



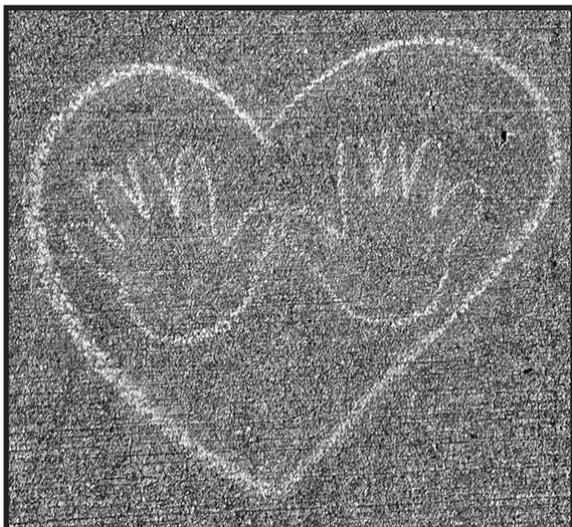
## OUR FAITH MISSION

Mater Dei encourages a conscious and active faith that leads the student to ongoing personal growth and involvement within the life of the Church. Recognizing the Christian community's apostolic role in the world, we educate the student to a reverence for all life, to an awareness of the needs of the global community, and to a commitment to the values of peace and justice expressed in understanding, compassion, and service.

### FAITH OBJECTIVES

1. To instill in each student a sense that he/she is a unique manifestation of God's love.
2. To provide students with a knowledge of the beliefs and morals of the Catholic Church.
3. To help students experience the value of personal prayer as an integral part of Christian life.
4. To prepare students to take an active part in parish worship.
5. To develop a working relationship with parishes in the area.

## BE THE HANDS OF CHRIST



*Fr. Chuck Tuttle lays his hands in blessing over the unleavened bread baked by Miss Harris' Theology cooking class. The blessing took place during the cooking class' Celebration of the Mass where the unleavened bread was consecrated and distributed for communion.*

## FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Mater Dei chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society works hard to be the hands of Christ to those in need through its weekly mission collection. On Wednesdays, each homeroom is asked to collect money for its designated class mission. The freshman class voted to have its 4-year mission collection go to St. Anne's Mission Hospital in Kenya, Africa, a mission of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ; the sophomore class has as its mission Day Star Community Programs in Cairo, IL; the junior class supports orphans in Haiti/Venezuela through Missions International; the senior class mission is the Santa Clara Scholarship Fund which supports indigent high school students in Guatemala, in conjunction with St. Clare Catholic Church in O'Fallon, Illinois.

The SVdP chapter also has special mission collections throughout the year. This year, so far, we have raised \$500 for Catholic Relief Services to aid people affected by the recent hurricanes. During Homecoming week, a special mission collection was taken up for St. Jude Hospital, in honor of Eli Lobb. Eli, the grandson

of teacher Andy Lobb, passed away from childhood cancer at the age of two. The special collection brought in \$1,400 and will go to support the fight against childhood cancer. Another event for the young Vincentians was hosting a Walk for the Poor on October 10. The \$251 raised from this event was directed to the Belleville Diocese St. Vincent de Paul program to help with feeding the poor in the area.



*Seniors in Mr. Thomas' homeroom donate to the special mission collection during Homecoming Week.*

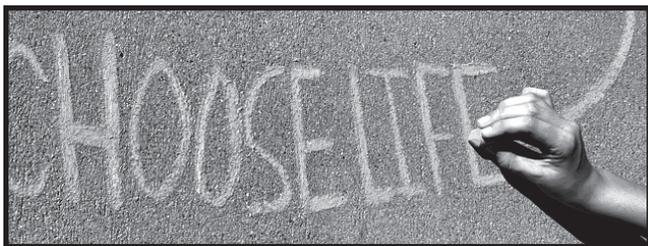
### FAITH FORMATION

At Mater Dei, an eligible senior can earn his or her religion credit by electing to be trained as a Faith Formation teacher and teach Public School Religion (PSR) in area grade schools instead of attending religion class at MD.

For the 2021-2022 school year, eight Mater Dei seniors have chosen this path. After completing the Faith Formation training, the eight seniors have begun their time in the classroom

at one of the following area grade schools: Albers Elementary, Aviston Elementary, Germantown Elementary, and St. Rose Elementary. The PSR teachers arrive at their designated grade school at 7:15 a.m. each weekday and teach students in their assigned K-6 class until 8:30 a.m. Not only have the eight senior Faith Formation students been trained to teach PSR, they have also been trained as Extraordinary Ministers to serve at Mater Dei and their parishes.

### TEENS FOR LIFE



Teens for Life members (over 40!) creatively filled the sidewalks in front of school with pro-life artwork and messages. The group also participated in the "40 Days for Life" prayer event at the Hope Clinic in Granite City and plans to take part in the Right to Life March in Chicago in January.

## ALL-SCHOOL MASS

The Mater Dei students participate in masses as a school community and in their Theology classes. For all-school Masses, students may participate as Eucharistic ministers, greeters, lectors, Liturgical Music Group singers, servers, candle and cross bearers, ushers, power point techs, and sound techs. There are also students who, before and after school Masses, put up and tear down chairs and the portable stage used for the altar. Also, Campus Minister Colleen McDermott trained several students to be Sacristans, who are able to properly clean the vessels after Masses.



