St. Joseph Cathedral Parish and serves on the Social Responsibility Committee as chair of the Bereavement sub-committee and Joseph Home project sub-committee, a group that provides monthly meals for men who have been incarcerated. Margie and Ralph have been married for 54 years and are the proud parents of a daughter, Stephanie Maxwell (David), a 1985 graduate of SJA and a son, David Alexander (Amy), a CHS graduate of 1988. They have five grandchildren to whom she is known as "Maggie" – Alex Maxwell SSC '12, Madison Maxwell, Logan Maxwell, Ryan Alexander and Charlotte Alexander.

The Hall of Fame ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 6. Congratulations to the Alexander family on this prestigious and well-deserved recognition.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED

GRADUATE: Catholic High School has selected Perry Key '78 as this year's Distinguished Graduate. Perry is an outstanding role model for young people and a living witness to the Catholic faith we share. Perry and his wife Jerelyn have been married for 33 years and they have raised three children, including Christian, a 2013 CHS grad. While raising his family and pursuing a successful career in banking, Perry has generously shared his time through volunteer service, especially to the Catholic church, school, and retreat endeavors. A daily mass attendee, his Catholic faith has always been his priority. For more than 20 years, he has made annual retreats at Manresa, for more than six years, he has served as an adult volunteer leader on CHS senior retreats, and throughout his life he has served his parish in a variety of ministries. Perry serves as lector, Eucharistic Minister, Retreat Captain for Manresa, member of the Diocesan School Board, Chair of the Finance Committee, member of the CHS Foundation Board, member of the Grizzly

Greats Hall of Fame, and as a senior retreat volunteer for CHS.

Because of his steadfast faith, his willingness to share that faith with others, and his life-long commitment to serve, we are proud to hold up Perry Key as a model to our students. He is a great example of what we hope all of our graduates become. Perry will be recognized on January 28 at the Diocesan Distinguished Graduates Dinner.

SEMESTER EXAMS: Monday, December 17 is considered a “dead day” prior to exams. This means that students will not have homework or assignments due or be given tests or quizzes on the 17th in order to prepare for exams. Our guidelines to teachers also stipulate that no assignments can be due online after 2:47 p.m. on Friday, December 14 so that students may use the weekend to study for exams. Our first semester exam schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 18	7th and 1st periods
Wednesday, December 19	3rd and 6th periods
Thursday, December 20	2nd and 5th periods
Friday, December 21	8th and 4th periods

If your son is not scheduled to take an exam during a particular period (ex: he has lunch during 5th period), he does not have to attend school during that time. The daily time schedule for exams is as follows:

7:55 & 7:58	Warning tones
8:00	First exam begins
9:35	First exam ends
10:00 & 10:03	Warning tones for second exam
10:05	Second exam begins
11:35	Second exam ends

Students will be considered tardy if they arrive to class after 8:00 a.m. Please check the exam schedule carefully so that you can assist your son in preparing for the proper exam on the correct day. Breakfast will be available in the Union before school. Lunch items will be available between exams.

Semester exams are important for your son because they can significantly affect his first-semester grades. Please review with your son the grading policy as stated on Page 43 of the *2018-2019 Student Handbook*. It is important for students to begin preparing now for exams by developing a schedule for study and time management. Please consult with individual teachers if you have specific questions about exam preparation.

[Student Handbook](#)

IMPORTANT STUDENT CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES:

Please remember to follow our established procedures concerning students checking out of school.

School attendance is a priority and students should only check out in the event of illness or for appointments that absolutely cannot be scheduled after school hours. Parents should make every effort to schedule appointments that do not take students out during the school day.

On those rare occasions when a student does need to check out, he should bring a note the morning of the appointment. The attendance secretary will give the student a note to leave class at the designated time and report to the assistant principals’ office to sign out.

If an unforeseen and necessary circumstance occurs and a student must check out and he did not know about it, parents must call the school in advance. This situation should only occur in the rarest of circumstances. Please do not just show up at school to check a student out.

It is also important to remember that not all absences are excused and consequences may be given to a student in those circumstances. Please consult the Student Handbook for further details. Thank you for your help in this important matter.

[Student Handbook](#)

RE-REGISTRATION FOR 2019 - 2020: Re-registration will take place mid-January. Detailed information about the re-registration process will be sent by email to all families in early January.

PLUSPORTALS ACTIVATION: It is important that all parents activate their PlusPortals account. PlusPortals gives you access to your son’s official report card, transcripts, and other important information.

