

## MATER DEI MISSION STATEMENT

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.

### THOUGHTS FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Just as the fall season is settling in, so too are the students as we approach the end of the first quarter. Please be assured that the faculty members are challenging our students each day and are excited to observe them putting forth the effort required to meet those challenges. Also, know that we, the administration and faculty, greatly appreciate your active involvement in helping our students achieve their highest potential. The support you provide at home, which is essential to your child's success, is second to none! Thus, on behalf of our faculty, I say "Thank you!"

October is a busy month, as our fall sports and band competitions come to an end and our drama students prepare for the upcoming fall play. As I observe the students participating in our many activities, I continually recognize their amazing commitment and I am pleased to know that our students are developing values which will remain long after they leave Mater Dei.

More importantly, I take immense pride in our students' remarkable commitment to meeting the needs of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. In addition to donating to our class missions and special causes (\$13,480 in the 2017-2018 school year), our students serve others as Youth Faith Formation teachers, Eucharistic Ministers, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and members of Teens for Life and St. Vincent De Paul Society. Moreover, our extracurricular organizations also sponsor service projects throughout the year.

Our Mater Dei community truly demonstrates our main calling as Catholics: *to love our neighbors as we love ourselves*. With this calling in mind, we will continue to challenge our students, faculty, and staff to follow the model of Mother Theresa, who once reflected that she saw the face of Christ in every man, woman, and child she met.

As you can see, Mater Dei truly is an exceptional school as a direct result of the commitment of all members of the Mater Dei community. Together, we can grow stronger and provide the foundation our students need to become productive, Catholic adults.

**THANK YOU for being members of the Mater Dei family!**

### FRIENDLY REMINDER

#### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

OCTOBER 24, 4:30 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

The administration and faculty invite all parents to our Parent-Teacher Conferences in order to discuss the academic progress of their child(ren) with individual teachers.

Report cards, as well as a "directory" to assist parents in locating teachers, will be available in the main office.

Please note that the format of our conferences is "first come, first served."

Of course, if you are unable to attend the conferences, please feel free to contact teachers via phone or email.

Remember to mark your calendar . . . we hope to see you October 24!

#### MAX HARAD HONORED AS A NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED STUDENT

We are pleased to announce that senior Max Harad, son of Scott and Lori Harad, earned recognition as a 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student.

Max is among approximately 34,000 students in the nation to receive this prestigious recognition as a result of placing in the top 3% of more than 1.6 million students who entered the competition by taking the PSAT (Preliminary SAT)/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test as sophomores or juniors. Of those 1.6 million students, only 50,000 total students are recognized as a commended student, semi-finalist or finalist.

**Please join us in congratulating Max for his exemplary dedication to academics!**

# MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*academic excellence in a faith-filled environment*

## OPEN HOUSE Sunday, November 4, 2018

FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
WITH STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8

Discover the unique opportunities of joining the Mater Dei family!  
Guests will enjoy a guided tour and receive information regarding  
our spiritual, academic, and extracurricular programs;  
scholarships and tuition assistance; and free transportation.

Free transportation is offered east to Salem, north to Highland,  
south to Mt. Vernon, and west to I-64/Air Mobility Drive.



900 N Mater Dei Dr  
Breese IL 62230  
618.526.7216

Email: [knights@materdeiknights.org](mailto:knights@materdeiknights.org)  
Website: [www.materdeiknights.org](http://www.materdeiknights.org)  
Facebook: Mater Dei Catholic High School

## JOIN OUR CLASS OF 2023

Information Night  
January 3, 2019

Placement Test  
January 12, 2019

Registration  
February 23, 2019

## SHADOW A KNIGHT

Join us for a  
day of school  
to experience  
the MD spirit!

Contact Maria Zurliene,  
Director of Enrollment,  
for information.

## SHARE OUR INVITATION

To help us spread our unique  
story to prospective families,  
please share the invitation to  
our Open House (left).

Please also share the many  
benefits your child has  
received as a result of  
attending Mater Dei.

Your story is the  
most important story!

## SELL, SELL, SELL OUR 2019 MATER DEI CALENDAR

We are pleased to announce that the 2019 Calendar Drive will begin October 9! Entering its 34<sup>th</sup> year, the Calendar Drive, the only fundraiser for which we request participation from all students, serves as the cornerstone of our fundraising.

Did you know that the cost to educate each student is \$8,730. As a result, approximately \$3,200 per student must be funded from two sources: parishes (approximately \$1,500 per student) and fundraising (approximately \$1,700 per student). **Thus, the participation of all families in the 2019 Calendar Drive is essential!**

Director of Advancement Fr. Chuck Tuttle will meet with our students to discuss their vital role in the drive and the many incentives they may earn. Each student is asked to sell a minimum of eight calendars, for which he/she will earn a day off school on April 5, as well as a jeans day each Friday thru January 25. Last year, 82% of our students met this quota.

