

INSIDE SPELLMAN

CARDINAL SPELLMAN HIGH SCHOOL'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2009 Vol. 32 /No. 6

A Message From... The President

Dear Parents and Friends of Spellman,

As I write this letter we have just begun the season of Lent. Perhaps, during this season, we might all join together and earnestly seek the Lord's peace by more fervent daily prayer, by acts of self denial and by a spirit of self-sacrifice.

Perhaps we might consider using our Lenten sacrifices in ways to help others? For example, money that we don't spend on snacks or drinks could be donated to a charitable cause. Some of the time that we might have spent in the movies, watching videos or surfing the TV channels might be used to give someone a helping hand. Perhaps even some of our prayers could be directed toward the well-being of others. Certainly such acts of generosity will help make our world a better place and make our season of Lent a very positive time.

IN PRAISE OF SAINT JOSEPH

March is the month of **Saint Joseph**, the Patron of the Universal Church and the patron of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, to whom this school was entrusted by its founder, Richard Cardinal Cushing.

During his life on earth, we know of no miracles that Joseph performed; he was not a renowned man nor was he a wonder-worker. Joseph's life certainly had its share of questions, of adversity and of persecution. But it is his simplicity that makes Joseph someone with which we easily identify. He was a husband, a father, and a worker. For these very human roles, he has become widely admired and imitated.

Let us salute him on his feast day, Thursday, March 19. Would you be good enough to pray on that day for the Sisters of Saint Joseph – the religious women who currently minister to your sons and daughters here at Cardinal Spellman High School? Thank you!

Peace!

Sister Thomasine Knowlton, CSJ
President

A Message From... The Principal

Hopefully the season of spring will grace New England early this year!

I hope you received the mailing regarding financial aid and scholarship applications. If you did not, please call the school to receive information. All financial aid and scholarships are due by April 1st.

As we begin the month of March we look forward to the student production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* on March 6, 7 and 8th. I am sure this production will continue our outstanding reputation for high school productions par excellence. I hope you will have an opportunity to attend one of the performances. I am sure it will be truly family entertainment

We also celebrate the feast of St. Joseph on March 19th. We remember in a very special way the Sisters of St. Joseph who have been instrumental in creating and continuing the Spellman spirit that permeates our students and staff. We are so grateful to the gifts that each one of them has contributed and continues to contribute to our Spellman heritage. Thank you and God bless you!

Interim reports will be distributed to students on March 6th. Please call and speak to teachers if you have concerns or questions regarding these grades. There is time left to improve!

This year we have tried to make the third and fourth terms for seniors equal in the number of class days. So, seniors will be receiving their third term report cards on March 26th. I also encourage you to contact any of us at Spellman when you have questions or concerns. As always we appreciate any feedback that you can give us. Thank you for your support to all of us!

Ms. Dorothy Lynch
Principal

A Message From...The Assistant Principal

Interim and Report Card Dates

This year we have changed the timing of when seniors will receive their interim reports and report cards for term 3 and 4. Since the seniors have a much shortened fourth term, we moved up the end date for term 3 up from April 3rd to March 20th for seniors only so the third and fourth terms would be of equal length. Please see important dates listed below:

	Seniors only	Grades 9-11
Term 3 Begins	1/26	1/26
Interims	2/26	3/6
Term 3 ends	3/20	4/3
Report Cards Distributed	3/26	4/9
Term 4 begins	3/23	4/6
Interims	4/15	5/15
Term 4 ends	5/13	6/10

Course Selection for 2009 - 2010

Your sons and daughters are in the process of making decisions regarding courses for the next school year. We encourage you to help them in this process. If you need to speak with their respective guidance counselors, please do not hesitate to call (508-588-1399).

On April 2nd, your son or daughter will be bringing home a form to be signed containing the courses that he/she has selected for the coming school year for your approval. Please sign this form and have your son/daughter return it to us via the homeroom teacher along with the \$200 re-registration fee.

