

MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Mater Dei, a Catholic, diocesan regional high school, nurtures the spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional and social growth of young men and women. In a caring environment, respectful of individual differences, her comprehensive program educates, fosters faith, and develops gospel values.

On behalf of our entire school community, we thank you for providing us with the opportunity to share with you and your family the many unique aspects of Mater Dei Catholic High School. We are confident you will find that the information included in this brochure illustrates that our environment continually focuses on "family."

Faith . . . our students not only learn their faith, but also live and share their faith through their experiences with service, liturgies, and retreats.

Atmosphere . . . our programs and our policies ensure the fulfillment of our Mission to "[nurture] the spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional, and social growth of young men and women [in] a caring environment [that is] respectful of individual differences."

Mentoring . . . our knowledgeable and dedicated faculty offer academic, personal, and spiritual guidance with the assistance of our class advisors, freshman mentors, Campus Minister, Director of College Placement, and PlusPortals (our online link between school and home).

Instruction . . . our extensive, multi-level curriculum fully prepares our students for continued academic success, as is exemplified by our ACT scores, our number of Illinois State Scholars, and the percentage of our students who pursue higher education after graduation.

Leisure . . . our numerous and varied extracurricular activities allow our students to discover, to share, and to further develop their many talents and gifts.

You . . . our commitment to serving our students and our parents results in our students' ability to achieve their fullest potential.

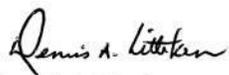
In addition to reviewing the information included in this brochure, we encourage you to visit our website, www.materdeiknights.org, which provides additional information regarding our programs and policies, and our Facebook page ("Mater Dei Catholic High School").

Finally, please encourage your child (7th and 8th grade students) to accept our invitation to shadow a knight (page 6) and experience the Mater Dei spirit - we know you and your child will be impressed with the Mater Dei family!

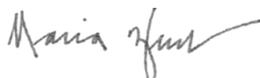
Again, we thank you for providing us with an opportunity to share with you and your family the many unique aspects of Mater Dei Catholic High School. Should you need additional information, please contact us.

May God continue to bless your family!

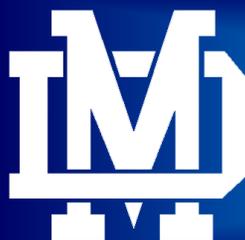
Sincerely,



Dennis A. Litteken
Principal



Maria B. Zurliene
Director of Enrollment



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FACEBOOK Mater Dei Catholic High School

FAITH

LEARNING OUR FAITH Students enroll in a theology course each semester and participate in a day of retreat, with their class, each year.

LIVING OUR FAITH

Service Students participate in service not only as a school community, but also as individuals. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors provide twelve hours of Works of Mercy each year; seniors provide three weeks of service in the metro-east, including local communities, and St. Louis during the Senior Service Project in January.

Class Missions and Special Causes During the 2016-2017 school year, students donated nearly \$11,000.

Liturgical Opportunities Students participate in masses and prayer both as a school community (seven masses, daily prayer) and in their theology classes. During Lent, daily eucharist services and a reconciliation service are offered.

LOVING OUR FAITH For our masses, students serve as eucharistic ministers, lectors, musicians, servers, and ushers. For our local communities, students serve as catechists for Youth Faith Formation programs.

IN THE WORDS OF OUR STUDENTS . . .

"I am truly fortunate to attend Mater Dei Catholic High School! In addition to offering a faith-filled environment, Mater Dei provides me with a strong academic curriculum taught by caring faculty who teach me to work hard to meet my academic goals. I have also met so many new people and have made friendships I know will last a lifetime."

Alexa Rinderer, Class of 2018, St. Paul Catholic Church (Highland)

"Deciding to attend Mater Dei was one of the greatest choices I made in my academic career. Being part of a Catholic school has given me the opportunity to grow in my faith, excel academically, and make many new friends."

Claire Kampwerth, Class of 2019, St. Mary Catholic Church (Carlyle)



ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES GUIDE Students receive a guide that provides descriptions of and contacts for our activities and athletics.

