Dear DePaul Catholic Family,

There is something about autumn that invites us to pause. As the leaves change, we become more aware of the passing of time and the blessings of the people who share our lives. Here at DePaul Catholic, this season offers us an opportunity to grow in gratitude, deepen our prayer, and remember those whose faith and love have helped shape our community.

In our observance of All Souls' Day, we remembered in a special way all our deceased alumni. They remain part of the DePaul family, and we entrusted them to the loving mercy of God. As a graduate myself, I find particular meaning in remembering those who once walked these same hallways. Our prayers also embrace our deceased faculty, staff, benefactors, and loved ones. In Christ, the bonds that unite us reach beyond death, and we pray with hope in his promise of eternal life.

It is an exciting time to be at DePaul Catholic, and I look forward to coming to school each day. There is a fresh energy in our community, and so much of it comes from our students. Seeing them work hard in the classroom, take pride in their accomplishments, and push themselves toward excellence reminds me why I love being here. As both an alumnus and a member of the faculty, it means a great deal to help them learn and grow, and to share in the life of a school that has given me so much.

Prayer continues to be at the heart of our school community. Through our daily opportunities for prayer and our First Friday Masses, we make room to bring our joys, concerns, and hopes before the Lord. Gathering around the altar reminds us that Christ accompanies us through every part of our lives. Amid assignments, practices, deadlines, and responsibilities, these moments help us return to the One who gives our lives meaning.

With Advent fast approaching, we will soon hear the Church's invitation to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. Before the busyness takes hold, I encourage each of us to consider one simple way to make room for him: a few quiet minutes of prayer, an act of kindness, a return to Mass, or a conversation that brings healing.

May our prayers bring the DePaul family closer to Christ and to one another. Please know that you and your loved ones remain in my prayers.

St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

In Christ,

Fr. Frank Lennie '10
Chaplain, DePaul Catholic High School