Forms and fees should be returned on or before by April 6th.

In order to ensure your son/daughter's seat for the school year 2009-2010, it is imperative that you return these signed forms with the re-registration fee (\$200) promptly. If your son or daughter is not returning to Spellman next year, please send a letter to us stating the school he/she will be attending.

PLEASE NOTE:

We build the master schedule based on the course selections made by your son/daughter and approved by you and the school. Once the master schedule is designed it is very difficult to accommodate requests to change a student's courses.

Financial Aid Forms

Financial Aid forms are available in the main office and students may pick them up or you may call and request that we send one to you via the mail. **The deadline for filing financial aid applications is April 1st. Only applications that have been processed by May 1st will be considered for financial aid in June.** FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment applications must be mailed to the address indicated on the envelope with a \$20 processing fee.

We hope to be making **decisions this year by late May/early June.** Only parents who have filed a **completed** financial aid form with all supporting documentation will be eligible for any aid. **Financial Aid applications must be completed each year that you are seeking financial aid.**

Ms. Susan Davis
Assistant Principal

Religious Studies and Campus Ministry

Report by Leanne Mullin (Senior, member of Prayer Posse) on the activities of Catholic Schools Week:

Obvious differences at first glance between Catholic and public high schools include the Catholic school uniform and religion classes. However, there is much more...and each year, a special week is set aside to celebrate the many unique differences and gifts of a Catholic education. This year, Catholic Schools Week was celebrated from January 26th to January 30th across the country with the theme of "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service".

This was a particularly important event for Spellman because while we are celebrating being a Catholic school, we are also celebrating 50 years of Catholic education. The events that took place during Catholic Schools Week were planned by members of the Prayer Posse. On Monday, the kick-off to this five-day celebration, the senior class enjoyed their retreat while the freshman, sophomores, and juniors enjoyed class lunches. Tuesday, to celebrate not only being part of a Catholic school but also representing the 50 years of Spellman, we had "Decades Day". The Faculty and Staff was assigned to the '60s, the seniors to the '70s, the juniors to the '80s, the sophomores to the '90s, and the freshman represented "now and the future." Each wing was decorated accordingly and prizes were awarded to the best costume of each decade.

Originally, Wednesday was to be the day of the "Cardinal Cup". This means that each grade, captained by each of the four ministries, would participate in a series of field day and obstacle events. This day was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled for a later date. Spellman has always been one to allow dress down days as incentives,

but for this day, a dress up day, or “Sunday Best” seemed fitting, where we attended mass. Friday was our final day of Catholic schools week. We had a morning assembly where alumni and staff spoke to us about their service and trip to New Orleans. They used pictures, slides, songs, and stories to capture the attention of the student body. Just after the presentation, we participated in a full-school Adoration, the first of its kind. The seniors lined the aisles of the auditorium with lit candles, representing the light in all of us, Jesus Christ. We are so grateful for the administrators, faculty, staff, students, and families who have supported Cardinal Spellman High School over the years and made an excellent Catholic education possible for us all!

The March meeting of the Parents’ Prayer Group will be held the evening of March 4th at Cardinal Spellman beginning at 7pm in Rm #104. We look forward to welcoming any new members. Drop in for the evening to pray with us for our students and school community. With questions or for more information, please contact Mrs. Lynne Jensen at the school: (508-584-9276) ljensen@spellman.pvt.k12.ma.us or Spellman parent, Mrs. Margi Mannke (781-337-4097) margim@verizon.net.

Please join us for one or more of the following events:

An Ash Wednesday Prayer Service on Wednesday, February 25th to begin at 8:00am in the auditorium is being planned by the Peer Ministry students. It will center on the Lenten theme of repentance and the song, “I Don’t Know How to Love Him.” Several of the Peer Ministers will help with the distribution of ashes.