ACTIVITIES FAIR Held the second week of school, the fair provides students with the opportunity to sign-up for activities and receive information from current members.

MEETINGS DURING STUDY HALL Numerous activities meet during a designated school-wide study hall, allowing students to participate in multiple activities.

ACTIVITIES

Art and Photography Club, Band (concert, jazz, marching, wind ensemble, winter drum line), Bass Fishing, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Book Club, Chess Club, Chorus, Color Guard, Fall Play, FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), Liturgical Music Group, Liturgical Planning Team, National Honor Society, Newspaper (*The Lance*), Peer Tutoring, Scholar Bowl, Spanish Club, Spring Musical, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Student Ambassadors, Student Council, Teens for Life, WYSE (World Wide Youth in Science and Engineering), Yearbook (*The Knight*)

ATHLETICS

Fall Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer (boys), Volleyball

Winter Basketball, Bowling, Cheerleading, Wrestling

Spring Baseball, Soccer (girls), Softball, Track and Field



IN THE WORDS OF OUR PARENTS . . .

"Our decision to send our children to Mater Dei is one we take very seriously. Our family, as a whole, has made many sacrifices in order to afford the quality education that Mater Dei has provided our children. The environment that the administration, faculty, and staff provide all the students makes Mater Dei a special place and worth the investment. We have always believed the value of what we receive is worth more than the cost! We encourage parents to consider not only the educational benefits, but also, and more importantly, that Mater Dei nurtures the spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional and social growth of the students."

Mark and Allison Cowgill, parents of Adam '12, Molly '13, Caroline '15, Susy '18, Ben '22, Catey '23, Becca '25, and Maribeth '30

ACADEMICS

CURRICULUM Our extensive, multi-level curriculum provides all students, including those needing academic accommodations, with the opportunity both to challenge themselves and to achieve success.

FACULTY Our knowledgeable and dedicated faculty offer academic, personal, and spiritual guidance to students before, during, and after school.

CLASS SIZE With a student-to-teacher ratio of 13:1 and an average class size of 18, students receive individual instruction, guidance and assistance.

STUDY HALL Our daily schedule includes a school-wide study hall. Following ten minutes of silent reading, students may receive assistance from teachers and peer tutors, attend meetings, or complete assignments.

CLASS ADVISORS Our class advisors monitor our students' academic success and provide guidance with course selections.

PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE Our College Placement Director provides information and workshops related to the college placement process, including preparing for the ACT and SAT, searching for and applying to colleges, applying for scholarships and financial aid, and NCAA eligibility. In addition, we host a College Fair and offer an ACT prep course taught by our faculty members.

COLLEGE CREDIT HOURS During the 2016-2017 school year, students earned 2,068 hours of college credit at Kaskaskia College through enrollment in our dual-credit courses. These credits are then transferable to the colleges in which our students enroll following graduation.

DUAL-CREDIT COURSES

Accounting Principles
Advanced Computer Applications
Building Trades II
English Composition 101
English Composition 102
Chemistry II
CISCO Networking Basics
CISCO Routing and Switching
Marketing *
Physics Honors
Psychology
Small Business Management *
Sociology
Speech 103
Weightlifting and Conditioning

* To earn credit, both Marketing and Small Business Management must be completed.

AP COURSES

American History
Calculus **
Spanish **

** While not official AP courses, the level of the coursework fully prepares students for the AP test.

TECHNOLOGY

Bring Your Own Device Program

For academic purposes, students may utilize the school-wide Wi-Fi and the electronic device of their choice (except cell phones).

Electronic Learning Days

Days of learning are no longer lost to "snow days," as students attend class electronically using Schoology.

Electronic Textbooks (e-books)

The use of e-books has been implemented in numerous courses.

PlusPortals

Our interactive web portal provides students and parents with academic, attendance, and discipline reports, as well as general school information.