Additionally, students who sell ten or more calendars earn cash prizes, as well as special dress up days. Last year, 48% of our students sold 10 or more calendars.

Finally, top sellers in each class earn tuition credit ranging from \$500 to \$150.

**For the benefit of our students,  
let's make the 2019 Calendar Drive  
a record-breaking success!**



## MAKE TIME FOR MASS

As we enhance our Catholic identity at Mater Dei, we continually focus on our Mission to educate, to foster faith, and to develop gospel values. Participation in Mass plays an essential role in fulfilling this Mission. Thus, please take to heart your vital role in supporting our Mission, for as parents, you serve as role models for our students.

While prayer at home is an important aspect of our faith, it cannot replace the celebration of Mass, which offers the following opportunities:

- to experience community, especially through the Peace of Christ and the prayers;
- to receive inspiration from God's Word, through the readings, the homily, and the prayers, in order to strengthen our commitment to modeling the teachings of Jesus in our lives;
- to first acknowledge our sins and then to seek and receive forgiveness for those sins;
- to experience the miracle of the Eucharist;
- to share our talents with others by serving as cantors, lectors, servers, ushers, or Eucharistic ministers.

Please remember that we are all called to live our faith. We make time to answer many other calls - please make time to answer God's call to celebrate Mass with your family every week. God bless you!

## OCTOBER KNIGHT LIFE

- 1 School Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)  
Bishop Braxton's Visit
- 3 College Fair (6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- 5 No School — Liturgical Convention
- 8 No School — Columbus Day  
Mothers and Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 9 2019 Calendar Drive Begins
- 10 PSAT Test (registered sophomores and juniors)
- 14 Fall Concert (7:00 p.m.)
- 15 Band Parents Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 19 End of the First Quarter
- 24 Parent-Teacher Conferences (4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- 29 Fathers and Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

### Homecoming Week

- 9 Mass (9:40 a.m.)
- 10 Homecoming Shirt Day  
Parade, Coronation, and Bonfire (6:00 p.m.)
- 11 Costume Day
- 12 Spirit Day; Lip Sync-Talent Contest and Pep Rally
- 13 Dance (8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### SOUNDS OF THE KNIGHTS ♦ October 14

Enjoy the sounds of our concert band, jazz band, wind ensemble, and chorus at the fall music concert, held in the main gymnasium, at 7:00 p.m.

### GRANDPARENTS MASS ♦ November 1

We are pleased to invite our students' grandparents to join us for Mass at 9:40 a.m.

### FALL PLAY ♦ November 2, 3, and 4

Enjoy a performance of *Miracle on 34th Street*, the beloved Christmas comedy-drama, at 7:00 p.m. November 2 and 3 and at 2:00 p.m. November 4.

### BAND PARENTS GLO BINGO ♦ November 16

Gather your family and friends and enjoy an evening of Glo Bingo for only \$25 per player. Held at the Breese American Legion, doors open at 6:00 p.m. and Bingo begins at 7:00 p.m. For reservations, contact a band student, call 618-531-5027 or email [mdknightsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:mdknightsmusic@gmail.com).

## A Prayer for Pumpkin Carving



*Open my mind so I can learn about you . . . cut the top*

*Take away my sins and forgive me for the wrong things I do . . . clean the inside*

*Open my eyes so Your love I will see . . . cut the eyes*

*Know I am sorry for turning my nose to all You've given me . . . cut a nose*

*Open my ears so Your Word I will hear . . . cut the ears*

*Open my mouth so I can tell others You're near . . . cut a mouth*

*Give me strength to let Your light shine in all I say and do . . . light a candle*



## DRINK PRAIRIE FARMS ...

## ... GIVE TO MATER DEI

Please remember that Mater Dei is a registered participant in the Prairie Farms Our Caps, Your Cause program!

For each code on the special cap sticker from Prairie Farms milk or iced coffee (gallon or half-gallon), Prairie Farms will donate \$0.05 per code to Mater Dei!

You may enter codes (steps below) or submit caps to the office.

Your participation is greatly appreciated!

