



THE CURRENT

Cathedral Prep School & Seminary
Very Rev. Joseph Fonti, Rector-President, Mr. Richie Diaz, Principal

Cathedral Enjoys its Annual Spirit...Day?

By Sebastian Rosas

This school year has been a year of many changes under the faculty and the student council. Amongst these changes was the replacement of Spirit Week, an annual tradition of Cathedral, with Spirit “Day.”

The day started off with homeroom (in our fraternities) and announcements. After waiting for a few minutes, we were called up for Mass, which would start off our day of Cathedral Spirit. After the Holy Eucharist, Mr. Medina and Father Fonti gave us the day’s schedule. After, we reported to the gym and divided into pairs of fraternities who would walk to Juniper Park in our annual Walkathon.

At Juniper, we did a few activities in fraternities, such as the “Three-legged race” and the “Tug o’ War.” Then the Faculty vs. Seniors softball game began (with the faculty as the champions), and the student body could either stay to watch it or go into the park and enjoy free time, where various sports such as football, basketball, and soccer were available for anyone to play.

Tired and hungry, we walked back to school from the park. At school, there was a barbeque with burgers and hotdogs for all, as well as iced tea. When we finished eating, we reported to the gymnasium for the final activity of the day, our annual fraternity dance-off. The Guardians of Virtue, with a nostalgic nod to former Assistant Principal John O’Brien, won the dance-off. However the highlight of the day was definitely the senior class’s special dedication to Father Kuroly, where they sang a song for him thanking him for the great years they have spent together with him in their time at Cathedral. Though it may not have been “Spirit Week,” always remember that you will always carry the spirit of Cathedral in your hearts.



Newer Isn't Always Better

By Aidan Birth

One day recently, I was having a typical commute until I got up from the Kew Gardens-Union Turnpike subway station. The newest buses in the city had been introduced to the Q10 bus route and a photographer was there taking photos of this new bus. There had been a lot of excitement around these new busses because they have wi-fi and usb charging ports. However, I didn't see what was so great about the bus. Maybe I am a bit cynical about these busses since I only have a hand-me-down flip phone from my brother, but there is more to it than this.

We often place a lot of hype around anything that is newer. We automatically associate newer with better. I have been criticized for my lack of use of anything modern. I don't have an Instagram account, and I don't have some smartphone that is the size of most calculators. However, I can say that the flip phone that I have has lasted longer than any smartphone that I know people have had. My flip phone has lasted my brother's time in high school, my time in high school up to now, as well as one year in between. That means it is eight years old. Most smartphones that I have known of have lasted around four years. In addition, for all the time that I have dropped the phone, it has never had a cracked screen, and it has never broken. Think of social media for a moment. Five years ago, Facebook was a lot more popular. Now Instagram is popular. In five years, there will probably be another new and popular social media site. By then you will have so many social media accounts and you might not even use some of them. Also, because of social media, friends sitting next to each other will more often be found texting than talking with each other.

I am not saying that we should all have flip phones or get rid of all of our social media accounts. Sometimes, I wish I could look up something on my phone, and social media can be useful for keeping in contact with friends that you might not be in contact with otherwise. However, we never think about the long term benefits. How many phones have you gone through during your time in high school? How many phone screens have you cracked? How many social media accounts do you have? I am sure most of the people reading this check Instagram a lot more often than Facebook.

Perhaps we praise anything that is new too much. We often anticipate a new movie or new TV show, but we might be disappointed after we watch it. Going back to my commute, wi-fi and usb charging ports might be beneficial for some. However, because the new ports are on the ceiling, some people can't even reach them. I am sure that in five to ten years some ports won't even work. In addition because the charging ports are on the ceiling, imagine your charger dangling from the ceiling during your commute. Newer doesn't necessarily mean better and in the looking back, maybe I should have taken the Q37 bus that day. (Note: the Q37 bus is another bus that I take, but it is only several blocks from the Q10 route).



Doom: Rip and Tear Until it Is Done

By Manuel Pamposa

Doom: What can you say about *Doom*? Besides killing demons, being the father of all FPS shooters, being the most bloodiest game, causing controversy at the time where the most simple of things in videos today are miniscule, and also having a good streak of games (except *Doom 3* which I don't even consider a *Doom* game). But that streak stopped suddenly as the game was supposed to have a 4th one but never came to fruition and the series laid dormant...cut to now. Bethesda and Id software bring the franchise back from the brink with the newest thrilling chapter of the *Doom* franchise. Grab your chainsaws and rip and tear through the demonic masses.

Premise: You are an unnamed ancient warrior called the Doomslayer who wakes from his tomb to a UAC facility overrun by demons. After a hectic firefight, you are contacted by cyborg Samuel Hayden who has a way to stop the hellish invasion.