*Gavynn Baer, Elyse Richter, and Addison Kampwerth take part in the opening Mass for the 2021-2022 school year as candle and cross bearers.*

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Thirteen seniors took the opportunity to train as Extraordinary Ministers, allowing them to serve in that capacity at Mater Dei and in their local parishes. At the Grandparents/All Saints Day Mass at Mater Dei on November 1, those seniors received their certificates as newly commissioned Extraordinary Ministers from Campus Minister, Colleen McDermott, who conducted the training for the group.



## MORE FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

The students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to attend morning Prayer in the Chapel at 7:55 a.m. every morning that school is in session. A different club, organization, or team is scheduled to help lead morning prayer by praying, reading scripture, and offering petitions for those present.

On Thursday, October 7, Mater Dei celebrated the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. At the beginning of each class, a Theology teacher announced over the PA the prayers for one of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary and then prayed a decade of the rosary so the entire school was able to participate and pray together.

Freshman, sophomore, and junior students attend a one-day retreat during the second semester, conducted by NET Team. Seniors are offered a one-day retreat in the first semester. Utilizing a different approach than the NET Team, the REAP Team challenges the senior students to a greater degree than the underclass students.

All Mater Dei seniors take part in the three-week Senior Service Project to begin the second semester, which is required by the Diocese of Belleville for seniors in all three diocesan Catholic high schools.

# NEW THINGS HAPPENING WITH THE MATER DEI FOUNDATION

The Mater Dei Foundation Board has been working hard this past year with the goal of increasing the sustainability of support it provides to Mater Dei Catholic High School. It is irrefutable that the support and long hours this board puts in is only a glimpse into the dedication the board has to this school. In this last year, members have spent numerous hours evaluating the process of investment, bylaws, and procedures. The ultimate goal was to increase the flexibility of investments based on the economic and investment opportunities; along with the opportunity to have someone who demonstrates Catholic values continually monitor, make investment recommendations, and allow for continued long-term growth.

Nine proposals were submitted and reviewed in April and further deliberated through May and June. At the Foundation's Membership Meeting in August, it was agreed and approved to hire Janet Bone with Benjamin Edwards to be the Foundation's financial advisor. Janet ('79) is very enthused to be active in a role that allows her to grow financial support for Mater Dei. The Foundation is excited for the changes that will continue to grow the of support for the Foundation and Mater Dei Catholic High School.

## THE 2021-2022 FOUNDATION BOARD

Andy Zieren ('94, *Carlyle*) - *President*

Terese Kasson ('80, *Breese*)

David Schmitz ('78) - *Vice President*

Brent Rickhoff ('85, *Albers*)

Spencer Beckmann ('12, *Bartelso*) - *Treasurer*

George Marron (*Highland*)

Joanne Stevenson (*Breese*) - *Secretary*

Shelly Kohrmann ('98, *Germantown*)

Tricia Poettker ('93, *Breese*)

Beth Bohnenstiehl ('01, *St. Jacob*)

A special thank you to retiring board members (listed below) who worked diligently to advance the financial position and presence of the Foundation these past six years.

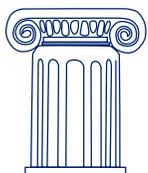
Matt Rakers ('78, *Aviston*) - *Past President*

Lee Rinderer (*Highland*)

Kathy Dierkes ('80, *Germantown*)

A special thank you to Jim Kueper ('82) with Edward Jones for all his support and guidance.

**It is through your support via donations, estates, and memorials that allows the Foundation to be a pillar of the future. We appreciate your support!**



**MATER DEI  
FOUNDATION**

*Amy Wobbe*  
Foundation Planned Giving Coordinator

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

that the Mothers and Friends Organization established the Family Emergency Fund in the 2016-2017 school year to assist families who may have suffered a loss of a parent during the time their student or students attend Mater Dei?

The purpose of the fund is to assure that the family's commitment to Mater Dei will not be affected due to the sudden change in the family structure. Historically, the organization reserves at least \$5,000 per year for this account. Sadly, Mater Dei has lost several parents in the past few years and so these funds were a welcome assist for those grieving families.

This is a wonderful way to provide for our Mater Dei families at such a difficult time in their lives and to realize our mission to Be the Hands of Christ.



*Principal Dennis Litteken is pictured presenting senior Caleigh Arentsen with a Letter of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Program. Caleigh is among approximately 34,000 students in the nation to receive this prestigious recognition a result of placing in the top 3% of the more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition by taking the PSAT (Preliminary SAT) Test in 2020.*

*In total, only 50,000 students in the nation are recognized as a commended student, semifinalist, or finalist. Caleigh is the daughter of Ron and Leigh Ann Arentsen and a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church.*

## Congratulations

to the MD boys' and girls' cross country teams who earned a trip to the IHSA Class 1A Cross Country State Finals!

to the Volleyball Lady Knights who have won their regional and sectional matchups and will compete in super-sectionals with the chance to advance to the state tournament.

to the MDFB Knights for completing their regular season undefeated for only the third time in the programs history! (the 2002-2003 Knights and 2008-2009 Knights were the other two teams to go undefeated.)

