

The Cathedralite

Vol. XL

October, 1970

No. 1

CARDINAL GREETS FROSH AND PARENTS

On September 27, 1970, at 9:00 A.M., amid the traditional trappings that surround a Red Mass whose main celebrant is Cardinal Cooke, the freshmen of Cathedral Prep and their parents learned something about caring. The youngest members of the Prep and their families were reminded that beyond the ceremonial formalities of Sunday Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, all Christians have an obligation to see through the veil of medieval trivia that is sometimes found in the ceremonies of the Church and to bring caring, the central message of the Mass, to other people. By the end of the day, Cardinal Terence Cooke showed to his people that he cared enough to say a word that is so often forgotten in today's mechanized society. That word is "hello."

The first event of the day was the Mass itself. Besides Cardinal Cooke and several priests from Fordham, Saint John's and Seton Hall, the other celebrants were Monsignor Smith, Father Kavanagh, Father Valastro, and Father Thompson.

The Mass was not focused on the frosh of Cathedral Prep alone. Members of the administration, faculty, alumni, and students of the law schools of Fordham, Saint John's and Seton Hall were a major part of the congregation. The rather long sermon delivered by Rev. John Wheaton, archbishop of Hartford, made listeners think about complex questions of law and morality, which often pose very real problems to the Christian in 1970. The people involved include, and perhaps especially so, young students in a high school seminary and their families.

The event that will probably be most remembered by the Cathedral students and their delighted parents will be the warm welcome that the Cardinal, even with his extremely crowded schedule, gave to each student and his parents after the Mass. The changes in the faces of the people on the reception line were really interesting to observe. While waiting, the people seemed to be happy. However, their very nervous straightening of their ties and jackets betrayed them. Then, after Msgr. Smith, Rector of Cathedral, introduced them to the Cardinal, they realized that the Cardinal is not a shepherd who treats his people like sheep, but a person concerned about his followers. His humanism was not hidden by his red robes.

After the greeting by the Cardinal, the freshmen and their par-

ents were directed to the Chancery where they were treated to a surprisingly hot breakfast of scrambled eggs and bacon, Danish and coffee. By this time, some of the parents had met other families in line and they began friendships that will last at least through the years of their connection with the Prep. Toward the end of the breakfast, Monsignor Smith delivered a speech welcoming everybody and thanking those who made the day possible, especially Father Boyle and the priests at the Chancery. The head of the major seminary at Dunwoodie, Reverend Monsignor Edward J. Montano, then wisely pointed out that the freshmen attending Cathedral Prep were not beginning a life of high ideals but rather were continuing the same ideals shown to them by their parents throughout their youth.

The weather was satisfactory until noon when a very heavy rainfall began. Of course this had to be the time when people were leaving the Chancery. The brave souls of the Cathedral family, however, managed to get to their cars. The only reported casualty was Father Thompson's car, which was last seen floating down the West Side Highway. (I am sorry to disappoint the freshmen, but Father Thompson was not in the car at the time.)

Was the day worth all the planning, the hard work and the time that went into it? In my opinion, the answer is an indisputable "yes," if only for the reason that Cardinal Cooke no longer is a figure of fear for the freshmen and their parents. Instead he has emerged as a very real representative of the Cathedral spirit which is essentially Friendship. JAMES SHEEHAN '71



BISHOP HEAD VISITS PREP

The 1970-71 school season opened on September 11th this year with the traditional Mass for the Holy Spirit, in which the entire student body was happy to welcome Bishop Edward H. Head back to the Prep.

The Bishop, returning to Cathedral for the first time in several years, celebrated the annual special Mass with Fathers Smith, Kavanagh, Murphy, Thompson, Niebrzydowski and Father Valastro, the new spiritual Director.

Bishop Head is certainly familiar with Cathedral. He attended the College more than twenty-five years ago, and he was ordained in 1945 after attending Saint Joseph's Seminary at Dunwoodie.

He received a master's degree in social work at Columbia University, where his experience with people and society would inevitably play a significant part in his becoming a prominent leader in Catholic Charities in the New York City diocese.