Microsoft Office 365

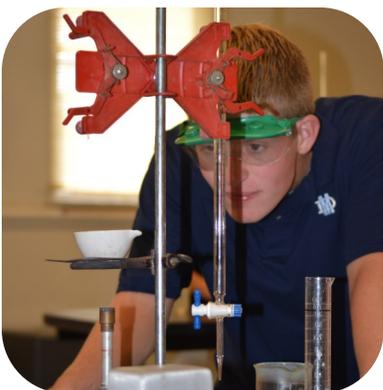
Students receive an Office 365 email address and a license to utilize Microsoft Office 365 products on their device(s).

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Religion 4.0 credits
English 4.0 credits
Mathematics 3.0 credits
Science 2.0 credits
Social Studies 2.0 credits
(including American History)
Physical Education 1.5 credits
Consumer Economics 0.5 credit
Fine Arts 0.5 credit
Health 0.5 credit
Speech 0.5 credit
pass U.S. Constitution Test
complete Senior Service Project

NOTE: For science and social studies, 3.0 credits are recommended for college.

NOTE: For foreign language (Spanish), 2.0 credits are recommended for college.



IN THE WORDS OF OUR ALUMNI . . .

"The top-notch Catholic education I received at Mater Dei is very valuable! Because Mater Dei helped me to grow in the areas of faith, academics, service, and extracurricular activities, I have a solid foundation for future success. The holistic education helped shape me into who I am today."

Sam Krebs, Class of 2016, currently enrolled at the U.S. Air Force Academy

"Mater Dei is an incredible school and I am grateful, each day, for my education. Mater Dei helped me not only build character, but also deepen my faith by recognizing God in my life. I am truly prepared to be a steward of God's gifts and to make a difference serving others."

Peyton Kreke, Class of 2017, currently enrolled at Illinois State University

TUITION AND FEES

TUITION Families choose from the following payment schedules: twelve-month, ten-month, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual. The 2017-2018 tuition rates are as follows:

Catholic Students first student \$5,336, second student \$4,616

Non-Catholic and Out-of-District Students first student \$5,836, second student \$5,436

NOTE: Additional students are not charged tuition.

COURSE AND ACTIVITY FEE The course and activity fee, paid in August, helps offset the expenses related to instructional materials, graduation (seniors), library services, retreats, technology, testing (sophomores), and free admission to home athletic events, the musical, and the play. This fee ranges from \$225 to \$285 depending on a student's grade level and courses.

NOTE: Additional fees are not charged for transportation, participation in extracurricular activities, or parking.

SCHOLARSHIPS & TUITION ASSISTANCE

UNRESTRICTED SCHOLARSHIPS

Assumption Catholic H.S. Alumni Scholarship
August E. Becker Memorial Scholarship
Bishop Zuroweste Scholarship
Catholic Holy Family Scholarship
Connie Wade Memorial Scholarship
Fr. Jerome Feldmann Scholarship
Helping Hands Scholarship
Jerome Timmermann Family Scholarship
Mater Dei Class of 1966 Scholarship
Matt Heinzmann Leadership Scholarship
Robert J. Klostermann Scholarship
Sr. Miriam Covert, Memorial Scholarship
Tillie Hustedde Memorial Scholarship

PARISH SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Anthony, Beckemeyer
St. Augustine, Breese
St. Bernard, Albers
St. Boniface, Germantown
St. Cecilia, Bartelso
St. Damian, Damiansville
St. Dominic, Breese
St. Felicitas, Beaver Prairie
St. Francis, Aviston
St. George, New Baden
St. Joseph, Lebanon
St. Mary, Carlyle
St. Mary, Trenton
St. Paul, Highland
St. Rose, St. Rose
St. Teresa, Marydale

MATER DEI MEMORIAL GRANTS

ASA SCHOLARSHIPS

TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Parents with a qualifying income may apply for a scholarship through the Illinois tax credit scholarship program (education reform bill SB 1947 signed August 31, 2017).