The 2021-2022 MDFB Knights qualified for the football playoffs and moved to the IHSA Class 2A second round, with the hope of advancing to the championship game.

## NEW EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION LIST

The MD Office of Institutional Advancement (OIA) would like to inform you of upcoming changes in one of its methods of communication.

As of November 1, 2021, MD will discontinue use of the alumni website, Alumni Channel, at [www.materdeialumni.org](http://www.materdeialumni.org).

Following extensive evaluation, it was determined that the services provided by the Alumni Channel, specifically the email technology and message boards, were outdated. Additionally, following recent updates to the Mater Dei website, [www.materdeiknights.org](http://www.materdeiknights.org), it was determined that one website with all information is both more efficient and user-friendly than maintaining two separate websites.

By implementing a new email subscription, MD will be able to provide its alumni and friends with a quarterly newsletter with information related to the “happenings” at Mater Dei, opportunities to support Mater Dei, and alumni events. You will also receive emails to topic-specific events such as the calendar drive, Mothers and Friends dinner auction, annual fund drive, and reunions.

To subscribe to the alumni and friends email list, please go to [www.materdeiknights.org](http://www.materdeiknights.org), go to the Alumni tab, follow the dropdown list to Alumni & Friends Email List Subscription and there you will find a link to the form that, when completed, will add you to the subscription email list. Those alumni and friends who had provided an email address through the Alumni Channel will be automatically transferred to the new list.

Also, the OIA would like to make a more concerted effort to help reunion classes publicize reunions. If a class contact provides MD with reunion information, then the new email system can be a vehicle to circulate the information to class members (who have subscribed to the email system). In addition, MD will post the information on the Mater Dei website on the Alumni tab under Class Reunions, on social media sites, the weekly news, and the VITA publication.

If you have any questions, please email MD using the new site [alumni@materdeiknights.org](mailto:alumni@materdeiknights.org) or contact Maria Zurliene, Director of Alumni Relations.

### STAY CONNECTED

**Email:** [knights@materdeiknights.org](mailto:knights@materdeiknights.org)

**Website:** [www.materdeiknights.org](http://www.materdeiknights.org)

**Facebook:** Mater Dei Catholic High School

**Instagram:** [breesematerdei](https://www.instagram.com/breesematerdei)

**Twitter:** [@breesematerdei](https://twitter.com/breesematerdei)

**Email Subscription List:** [alumni@materdeiknights.org](mailto:alumni@materdeiknights.org)

GO  
KNIGHTS!

## ILLINOIS TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship Program was designed for you to both support Catholic education and at the same time reduce your Illinois tax liability. For example, if you have an estimated Illinois tax due of \$750.00 and you make a \$1,000.00 donation to Mater Dei Catholic High School, through the Illinois Tax credit scholarship program, called Empower Illinois, you will receive a \$750.00 Illinois tax credit, literally making your out of pocket donation only \$250.00 (since the \$750.00 you already owed the State of Illinois will now be used to benefit Mater Dei Catholic High School). In other words, up to 75% of what you donate will be an Illinois tax credit to you.

A full explanation of how to enroll and make your donation can be found on the Mater Dei website ([materdeiknights.org](http://materdeiknights.org)). On the website, go to the Advancement tab, then click on the dropdown tab entitled **How to Support Mater Dei**, then click on **Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program**. Scroll down to **Empower Illinois Website Links for Donors** and follow the links that will take you to the **Make My TCS Donation** homepage where you will find step-by-step instructions for making a donation that will benefit you and Mater Dei.



### HOMework

~~Black Friday~~

~~Cyber Monday~~

**Giving Tuesday — due Nov. 30**

Following Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday provides alumni, friends, and parents the opportunity to show their love for Mater Dei.

Please  Make a  onation to  elp our  tudents



**MATER DEI**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

You can make a Giving Tuesday donation online, in person, or by mail. To donate online, go to the school website, [www.materdeiknights.org](http://www.materdeiknights.org), follow the Advancement dropdown tabs to How to Support Mater Dei, then go to Annual Fund, and from there click on the donate\_button.

**Mater Dei Catholic High School**  
900 N. Mater Dei Drive  
Breese, IL 62230

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## 2022 MATER DEI CALENDAR DRIVE

**MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**2022 CALENDAR**  
(please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(Must Have Mailing Address)

Sold By \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION CARD

Calendars can be purchased from any Mater Dei student, online from the Mater Dei website, with the mail-in form at left along with your check, or in person from the Main Office at Mater Dei.

**DID YOU KNOW...**that the net profit from the sale of calendars goes back to the students to reduce the tuition increase for the next year? The profit from the 2021 Calendar Drive allowed 2021-2022 tuition to be \$197 per student less than it would be without this fundraiser.

To find more details about the calendar drive, payouts, and a list of calendar winners, please visit our website under Advancement then the drop down tab How to Support Mater Dei.

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*Ready the way of the Lord*

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