Since 1947 Bishop Head has been an important part of the growth of the Catholic Charities organization into the extremely effective aid society it has become. In 1966 he became executive director of the entire organization, and since then he has devised programs and assisted in the various plans and causes for which Charities has been famous the world over. His financial and spiritual aid to the poor of New York City is more than impressive; it is exceptional.

During his priestly career, the strong-voiced, vigorous bishop has been pastor of various churches in the metropolitan area. Among them are: Sacred Heart in the Bronx, Saint Veronica and Saint Monica in lower and middle Manhattan, and Saint Roch's parish on Staten Island, his birthplace.

On March 19th of this year, Monsignor Head became a bishop. He was elevated to the episcopacy at Saint Patrick's Cathedral along with a friend, Bishop James Ahern.

Bishop Head delivered a strong, interesting sermon on the responsibility and devotion that is required in a contemporary priest. He must be willing to communicate and assist men, and to sacrifice his whole existence in devotion to Christ. Certainly a good example of such superior devotion and strength is Bishop Head himself.

The Glee Club was surprisingly equipped for the occasion despite little time for practice. The school year was opened with a sense of determination and pride. The message conveyed by Bishop Head was surely hard to forget.

It was indeed a privilege for us to welcome such a remarkable social leader. Thank you, Bishop Head, for attending the year's first community Mass. Thanks also and more importantly for your guidance and example as we enter another important part of our life.

JOHN POWERS '72



The Cathedralite

Published by the Students of Cathedral Prep
555 WEST END AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Vol. XL

October, 1970

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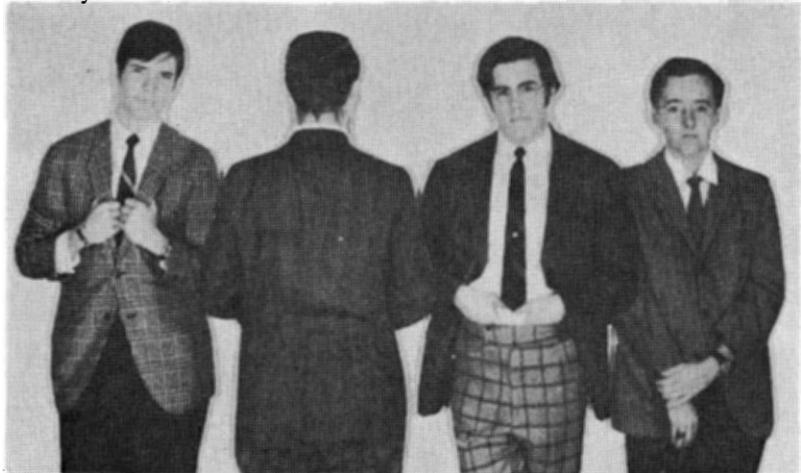
Editorial

At this time, the staff members of the *Cathedralite* wish to extend their warmest greetings both to the students of the Freshman Class, and to the newly acquired members of the faculty. We hope each enjoys his stay at Cathedral and is enabled to reach his full potential, either as a student, or as an instructor. We will also take this opportunity to congratulate those students elected to serve as class officers or as members of the Student Council.

"School Spirit." With these two words, we begin publication of the 1970-1971 edition of the *Cathedralite*. These words hold a special significance in Cathedral, more so than in a vast majority of other academic institutions. There are many reasons for this, all of which can be found deep within the minds and hearts of anyone involved with the Prep. In many ways, the very existence of Cathedral is based on "School Spirit," in schoolwork and especially in activities apart from actual instruction. In a small school such as ours, it is the work of the students and faculty which enables it to function properly. In the past, and certainly in the future, the faculty of Cathedral has provided 100 percent involvement in all school activities, for which we are very grateful. It is the students' interest in the school which has wavered occasionally in the past. This is exactly what we plan to avoid this year, and hopefully in the years to come.

Each student must recognize his responsibilities as a member of Cathedral Prep, and perform in a manner that justifies being a part of this community. One can exemplify his interest in the school in various ways, the most obvious being through the co-curricular program. Participation in these activities is an integral part of being a member of Cathedral, though it is definitely not where involvement ends. Interscholastic sports also play an important part in "School Spirit." Attendance at track meets and basketball games is a true sign of involvement on the part of the student body. These are only a few of the methods by which a student can become involved with Cathedral, and are certainly not the only ways.