The school Mass for March is being held on Thursday, March 19th beginning at 9:30am in the auditorium in recognition of Saint Joseph’s Day. Fr. Wally Keymont, Pastor of Saint John’s Parish in Bridgewater, will be the celebrant. Please join us for this opportunity to celebrate and honor the Sisters of Saint Joseph for their many years of faithful and dedicated service to the Spellman community and throughout the Archdiocese.

A Lenten Parent Prayer Evening is being planned for Wednesday, March 25th. This will include Adoration, songs by our choir, and prayer circles with parents.

Guidance

We would like to welcome back to Spellman, Mr. Thomas Gilarde, former Director of Guidance, who will be filling in for Mrs. Hogan while she is on maternity leave. With his vast experience in counseling and his familiarity with Spellman, he will be able to step right in. If your son/daughter falls in his case load, do not hesitate to contact him to seek his assistance.

PARENTS OF SENIORS

Information and applications for scholarships available to **Brockton** residents and to other qualified students regardless of residence will be published and distributed to seniors during the month of March.

Residents of surrounding towns should contact the guidance office of their **local public high school** for scholarship information and applications that are available to residents of their town. Also check the Scholarship Scoop which is published twice a month and is available on the Spellman website.

No family will receive financial aid **unless** the required **FAFSA** and **Profile** forms have been submitted. If you haven't done so already, please complete these forms and mail them **as soon as possible**.

PARENTS OF JUNIORS

As you probably know, most colleges require the **SAT I** as part of their admissions criteria. All juniors should take the **SAT I** either **May 2** or **June 6**. Some of the more competitive colleges also require two of the SAT II subject tests. Your son/daughter should consult with his/her guidance counselor to see if they need to take at least one of these tests in June. Please be aware that the deadline for registering for the **May 2 SAT** is **March 31**. If possible, it is preferable to register online at www.collegeboard.com.

College Research

The guidance counselors have been meeting individually with sophomores and juniors to discuss their course of studies and the college admissions process. It is a good idea for juniors and their parents to plan some time during the April vacation to visit two or three colleges they might be interested in attending. It is suggested that you make an appointment for a campus tour before arriving at the college. Visiting schedules are usually available on the website of each college.

College Information Night

Mark your calendars for our **Annual College and Financial Aid Information Night**, which will take place on **Tuesday, April 14, 2009**, at Cardinal Spellman High School from **7:00 to 8:30pm**. This program, planned especially for the parents and students of the junior class, will feature college admissions representatives. Additionally, the Guidance Department Book on the College Information process will be handed out that night.

National College Fair

The National College Fair will be held on April 7 and 8 at the Convention Center in South Boston. Representatives from over 300 colleges across the U.S. will be available to answer questions and hand out materials. Although the fair will take place during the morning on both days, Spellman does not consider this to be an excused absence. We recommend that students and their families attend the evening session on 4/7. More information will be available.

Parents/Guardians of Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors

Course Selection Process

Students of the freshman, sophomore and junior classes are in the process of selecting courses for next year. If you have any questions, feel free to call your son/daughter's guidance counselor.

Advancement Happenings

THANKS FOR BUYING AN AD!

Many thanks for all who have supported our production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* by purchasing an ad in the program book. Once again, these ads help offset the costs of the royalties, orchestra, set design, costumes and other miscellaneous expenses.

Make sure you don't miss one of these wonderful performances on March 6th, 7th and 8th! Kay Cassidy, Robert McEwan, Janet Madigan, and Steven Anderson will be receiving Sisters of St. Joseph medallions at a pre-reception before the musical production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Athletic Hall of Fame is honoring State Championship Teams: 1983-84 Boys Varsity Basketball, 1990 Golf Team, 1992 Football Team, 1993 Golf Team, 2001 Varsity Softball Team and 2003 Varsity Softball on Friday, March 20th at The Shaw's Center. Tickets are \$40 a person. To purchase tickets, please contact Ellen Rota in the Office of Advancement at 508-584-3004 or at erota@spellman.pvt.k12.ma.us.