EDUCATION EXPENSE TAX CREDIT

When filing Illinois state income taxes, parents may claim a credit (\$500 maximum) for qualifying education expenses, including tuition and course and activity fees.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS FROM STUDENTS

FRIENDS - How will I meet people? Will I make friends?

Meeting new people and making new friends, initial concerns of incoming freshmen, quickly become two of their favorite aspects of attending Mater Dei, as indicated by 80% of the Class of 2020 when surveyed as freshmen.

Recognizing that high school is filled with new experiences, we focus on assisting freshmen with their transition. To begin the year, freshmen experience a unique, freshmen-only day, during which they attend classes, meet and complete a scavenger hunt with their mentor group, and participate in activities to develop strategies for creating and maintaining respectful relationships. The freshman mentor groups then continue to meet monthly. Our administration and faculty also observe and communicate with students throughout the year.

EXTRACURRICULARS - Will I be interested? Will I have time?

We are proud to offer an extensive variety of activities and athletics to provide our students with opportunities to explore, to develop, and to share their gifts and talents. To ensure students are aware of all opportunities, we provide an *Extracurricular Activities Guide*, which includes descriptions of our activities and athletics, and host an activities fair during which students sign-up for activities and receive information from current members.

Aside from athletics, numerous activities hold meetings during the daily school-wide study hall, which not only minimizes or eliminates the need for meetings after school hours, but also allows our students to participate in multiple activities.

Below we address the most frequently asked questions from prospective families. Families with additional questions are welcome and encouraged to contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene, our Director of Enrollment.

QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS

TRANSPORTATION - To where do you provide service?

We provide free transportation (to and from school) for students living outside the Central Community High School district - east to Salem, north to Highland, south to Mt. Vernon, and west to I-64/Air Mobility Drive. (Routes may change due to the demographics of our students.)

EXTRACURRICULARS - Will living outside of Breese limit my child's participation in extracurricular activities?

Aside from athletics, numerous activities hold meetings during the daily school-wide study hall, which minimizes or eliminates the need for meetings after school hours. Additionally, students are welcome to remain on campus and utilize the Lampe Commons (student center) after school. On a daily basis, we observe students studying, relaxing with peers, or preparing a snack (vending machines and microwaves are available). Finally, families develop carpools to share travel obligations.

ACADEMICS - Can you meet my child's academic needs?

Our extensive, multi-level curriculum allows all students, including those needing academic accommodations, to enroll in the level of courses that meets their needs. We do not "track" students, knowing that their needs vary by academic discipline. Students may also receive additional assistance from teachers or peer tutors during the daily school-wide study hall. Finally, our faculty welcomes communication with parents to ensure our ability to work hand-in-hand for the benefit of our students.

CLASS OF 2016 ACT COLLEGE READINESS

Through research with postsecondary institutions nationwide, ACT has established the following college readiness benchmark scores for each subject-area test as a means of more precisely measuring college readiness: English – minimum score of 18, Math – minimum score of 22, Reading – minimum score of 22, Science – minimum score of 23.

Percentage of ACT-Tested Students from the Class of 2016 who Achieved ACT College Readiness Benchmarks

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Met All
Mater Dei	84	72	74	63	55
Carlyle	54.0	32.0	31.0	17.0	16.0
Central	65.1	41.1	45.0	40.3	29.5
Centralia	56.9	26.2	30.2	21.3	16.8
Greenville	69.9	43.1	44.7	30.9	26.0
Highland	68.8	42.5	49.4	40.1	29.6
Lebanon	55.6	24.4	31.1	31.1	20.0
Mt. Vernon	47.1	26.5	29.4	17.6	15.1
O'Fallon	79.0	58.3	59.0	50.6	42.0
Salem	58.0	35.7	36.3	26.1	20.4
Triad	66.1	44.5	40.8	39.7	25.3
Wesclin	65.0	43.0	44.0	36.0	27.0

CLASS OF 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

AVERAGE ACT SCORES

Composite = 24.4	(state 21.4)
English = 24.7	(state 21.0)
Math = 23.9	(state 21.2)
Reading = 24.3	(state 21.6)
Science = 24.2	(state 21.3)

AVERAGE ACT SCORES FOR COLLEGE PREP CURRICULUM *

Composite = 25.1
English = 25.5
Math = 24.7
Reading = 24.9
Science = 24.8

* This curriculum includes four years of English and three or more years each of mathematics, science, and social studies.