- 1) Visit [www.prairiefarms.com](http://www.prairiefarms.com)
- 2) On the home page, select the "Our Caps, Your Cause" icon at the top
- 3) Scroll down to select the "Redeem Codes Now" icon
- 4) On the "OCYC-Redeem Codes" page, in the "Select a category" drop-down menu, select "Education"; in the "Select an organization" drop-down menu, select "Mater Dei Catholic High School, Breese, IL"
- 5) Enter your codes and select the "Donate" icon

## WHOO CARES about students' struggles with



Anxiety  
Grief  
Depression  
Spirituality  
Self-Esteem  
Belonging  
Relationships  
Coping Strategies  
Self-Image  
Mental Well-Being

## WE DO! Please contact us for help.

Mrs. Tammy Carroll, Counselor  
phone: extension 352  
email: [tcarroll@materdeiknights.org](mailto:tcarroll@materdeiknights.org)

Ms. Colleen McDermott, Campus Minister  
phone: extension 102  
email: [cmcdermott@materdeiknights.org](mailto:cmcdermott@materdeiknights.org)



# IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO PLAN FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



## MATER DEI COLLEGE NIGHT

Mater Dei families are invited to our annual College Night on **Wednesday, October 3**, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. In addition to gaining information from a variety of institutions, families may attend a financial aid presentation at 6:30 p.m. or 7:15 p.m. in the Lampe Commons.

## FREE VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIRS

Students now have the opportunity to attend a virtual college fair via College Fairs Online ([www.collegefairsonline.com](http://www.collegefairsonline.com)). For students located in the Midwest, the fall fair will be held **October 15-20**. (The spring fair will be held March 4-9.) Students must register for the fair on the College Fairs Online website.

Utilizing virtual booths, colleges and universities provide information related to a variety of topics, including academics, tuition, financial aid, and housing. College representatives are also available to answer questions.

## FREE ACT PREP – PERIOD 2 STUDY HALLS

To assist our students in preparing for the ACT, Mrs. Goetz will host ACT test preps in Room 304 during **every period 2 study hall** (after silent reading) **beginning October 18**.

These sessions are provided free to all interested students, who may participate in as many sessions as they choose. Mrs. Goetz will review all subject areas included on the ACT, but will initially focus on the subject area determined “most needed” by participating students.

Students interested in participating should register on the “ACT Prep Study Group” page on Schoology (code: 822XH-G8XM7).

NOTE: An additional extensive ACT test prep will be offered later in the school year.

## ORDER ACT PREP GUIDE NOW

Mrs. Goetz is now accepting orders for ACT's *The Official ACT Prep Guide 2018-2019*. The cost is \$24 (retails for \$33). Students who order at this time will receive their guide before Thanksgiving break. This guide is utilized for the ACT prep course we will offer in February and March.

NOTE: Students will have a second opportunity to order just prior to the start of the ACT prep course.

## MATH ACT REVIEW IN DECEMBER

Ms. Sackett will offer a Saturday math ACT review prior to the December ACT (date to be determined). The cost will be \$10 per student. Additional information will be provided soon.

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT OFFICE ON SCHOOLGY

Mrs. Goetz reminds parents to enroll in the College Placement Office Schoology groups of their choice: the Class of 2019 (senior) group access code is JDRJ9-TWNNS, the Class of 2020 (junior) group access code is TSBMM-7D85B, and the Class of 2021 (sophomore) group access code is 4BQW2-34F3K. A Class of 2022 (freshman) group will be added at a later date. (Students are automatically enrolled in the group for their class.)

The Schoology pages and College Placement Office newsletter, which will be emailed to parents, include information related to college fairs, college visits to Mater Dei, ACT test prep and test dates, and scholarship opportunities; as well as websites related to the college placement process, including preparing for the ACT and SAT, searching for colleges, applying to colleges, applying for financial aid, and NCAA eligibility.

## PSAT TEST

All juniors and high achieving sophomores are encouraged to register for the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) test, which will be administered **Wednesday, October 10**. The PSAT assesses critical thinking, math, and writing skills, and prepares students for the SAT college entrance exam. In addition, students who earn high scores on both the PSAT and the SAT are then eligible for the prestigious National Merit Scholarship Program.

Students must register at the College Placement Office. The test fee is \$16 and must be paid by check only (payable to Mater Dei).

**Registration is required**, as we possess a limited number of tests.

## ACT TEST DATES

Registration information is available in our College Placement Office or on the ACT website ([www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)).

December 8, 2018 (at Mater Dei)  
(deadline November 2, 2018)

February 9, 2019  
(deadline January 11, 2019)

April 13, 2019 (at Mater Dei)  
(deadline March 8, 2019)

June 8, 2019  
(deadline May 3, 2019)

July 13, 2019  
(deadline June 14, 2019)

## NOTES

In order for Mater Dei to receive ACT scores, the registration must include our CEEB code (where a student attends school): 140-395.

Test accommodations must be requested at the time of registration. International and ELL students are eligible for extended time.

To avoid extra fees in the future, at the time of registration, students should list potential college choices (to which their ACT scores will be sent).