It is therefore left to the student to display "School Spirit," and make this a year to be remembered.



The editorial staff, (Joe O'Callaghan, Steve Leddy, Steve Higgins, and Jim Sheehan) wishes to take this opportunity to announce a new *Cathedralite* which, while it will not change drastically in appearance, will belong solely to the students and will be lively, enjoyable reading. Your comments on editorials and suggestions for improvements will be greatly appreciated. Watch for our "New Look" in the next issue!

TOWARD THE REEF OF DESTRUCTION

Picture in your mind, if you will, America, not as a nation, but as a peaceful ship on a calm blue sea. Now that you have that picture, destroy it because it is a farce! America is in a sea of troubles and is headed towards the reefs of destruction. For the past ten years, our country has been in a constant state of confusion, disunity, and turmoil. Within the last decade, our country has witnessed students rioting on campuses for their so-called rights and freedoms; blacks and whites fighting a continuous racial battle; and three great leaders of the American people assassinated. Our nation has seen multitudes of people violently protesting our involvement in Viet Nam by burning their draft cards or by breaking into draft board offices and maliciously destroying their files. Some have committed the greatest disgrace to this country; they have burned our flag.

Our country has viewed more pornography openly displayed to the public than ever seen before, which appears to be an attempt to disintegrate our morals. She also has witnessed perhaps the most tragic scene of all: the destruction of our youth through the use of drugs.

All of these sights cause people to ask, "What is the fate of our once-great country?" and, "Is she to survive or is she to drown in her seas of troubles?"

It has to be remembered that the fate of our country depends not on the past but on the present. However the past can not be completely forgotten. Many great empires have been annihilated due to corruption within these nations. America is in that same state of corruption now and unless she makes an attempt toward reforms she will fall as did her predecessors. If America wishes to regain her greatness, her people must make reforms. If America stays on the course she sails on now, she is headed towards the reefs of anarchy and self-destruction. Now is the time for reforms; the future may be too late.

But the problems facing our nation are not unsolvable. There are solutions! However these problems can not be solved by a few people. All true Americans must unite to help America regain her greatness. Once Americans are alerted to the destructive forces within our country, they should immediately try to build a better future.

The problem of reforming our crippled nation can not be given only to one group (such as our youth) but should be given to everyone. America must be the fulfilled dream of our founding fathers — the dream of a land with freedom and liberty for all, a true land of greatness. But America can only regain her greatness if she reforms. And only we can reform her. In the words of Alan Dale, author of *My America*, "Today America is sick and lying on her death bed... only you can restore her health and save her life with the only word that can save a nation, the panacea called Patriotism."

DONALD NIELSEN '71

Student of the Month

Paul Moglia of 3A has been selected for this edition for his service "above and beyond the call of duty." Since the time that Paul entered Cathedral he has taken an active interest in the school government. He was selected Vice President during freshman and sophomore years and has achieved the high office of President of the junior class.



Besides belonging to the Student Council, Paul is the head librarian, assistant leader of the Glee Club, and assistant editor of the yearbook.

While Paul spends much of his time on his school activities, he still has time to make the Dean's List.

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THE CHANGING FACULTY SCENE

FR. ZOSHAK DEPORTED

Upon returning to the Prep this September, I noticed a definite absence in the faculty, namely the disappearance of one-third of last year's English Department, Father William Zoshak. I felt a twinge of regret with the realization that his booming, eloquent voice and his stalking figure will not be present among our cavalcade of teachers.



Yes, somehow, somewhere, someone assigned our beloved Father Zoshak to a post as English teacher of freshmen and sophomores at Cardinal Spellman High School. Freshmen and sophomores? Horror of horrors! And no sooner does he arrive at *that* school than he is appointed chairman of the English board, the only just reward for an alumnus and former faculty member of Cathedral.

So now only the occupants of the faculty residence there will hear the boom and the thunder of his weights as they crash to the floor. And the blood-curdling cry of Caesar, his man-eating parrot, will be heard only at Spellman!