FAITH The Class of 2017 included fifty-four Eucharistic Ministers and thirty-seven catechists who served local Youth Faith Formation programs.

KNOWLEDGE

ACT Performance The Class of 2017 included thirty-one students (27%) who earned an ACT composite score of 28 or higher and nineteen students (17%) who earned an ACT composite score of 30 or higher.

Scholars The Class of 2017 included twenty-seven Illinois State Scholars (23%) and two National Merit Commended Scholars.

Scholarships Eighty-six percent of the Class of 2017 received scholarship offers, which totaled \$10.8 million.

College Credit Hours During their four years at Mater Dei, the Class of 2017 earned nearly 2,300 hours of college credit through enrollment in our dual-credit courses.

SERVICE The Class of 2017 provided nearly 14,000 hours of service related to the Works of Mercy and donated \$1,866 to the Class of 2017 Pay It Forward Scholarship.

INSTITUTIONS AT WHICH MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2017 ARE CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION

Bunker Hill Community College	Missouri State University	University of Illinois
Butler University	Murray State University	University of Iowa
Creighton University	Northwest Missouri State University	University of Kentucky
Eastern Illinois University	Rend Lake College	University of Louisville
Florida Institute of Technology	Saint Ambrose University	University of Mississippi
Greenville College	Saint Louis College of Pharmacy	University of Missouri – Columbia
Illinois State University	Saint Louis University	University of Missouri – Kansas City
John A. Logan College	Southeast Lineman Training Center	University of Notre Dame
Kaskaskia College	Southeast Missouri State University	University of Southern Indiana
Kilgore College	Southern Illinois University Carbondale	University of Wisconsin – Madison
Lindenwood University	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	University of Wisconsin – Platteville
Maryville University	Southwestern Illinois College	West Virginia University
McKendree University	University of Evansville	

IN THE WORDS OF OUR STUDENTS . . .

"Since I was led me to Mater Dei, I have never looked back! I am blessed to have the Holy Spirit in my daily life and to work with teachers who not only are skilled, but also love and care for their students. Mater Dei is a wonderful place to grow!"

Clarissa Pavao, Class of 2018, St. Clare Catholic Church (O'Fallon)

"I am very happy with my choice to attend Mater Dei! The amazing teachers and students welcomed me with open arms. I have enjoyed the incredible opportunity to make new friends, to grow academically, and to participate in new activities."

Mya Albers, Class of 2019, St. Dominic Catholic Church (Breese)



SHADOW A KNIGHT

We invite 7th grade and 8th grade students to join us for a day of school in order to truly experience the Mater

Dei spirit! By shadowing a knight, which includes attending classes, enjoying lunch, and receiving a tour, prospective students gain valuable insight into life at Mater Dei. On the day of his/her choice, a prospective student may shadow a knight of his/her choice or request the selection of a knight with similar interests.

Accept our invitation today! We know you will enjoy the Mater Dei family!

NOTE: To schedule a shadow day, contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene (618.526.7216 or mzurliene@materdeiknights.org).

NOTE: For additional information on planning a shadow day, visit our website – “Future Knights” menu, “Shadow a Knight” page.



JOIN OUR CLASS OF 2022

The following events are held for current 8th grade students and their families.

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

January 3, 2018, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

PLACEMENT (EXPLORE) TEST

January 13, 2018, 8:00 am – 11:00 am

REGISTRATION

February 24, 2018, 8:00 am – 11:00 am

FRESHMAN WELCOME

information provided in the spring

NOTE: Families who are unable to attend an event may contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene (618.526.7216 or mzurliene@materdeiknights.org).



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