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY MASS

On March 19th Cardinal Spellman High School will be presenting the Sisters of St. Joseph medallion to Dr. John McEwan, Bob and Suzanne O'Donnell, the five former principals of Spellman, Sister Patricia Andrews '62, Mrs. Lucy Hebard who is accepting on behalf of her sister, Sr. M. Laboure who is at Bethany and Mrs. Henry Doyle, who is accepting for her aunt, Sister Cephas, CSJ posthumously.

THE LEGACY GALA & AUCTION

Invitations have been mailed for this year's Legacy Gala & Auction, which will be held at the Lantana on April 4th. Once again, all proceeds from the evening will benefit Spellman students. To learn more or to purchase tickets, please contact the Office of Advancement at 508-584-3004 or go to www.spellmanalumni.com/gala2009.

SAVE THE DATE!

Cardinal Spellman's Golf Classic will be held on Monday, June 22th at LeBaron Hills Country Club. Foursomes are available and sponsors are also welcome.

We are currently looking for people to help at the tournament. If you are willing to lend a hand, please contact Susan Ashton at 508-584-3004 or sashton@spellman.pvt.k12.ma.us.

Drama

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is in the home stretch of rehearsals and the production promises to be a stellar performance of vocal, theatrical, and dance talent! Please join us on Friday or Saturday evening, March 6 & 7 at 7:30pm or on Sunday afternoon, March 8 at 2:00pm. Tickets are available in advance for \$10 (reserved) or \$7 (general seating) and at the door. Don't miss out!

Admissions

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD!

Registration Class of 2013

It was wonderful! Families were happy to be here, warm and welcoming to one another, and readily sharing hopes, questions, or concerns. So often parents refer to Spellman as a community, as a family. It appears that atmosphere will continue to **move forward!**

On-going Orientation for the Class of 2013

On Thursday, March 26, members of the Class of 2013 and their families are invited to a session entitled The Academic and Religious Dimensions of Spellman. This session includes a panel of four seniors sharing their experiences of Spellman through its religion courses and its religious experiences as well as the academic program. The auditorium session is followed by the Parent/Student choice. There will be faculty and students available in each department to answer any questions or concerns a parent or student may have. If parents or students have no questions or concerns, they are free to leave. Of course, before leaving, they sign for their choice of an elective for freshman year. We look forward to welcoming these families and **moving forward!**

Art News

Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards 2009

On the 7th of February, Spellman students **Becky Lafrate, Jen Fallon, Dan Pantano** and **Brent Wilmot** received well deserved recognition by The Boston Globe in its annual high school art competition. I have been teaching at Spellman for almost five years and this is the first time that I can remember Spellman students receiving gold keys! Becky's prom dress, Jen's photograph and Dan's graphic story are all on display at the Transportation Building in Boston's theatre district. The students received their keys at an award ceremony in the John Hancock Hall in Boston. Here, Mayor Tom

Menino, made a surprise appearance and praised each young artist while also warning each student to never forsake what he or she has worked so hard to achieve.

Computer Bits



the children to join us. We sang and danced to the "Hokie Pokey." It was a resounding success.

The last school we visited was Chang Jiao Village Primary School in a very rural village in Anshun. Our buses took us a couple of hours into the interior and we walked another mile into the village. We explored the school and then were entertained with traditional dances by the children and the adults. At the end of the dances all of the educators stepped into the courtyard inviting



In the afternoon, the bus traveled another hour further southwest to Yunfeng Tunpu (Fortress Village). In the 14th century Ming Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang sent soldiers there to stop rebellion. Ancestors of the soldiers



still live there. They follow the original traditions and customs and continue to speak the old language. They call themselves 'Nanjing people'. They are also referred to as the 'Old Han Chinese.' Though these people lived at the poverty level there were television sets!



In the evening we returned to our hotel and were enjoyed a farewell banquet. Everyone dressed in the traditional Chinese jackets we received. Our group was referred to as "Bus 9", and we entertained everyone with a song written about our trip.