STEVEN HIGGINS '71

MONSIGNOR WILLIAM DENNEN

Monsignor William Dennen who was with Cathedral Prep for over two decades, is now a parish administrator in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. During his time here, Msgr. Dennen taught Latin and Italian. Many of us remember him for his immortal "Tickie, Tickie, Tickie," which he often repeated in his language classes.

He could speak Italian and Latin fluently, and read, write, and speak Spanish very well. He was a teacher who demanded much work, but by the end of the year, the student greatly profited.

In 1966, after much consultation, the Student Council finally became a reality. The faculty sought a moderator who would be willing to devote much time and effort to the new Council. Msgr. Dennen was the choice. Last year he was the moderator of the fourth consecutive successful Student Council. I am sure we will miss Msgr. Dennen's guidance and inspiration.

PAUL CIARAMELLA '71



THAT'S B-U-R-N-S, NOT B-Y-R-N-E-S

The English Department at Cathedral Prep has been greatly bolstered this year with the arrival of Miss Sheila L. Burns. Miss Burns comes to Cathedral with a wide variety of job experiences. She has been working in publishing for Scholastic Magazines for the past six years. Miss Burns has also been a writer and editor for a one-time New York newspaper, the *Herald Tribune*, and taught at Aquinas High School in the Bronx for two years.

She received her B.A. from the College of New Rochelle in English and Journalism, and her M.A. from N.Y.U. in Education. Along with her many studies, Miss Burns has enough leisure time for sports such as tennis, swimming and skiing. She has also traveled a great deal. Miss Burns has visited France, England, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Haiti, and Puerto Rico. Although she travels mainly for pleasure, she also works in her travelling.

On behalf of the student body, the *Cathedralite* would like to sincerely welcome Miss Burns to Cathedral with the hope that she will remain for a long time.

JOSEPH COLLINS '71



WELCOME, MR. O'SHEA

Cathedral Prep this year welcomes Mr. James O'Shea to the faculty.

A native of County Kerry, Ireland, Mr. O'Shea received his primary and secondary education in the Irish public school system. Here he established himself as an athlete as a member of his high school Gaelic football (a sort of combination rugby and soccer) team. He then pursued his higher education at University College in Dublin. Here he received a higher education diploma and a B.A. encompassing Gaelic, English and Philosophy. He spent one year teaching English, Gaelic and Latin in a high school in Ireland.

Mr. O'Shea has been in this country for about three months and lives in the Bronx. At the Prep Mr. O'Shea teaches first-and third-year English and is moderator of the Debate Club and Forensic League.

When asked if he liked any American sports, he said that he liked football and basketball (as well as poker). He also said that he likes Cathedral's spirit. So, we would like to wish Mr. O'Shea good luck on his new teaching assignment as well as in his poker game.

BRIAN FLANAGAN '72

A NEW ARRIVAL

A welcome addition has been made recently to Cathedral in the person of Father George Valastro. Born in the Bronx, he attended Blessed Sacrament Grammar and High Schools and graduated from Iona College in New Rochelle. Father then went on to the Seminary at Dunwoodie and was ordained in 1956. His first assignment was at St. Joseph's in Croton Falls, which Mr. Poli has made famous, and later he joined Our Lady of Refuge in the Bronx. He then began teaching religion and English at Cardinal Hayes High School and later became head of the English Department at Cardinal Spellman High School. Fr. Valastro has since come to Cathedral and is now teaching religion to the second and fourth year students.

He is impressed by the close relationship between the faculty and the students and thinks everyone is great. Father believes there is much pride in the school and particularly enjoys the Glee Club's handling of the Mass.

We greet Fr. Valastro and wish him the best of luck at his new job.

MICHAEL LYONS '73



LESLIE L. BEAR 1919-1970

We thought Les Bear would continue to be a friendly spirit here long after we had departed Cathedral Prep. The *Cathedralite* expresses a sense of loss at his death.

A SPLENDID PRIEST

After 28 years of dedication and service to the men of Cathedral, on both the college and high school levels, Father David Rea will soon assume new duties. Born on January 18, 1919, in the parish of St. Jean Baptiste, Fr. Rea attended Cathedral College at its old location. After completing six years of study at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, he was ordained a priest on May 30, 1942, and was immediately assigned to Cathedral as a professor of English. He taught on the college level and served as moderator of the *Chimes* and the *Cathedralite* for several years.

