

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

What a weekend! Congratulations to our Basketball Lady Knights and their coaches on winning the state championship! They not only achieved athletic success, but also served as examples of how we can be the hands of Christ in our very competitive world. Thank you, Lady Knights, for representing our Mater Dei family so well throughout the season!

As we proceed through the month of March, know that we will continually promote the spiritual growth of our students throughout the Lenten season by providing daily morning prayer, daily Mass, a reconciliation service, and meatless Friday lunches. Join me in thanking Campus Minister Ms. Colleen McDermott, Fr. Chuck Tuttle, and our local clergy for their dedication to fostering the faith of our students!

March also brings the end of our third quarter on Friday, March 10. Thus, please plan to attend parent-teacher conferences on Thursday, March 16, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss the academic progress of your child(ren).

Finally, student life at Mater Dei, as always, is filled with numerous activities! With the arrival of warmer temperatures, our students will be surrounded with several distractions. Please help your child remain focused throughout the spring, as our expectations will remain high.

In closing, know that it is truly our goal to live the Mission for each of our students, for we hold firm to the belief that a Catholic education is a gift that lasts a lifetime. Thus, please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance. May God continue to bless all members of the Mater Dei family!



AND THEN THERE WAS ONE — OUR LADY KNIGHTS!

Congratulations to our Basketball Lady Knights, head coach Craig Zurliene, and assistant coaches Bridget Beckmann and Terri Souder on their historic season, during which they were crowned the IHSA Class 2A State Champions! In addition to winning the first state title in the program's history, they also tied the record for most wins in a single season (27-7)! We are MD proud!

Team members: seniors Madison Eversgerd, Alexis Kampwerth, Julia Korte, Carissa Litteken, Cora Meyer; juniors Ryann Becker, Emma Eversgerd, Sam Muscarello, Avery Trame, Madison Winkler; sophomores Alyssa Koerkenmeier, Maris Zurliene; and freshmen Amelia Beer, Lily Butler, Addison Ringwald. Managers: sophomores Nev Kramer, Aubrey Wilburn; and freshman Marlee Loepker.

2023-2024 Registration

Believe it or not, it is time to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year! Starting March 20, class advisors will first discuss the registration process during the students' English or theology class. Each student will then meet individually with his/her class advisor to discuss course selections and to complete the registration form. Finally, students and parents will review the course selections and note requested revisions prior to returning the registration form to the class advisor.

Please note that the 2023-2024 Curriculum Guide will be emailed to families, as well as posted on PlusPortals ("School Links And Files") and on our website ("Academics" menu, "Curriculum" page). The guide provides both descriptions of and prerequisites for all courses. (To conserve paper, students will not receive copies.)

Please also note that the registration form includes three types of course offerings:

- required courses = premarked with an 'X'
- recommended courses = highlighted
- elective courses = neither marked nor highlighted

Students must return the registration form, with a parent signature and the \$50 registration fee, to their class advisor by April 21. The registration fee will be applied to the 2023-2024 Course and Activity Fee.

Our teachers and class advisors look forward to assisting our students with selecting courses in which they will achieve success. Thus, please do not hesitate to call or to email with questions!

MARCH KNIGHT LIFE

- 6 School Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 8 Reconciliation Services
Clinton County Honor Band Concert & Art Show (7:00 p.m., Wesclin)
- 9 X-Schedule (11:15 a.m. dismissal)
- 10 No School
End of the Third Quarter
- 13 No School
Mothers & Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 16 Parent-Teacher Conferences (5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)
- 20 2023-2024 Registration Begins
Band Parents Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 27 Fathers & Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 31 Christian Discipleship and Service Award Nominations Due
Spring Musical (7:00 p.m.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MUSICAL: MARCH 31 AND APRIL 1 AND 2

Enjoy a performance of *The Lightening Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*, a musical adaptation of the Rick Riordan novel of the same name, on Friday, March 31, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 1, at 7 p.m.; or Sunday, April 2, at 2 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST: APRIL 2

In support of our Fathers & Friends, treat your family to a delicious breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 2, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the cafeteria.

CALENDAR DRIVE DAY: APRIL 21

Students still have the opportunity to sell Mater Dei calendars and to meet their quota of eight sales in order to earn a day off school on Friday, April 21.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thursday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

We invite parents to discuss their child(ren)'s academic progress with individual teachers during third quarter parent-teacher conferences.

Please note that we will utilize our traditional format of "first come first served."

We will send an email when report cards are available for you to print from PlusPortals, as report cards will not be available in the office.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR,
AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

ATTN: PARENTS NEED A NIGHT OUT?

Volunteers - ladies and gentlemen - are invited to assist with the late-night prom festivities sponsored by Mothers & Friends.