Gameplay: What can I say? The gameplay harkens back to the good-old fast-paced days of *Doom* where you shoot demons until they die. It feels fast and chain-like as you do brutal takedowns known as glory kills. Weapons in the game are rather overpowered in their own way. Movement also plays a role, you can literally go through an entire group of demons if you're fast enough. There is a weapon upgrade system, but it's almost non-existent though it's useful to take on the forces of hell. Boss fight relies on your usage of weapons to see if you can take them down or marinate them like steak before you eat with high damage weapons.

Story: I'm going to explain this heartwarming and deep story-YOU ARE HUGE, THAT MEANS YOU HAVE BIG GUTS. RIP AND TEAR. RIP AND TEAR YOUR GUTS. And robots.

Design: The artistic design of *Doom* feels like something off of a heavy metal music video and captures the essence of the game while mixing it with a new style. Of all the designs, the cyberdemon has got to be my favorite design.

Pros: A high-octane campaign that is a true homage of the original *Doom* and is filled with secrets and easters along the way. Also great weapons.

Cons: Wait, there was a multiplayer? Yes there is. Multiplayer feels a little repetitive as you are limited to a few weapons and to tone the player down a notch, it feels like a nerfed version of the campaign.

Verdict: RIP AND TEAR.

Juniors Recognized for Accomplishments and Leadership Roles

By Aidan Birth

On June 2, we juniors going into senior year were recognized for our accomplishments. First, there was Mass, when seven new members of the National Honor Society were inducted. At the end of Mass, every junior was recognized and received a cross, and some received a ring or cufflinks. Afterwards, the juniors enjoyed open gym. We also had the cafeteria and the studio to ourselves, and we ended the day with lunch. While this day recognized our accomplishments, it also recognized that the juniors will take on more leadership roles as seniors.



Memories of Freshman Year

By Kevin Plut

High school is an entirely different experience than elementary school. First off, there's less hand-holding and it is harder in certain aspects. I was told to report in for my first day much earlier than middle school. Once there, I was greeted by my fellow freshmen, all of whom were nervous, as well as some members of the faculty. They briefed us on their expectations for us and how we were to conduct ourselves throughout the year. After that, my brethren and I slowly became more accustomed to Cathedral. Within the first month or so, I was having the time of my life. Everyone at Cathedral, whether it was another student or a faculty member, was helpful in his or her own way. They still left me to figure out certain things by myself, providing me with a well-earned sense of individuality, hence the lack of certain guidance. One way in which guidance was given not only to me but also to others is through academic support.

Unlike elementary school, you are not directly given the answers nor are they eluded to. You are taught the material and it is left up to you to do your own work. Academic support was not the only support that I received. I also received extra-curricular support through both track and Speech and Debate. My first track practice I vividly remember Mr. Medina saying that track will, "Break down my body and build it back up." This left me scared, but I was not only able to finish cross country, but also join outdoor track and improve thanks to assistant coach Mr. Morales and others. In between track, I spoke for Mr. Russo on Speech and Debate. On top of being able to run around six miles, I now have much better public speaking skills.

However, the most important form of guidance at Cathedral had to be spiritual guidance, which helped me the most. Between the three amazing priests here and the overall holy atmosphere, you feel God's presence. Those here further exemplify the seminary aspect of Cathedral Prep and Seminary by providing much needed help. At any time, I could turn to anyone and ask for help and they would provide it. This genuine feeling of spiritual guidance and brother-like friendship is enhanced by routine Mass. At first, it took some time to get acclimated to daily Mass, but you come to accept it. You will eventually look forward to Mass and it undeniably helped to define me as a person. My freshman year helped me to grow closer to God and will leave a lasting effect on me. It may not have been perfect, but it was close to it, imparting me with many enjoyable memories, including but not limited to memories of Shane and Dr. Santos.

The Current

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56-25 92nd St., Elmhurst, NY 11373
Phone: 718-592-6800
E-mail: current@cathedralprep.org

Co-Editors: Aidan Birth, Jr.
Sebastian Rosas, So.

Faculty Moderator: Mrs. Gluszak
Special thanks to Mrs. Jonke

Contributors

Adrian Grzybowski, Jr.
Kevin Plut, Fr.
David Brancale, Jr.
Manuel Pamposa, Jr.



LOVE GURU

The editorial staff has named David Brancale as the new Love Guru for *The Current*, effective the beginning of the new 2016-2017 school year. After a very rigorous process, David was chosen unanimously by the editorial board. We hope he will give the "useful" love advice that we always expect from our Love Guru. (Note: David is also our editorial cartoonist, the whole back page of the newspaper next year will be Brancale's World.)