To those of us who know him, he serves as an inspiration, eloquently defending the policies which he supports. We do not know where his future duties will take him, but in any event the faculty and student body of Cathedral Prep wish the best of luck to Fr. David F. Rea, a splendid priest.

THOMAS JASKOLKA '71



FATHER VALLELONGA LEAVES

One of the familiar faculty faces that will no longer be seen is that of Fr. Damian Valletlonga, S.T.L. He has gone to Duquesne University in Pittsburgh to complete his post-graduate studies in psychology.



During the four years he was here, Father taught Italian and English. He was also primarily responsible for the three memorable *Feste Italiane*. At the same time, he was the moderator of the Italian Club and, during his final year here was the moderator of the *Witness*.

Father taught theology at Mt. St. Vincent's College and assisted at Incarnation parish, while taking graduate courses in psychology.

The greatest contribution made by Fr. Valletlonga was not however, in the area of academics or co-curricular activities. His special contribution was in *people*. "People are the primary absolute," and his work always centered around that realization.

We of the staff wish him well.

PAUL MOGLIA '72

KING FOR A DAY

Many people, including the police, are curious regarding what actually takes place during an average day in the life of a common high school dean. The subject of this investigation, therefore, is our own Fr. Kavanagh who, as you know, is quite common. Due to the confidential nature of this dossier, you are advised to consume your copy after reading it, lest it fall into the wrong hands, such as those of the Board of Education or Fr. Kavanagh's parole officer.

At dawn Fr. Kavanagh ends a restless night's sleep, which he attributes to his mattress. He makes a mental note to have the nails sharpened. Father immediately stands and dons his usual dark uniform, traditional garb of black-collar workers. After doing a calisthenic and breakfasting, he leaves the Penthouse Suite on the sixth floor and proceeds to his Center of Operations on the ground floor. Entering his office, he throws a quick salute to the portrait of Captain Bligh and studies the calendar. He's quickly pleased to discover today is the day on which his subjects are to take their end-terms, which are always good for a few laughs.

Father leaves his office and walks to the front door where he programs the time-lock in preparation for the arrival of the unfortunates. At exactly 8:40 the huge doors slam shut and an electric current is sent through the door handles. As the students are herded to their classrooms, Father proceeds to the intercom system where he prepares to go on the air, as is the custom on exam days. He opens his show with the record, "Wipeout," an inside joke with the students about to take their finals. He follows with, "The Eve of Destruction, The Impossible Dream," and "Paperback Writer," and closes with the Beatles chanting, "I'll get by with a little help from my friends!"

Father spends the remainder of the morning reading the Bible (probably searching for loopholes). At noon he descends to the cafeteria where the students are quietly forming a line at the counter, under the supervision of Mr. Poli and a German shepherd. Fr. Kavanagh mans the 30mm. machine gun mounted in the corner and assumes the supervision. Several minutes later, just for laughs, he fires a burst over the head of a nervous freshman presently holding a cup of hot coffee directly behind a burly-looking senior. This of course results in a free-for-all, which leaves the cafeteria resembling a stretch of war-torn Germany, as usual.

The exams soon resume, and as the afternoon passes, many students don't. At 3 o'clock, Father agrees to transport several members of the golf team to the course. After tossing his clubs and Joe Collins in the car trunk, he leaps to the steering wheel and dons his crash helmet. He also charges each rider 50 cents admission to the auto-thrill show. In his 30-second jaunt to Van Cortlandt Park, Father executes a fantastic double-car dive bomb crash involving a Chicken Delight delivery truck, and races off sustaining only slight damage to the rear of his vehicle. Reaching the park, he opens the trunk and after inspecting his clubs for damage, checks on Collins. Father plays only the first hole, after misjudging the position of the ball and driving his big toe 200 yards down the fairway.

Returning to the school, he has dinner and then walks down to 79th St. to a "Wayne Newton Film Festival." After having slept through the presentation, Father leaves the theater at midnight. Beginning his journey home, he uncovers his black collar in the hope that should he be confronted by a mugger, he may be a Catholic, see the collar, and have mercy.