The next morning, Sunday, we were off to the airport before the sun was up. We flew from Guiyang to Guizhou, then Guizhou to Hong Kong and finally from Hong Kong to New York and then New York to Boston. We crossed the dateline and arrived at our home five hours before school started on Monday morning.

What an amazing experience—over 8,000 miles and back! I will be putting together a slide show to present at Spellman, shortly. Thank you again Maryellen and Kevin Kelley for this teaching and peace-making opportunity.

Sports

CONGRATULATIONS, COACH GERRISH!

Spellman recently received word from the MIAA that our Athletic Director, Mike Gerrish has been selected as the District's Recipient of the President's Award of Merit. This award is presented annually to an athletic director who has dedicated his efforts to the profession for many years and has made significant contributions within the field of athletic administration at the local and state levels.

This pretigious award will be presented to Mike at the MSSADA Annual Awards Banquet on March 18 at the Resort and Conference Center in Hyannis.

We congratulate Mike for this most deserving and prestigious honor and join with the MIAA in commending him for his years of service and dedication to youth in athletics.

Once again, we have many Spellman successes on the sports field, on the courts, and in the pool! The boys' basketball team closed its regular season record with a 13-9 slate, which qualified for the state tournament. Not to be outdone, our girls' basketball team landed a 14-7 seasonal record, which also secured a spot in the state tournament.

The winter track team finished the season with a 5-1 record, and achieved second place in the league. Our Spellman swim team finished the season in third place, with a record of 5-4. Congratulations to all of our athletes and thanks to our many supporters!

Senior Happenings

The senior class had a busy winter season—including a talent show and junior/senior semi-formal. The Spellman Step Squad sponsored the very successful talent show on Jan 17th, which showcased a variety of talented Spellman students. The winners were Tiffany Young and Leland Clarke in first place, Lyps Inc. with Vinnie Gavazzi, John O'Connor, Billy Blanchard, Joffrey Nicolas and Cedric Lamour in second place, and Christine David in third place. The senior class held its junior/senior semi-formal on the 30th of January at the Massasoit Conference Center from 7pm to 11pm. Stay tuned for future events for the senior class.

--Lisa Briggs

Parent Connection

Barry Cosgrove, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Spellman, was the guest speaker at our February Parent Connection Meeting. Barry led a question and answer session giving parents an opportunity to learn more about Spellman and its future. As always, Roseanne Gangell provided delicious cakes and cookies for our enjoyment. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Roseanne Gangell for all that she does for the Parent Connection.

The last three Parent Connection meetings of the school year are scheduled for March 11, April 15, and May 6. Our guest speaker in March will discuss Elder Care. We will announce our April speaker in March. Mass will be held at our May meeting to celebrate the end of the school year. Please mark these dates on your calendars.

--Laureen Ballard laballard33@gmail.com and Harriet Young dillis10@aol.com

March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Teacher Interims for gr. 9-11 due 3pm	4 Parent Prayer Meeting 7pm Room 104	5	6 Interims distributed to gr 9-11 Student Musical 7:30pm	7 Student Musical 7:30pm
8 Student Musical 2pm	9	10	11 Student Senate Mtg 2:10pm Parent Connection 7pm	12	13	14 SAT Test Ski Trip 5
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 St. Joseph's Day School Liturgy 9:30am	20 End of Term 3 Seniors ONLY Athletic Hall of Fame	21 STAND Road Race
22	23 Teacher grades for seniors due 3pm	24 Making the College Search Count Grade 11 @ 10am Verifications due 3pm	25 Student Council Mtg 7:35am Campus Ministry Communion/Prayer Service 7pm	26 Report Cards distributed to Seniors ONLY Religious & Academic Program 7:15pm	27 In Service for NEASC No sessions for students	28 Ministry Retreat Day
29	30	31 deadline for May SAT registration				