



SAINT PETER'S PREP

NEW JERSEY'S JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL SINCE 1872

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

December 3, 2008

Dear Prep Parents and Guardians,

Hello from Prep!

On Monday morning we lit the first candle of the Advent wreath during morning prayer in the Mulry Lobby, a simple act that marks the start of the new liturgical year in the Roman Catholic Church. It is a time of hopeful anticipation, a sign of great things to come. While we live in that sense of hope and looking ahead, at last week's Thanksgiving prayer service and honors assembly we were certainly reminded of all of the great things that have marked the current school year.

As an entire school community, we took the time to celebrate and give thanks for the many religious traditions of our students. At the honors assembly following the prayer service, we presented certificates to those students who achieved first and second honors for their work during the first marking period and recognized those who achieved honorable mention. Prizes were also awarded to several students for raising money for our annual fund-raiser, the Walkathon. Under the direction of Mr. Anthony Keating of the history department and the members of the Student Council, this year's Walkathon raised over \$88,000 to support the operating budget of Prep. Finally, we also presented Prep Spirit awards to five seniors who exemplify in extraordinary ways the values which inspire our work here at Prep.

While it seems to me that we just sent out Report Cards for the first quarter, with this letter we are enclosing your son's Progress Report for the second marking period. This should offer you and your son an occasion to look back on what he has achieved so far and to plan for the second half of the current quarter. Please be sure to sign the peach copy and have your son return it to Homeroom by Tuesday, December 9, 2008.

One of the best parts of my job as principal is the opportunity to visit classrooms. These visits give me a chance to experience the great work that is happening here at Prep every day. During my most recent visits, I have noticed a more sophisticated level of discourse in the classes, more involved questions, and greater engagement by the teachers and students across all years. Oftentimes that progress is difficult to recognize or measure day by day, but it is clear to me as I reflect on the dozens of visits I have made to classrooms since September. And as this Advent season reminds us, there are still great things to come!

Please be assured of our prayers for you and your family as we approach the joy-filled Christmas season and all that the coming new year holds for us.

Sincerely,

James C. DeAngelo
Principal