Arriving safely, Father Kavanagh picks the lock on the front door, climbs the stairs to the Royal Chambers, and retires for the night.

STEVE LEDDY '71

BOB MURRAY '71

FOOTBALL INTRAMURALS '70

This year's Intramural Football captains, Jim Sheehan, Steve Leddy, Tom Testi, and Pat Keenan, met several days ago with Mr. Scotti to choose their players.

Moe O'Donnell, the offensive and defensive all-star, was grabbed first by Sheehan. Steve Leddy, who holds the distinction of being the only player ever to knock down John Cerrulo, then picked George Adamik. George was probably the most under-rated player of last year. Tom Testi of third year, a newcomer to football intramurals, picked a classmate, Jack Connor. Pat Keenan, a captain last year and professional second-place holder, took Jack Goin, previous all-star end.

After the selection of the teams, a count was taken: Sheehan's "Us" — Moe O'Donnell, John Manning, Gene Kearney, Robert Norris, John Conway, plus a lot of untried talent. Leddy's "Fantoms" — George Adamik, Sean McGrail, Tom McTernan, Frank Cremmins, George Knox, Tom Steppone, and several others. On Testi's "Mean-men" are Jack Connor, Bill Fisher, Joe "Pig" Renton, Mike McCoy, Hilton Rodriguez, and Doc Doherty. Keenan's "The Electrifying Experience," is manned by Jack Goin, Pete

Guelta, Noel Carroll, Paul Ciaramella, John Roche, Rich Norris, and Mike Meaney.

The first two games of the season took place on September 19 in Van Cortlandt Park. "The Mean Men" were pitted against "The Electrifying Experience" in the lead-off battle.

In the first quarter the "Experience" took lead with 13 to 0. The half revealed the "Men" had run up seven points only to fall further behind in the following period, 26 to 13. Pat Keenan then proceeded to lead his team to a 39 to 20 victory.

The second game saw the "Us" facing the "Fantoms" in the hot afternoon sun. In this game the "Fantoms" did all the scoring. Fantom Tom McTernan caught an interception and ran 40 yards for a touchdown. Several minutes later Steve Leddy hit Tom for an additional 6 points to which McGrail added several more.

During the final period, Steve Leddy completed touchdown passes to George Knox and Sean McGrail. Sean followed both touchdowns with successful kicks for 2 points, making the total score 32 to 0.

SPIKE HENDERSON '71



TRACK '70

The school year has arrived and the first athletic undertaking begins with the hopefully rewarding Cross Country Team. Mr. Byrnes, the Prep's man for all seasons in sports, is getting his team in shape through vigorous, painful and rewarding exercise and running at the Central Park Reservoir during the first week. From then on, it's the hills at Van Cortlandt Park where we hope to find everyone cheering on his team at each and every track meet.

NEW SCIENCE CLUB

On Wednesday, September 25, Cathedral Prep began its co-curricular activities. With the phasing out of last year's chess club, the school was able to experiment with a new science club. Mr. Denis Geiger, moderator of this new club, has high hopes for a successful and informative year. Mr. Geiger's idea is not to instruct students as in class, but to be available with assistance regarding any problem a club member may have concerning his work.

The club plans to deal with a variety of topics ranging from biology and chemistry to oceanography and astrophysics. Mr. Geiger plans to present and discuss a number of films dealing with topics of current interest such as medicine, computers, lasers, and the problem of pollution.

At our first meeting Mr. Geiger suggested that the club make trips to the planetarium, the Museum of Natural History, and the Brookhaven Institute in Long Island, all of which are to be financed through weekly club dues. Furthermore, since each club is to perform some sort of demonstration for the student body, Mr. Geiger hopes to organize either a science assembly or a science fair, where members will exhibit their projects.

Whether or not the club is a success depends entirely upon the members and their enthusiasm regarding their work. If a student wants to become fully involved in the performance of a school activity, he should look into the Science Club. As a member of this club, I feel that with the students we have now, the club will be a dynamic addition to the co-curriculum schedule.



Mr. Denis Geiger

I would also like to congratulate the two members who were nominated to positions in the club: Maurice O'Donnell, President, and Robert Murray, Treasurer.

MAURICE O'DONNELL '71