If you have not activated your account and need assistance with your login information, please contact Jay Butcher: jbutcher@catholichigh.org.

SEMESTER REPORT CARDS: Final semester report cards will be in the E-Locker section of PlusPortals at the end of the last week in December.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AND OFFICE HOURS: Our Christmas holidays begin after the last exam on Friday,

December 21. Students return to class on Tuesday, January 8. School office hours will be 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Thursday, December 27 – Friday, December 28; Thursday, January 3; and Friday, January 4. Offices will be closed Monday, December 24 – Wednesday, December 26, and Monday, December 31 – Wednesday, January 2. Regular office hours of 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. will resume on Tuesday, January 8.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING [from Pinney Johnson, Bookstore Manager]: The CHS Bookstore will offer special Christmas shopping days during the month of December. Besides regular hours on school days, the bookstore will be open from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 1st and 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday, December 8th. The last day to shop before the Christmas holidays will be Friday the 21st at noon. You can browse some of the items that will be available then shop in the store during the posted hours.

[Bookstore](#)

PARENT - TEACHER CONFERENCES: Please mark your calendar now to attend Parent–Teacher Conferences on Monday, January 7 from 7:15- 9:15 a.m. Teachers will be available during this time to discuss with parents first semester grades or other concerns. There is no school for students on January 7. The remainder of the day is designated as professional development for teachers.

Parents do not need to make an appointment for teacher conferences on January 7 but waiting may be necessary if other parents are in line. So that as many parents can speak with teachers as possible, please limit your conferences to 5-7 minutes per teacher.

ACT PREPARATION CLASS: ACT preparation classes will be offered on Sunday, January 20 and Sunday, January 27. If interested, your son may choose one of these two dates to attend the class. Please click the link below to get more details about this course which has been quite beneficial for many of our students. Please e-mail Mrs. Christy Kessler at ckessler@catholichigh.org if you have any questions about the course.

[ACT Prep Class](#)

2018 OPEN HOUSE: Catholic High’s 32nd Open House on November 8th was a great success. Almost

1,200 guests visited Catholic High School and had the opportunity to see all that CHS has to offer. In addition, 500+ of our students spent the evening telling visitors all about CHS and sharing their experiences as students. Thanks so much to everyone who assisted us and in particular we thank Tracy Ducote, CHS Events Coordinator. This event would not be possible without our faculty, students, parents, and alumni. I also thank the Mothers’ Club for their continued support during events such as Open House.

TUITION [From Gene Tullier, President]: In keeping with the educational tradition of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, **no student is refused admission or asked to leave Catholic High School solely because of his family’s inability to pay tuition.** If you are having difficulty meeting your tuition payment obligation, please contact Mr. Stuart Sonnier, Finance Director, or me immediately to make special arrangements.

Remember that in order for your son to take his first-semester exams, his tuition must be up to date as of Wednesday, December 12. If his tuition is in arrears as of that morning, a school official will attempt to contact you. School policy does not allow a student to take his exams until any outstanding balance has been paid or until an acceptable financial arrangement for payment has been made.

It is always unpleasant to have to take action that may interrupt a student’s academic experience, especially during exams. Unpleasant or not, it is sometimes necessary to do so in order to ensure the financial integrity of the school. In order for CHS to meet its financial commitments, I must insist that parents meet their financial obligations to Catholic High. I thank you in advance for your understanding in this matter.

2018-2019 PARENTS APPEAL UPDATE [From Jamie Segar '90, Director of Advancement] : As we near the end of the calendar year, we prayerfully ask for your support of this year’s Parents Appeal for The Fund for Catholic High School. Giving to the Parents Appeal currently stands at 19% as of November 26, significantly down from 35% this time last year. If you have yet to participate, please consider making your tax-deductible donation on behalf of your CHS student(s) today.

A big thank you to those who have already made a gift or pledge to *The Fund*. Parents who have contributed as of November 26 may be viewed by clicking on the **HONOR ROLL** button below. Make your gift or pledge now, by clicking on the **DONATE** button to be counted in the next Principal’s Newsletter Honor Roll update.

Please help us keep CHS strong. Together, we are
DEFINING THE DIFFERENCE for every student, every
year!

[Donate](#)

[Honor Roll](#)

MERRY CHRISTMAS! On behalf of everyone at
Catholic High School, we wish you a wonderful and
joyous holiday season. I pray that this special time of
year be one of joy, gratitude, peace, and love, both
now and throughout the new year.