Volunteers are needed from Saturday, April 29, at 10:45 p.m. to Sunday, April 30, at 3:30 a.m.

To volunteer, please contact Kim Miller (jnkmliller19@gmail.com or 618-444-8417).

**THANK YOU for your support,
which is vital to the success of this important event!**



A PRAYER FOR FEASTING DURING LENT

Loving God, always, but especially during this holy season of Lent, grant us the strength to fast from all that leads us away from you and to feast on all that brings us closer to you.

- ◆ fast from judging others;
feast on self-improvement
- ◆ fast from gossiping;
feast on spreading good news
- ◆ fast from focusing on differences;
feast on focusing on our oneness
- ◆ fast from words that insult;
feast on words that praise
- ◆ fast from discontent;
feast on gratitude
- ◆ fast from anger;
feast on patience
- ◆ fast from pessimism;
feast on optimism
- ◆ fast from complaining;
feast on appreciation
- ◆ fast from indulgence;
feast on self-care
- ◆ fast from hostility;
feast on peace
- ◆ fast from bitterness;
feast on forgiveness
- ◆ fast from selfishness;
feast on compassion for others
- ◆ fast from criticism;
feast on encouragement
- ◆ fast from apathy;
feast on enthusiasm
- ◆ fast from suspicion;
feast on trust
- ◆ fast from stress;
feast on quiet silence
- ◆ fast from talking;
feast on listening
- ◆ fast from desiring control;
feast on faith

In fulfilling these callings, we may continue to serve as models of your son, Jesus. Amen.

**CONGRATS
AND
GOOD LUCK**

SCHOLAR KNIGHTS WIN CLINTON COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to our Scholar Knights, who, under the guidance of moderator Mr. Scott Timmermann, were crowned champions of the Clinton County Tournament held on March 1! On their journey to the title, Mater Dei defeated Carlyle, Central, and Wesclin. With this year's championship, the fourth consecutive, Mater Dei leads the tournament's 32-year history with twenty championships, followed by Central (seven) and Wesclin (five).

CLINTON COUNTY HONOR BAND CONCERT AND ART SHOW AT WESCLIN MARCH 8

The Clinton County Honor Band Concert and Art Show will be held Wednesday, March 8, at 7:00 p.m., at Wesclin High School. Musicians from Mater Dei, Carlyle, Central, and Wesclin will perform under the direction of guest conductor David Boggs, who serves as Assistant Director of Bands at Eastern Illinois University. Prior to the concert, art work created by students from the four schools will be displayed.

Please join us in congratulating our musicians who were selected to perform: Sophie Beer (flute), Brandon Chan (percussion), Austin Cook (percussion), Ella Detmer (tuba), Carmen Foppe (flute), Robert Klostermann (trombone), Marley Kock (alto saxophone), Jon Marble (percussion), Ella Marron (clarinet), Ben Miller (alto saxophone), Ellie Miller (clarinet), Chris Millikin (percussion), Deidre Morales-Rios (baritone saxophone), Derek Morales-Rios (percussion), Peyton Muscarello (trumpet), Ellen Nuxoll (clarinet), Ella Paterson-Heier (clarinet), Reagan Porter (trumpet), Ashley Ratermann (clarinet), Claire Thole (flute), Aidan Varel (French horn), Kylie Voss (flute), and Ethan Wheelan (trumpet).

Please also join us in congratulating Ellen Nuxoll and Shyanne Thompson, members of our Portfolio of Advanced Art Projects course, whose art work will be displayed.

We thank director of bands Mr. Jordan Profitt and art teacher Mrs. Vicki Moylan for their dedication to our students!

KNIGHTS COMPETE AT IDEA REGIONAL DRAFTING COMPETITION

On March 3, under the guidance of Drafting teacher Mr. Doug Denaro, Luke Pingsterhaus, Adam Rapp, Carson Rickhoff, Aidan Varel, and Anderson Wilke competed at the Illinois Drafting Educators Association (IDEA) Regional Drafting Competition hosted by Kaskaskia College. Congratulations to Carson Rickhoff, who earned a third-place medal in the Machine CAD competition!

BE THE HANDS OF CHRIST



We sincerely thank all who donated to our Catholic Schools Week (CSW) Charity Challenge and our Catholic Schools Week (CSW) Collection! The generosity of our Mater Dei Family is truly inspiring!

CSW Charity Challenge

Our Mater Dei Family donated a total of \$3,230 for the benefit of Michael and Emily Scott, both members of our Class of 2011, and their son, Wade. The donations will assist the Scotts with medical expenses related to Wade's premature birth and recent hospitalization.

CSW Collection

In support of 1st Step Early Head Start in Breese, our Mater Dei Family donated over 700 diapers and pull-ups, over 100 cleaning supplies, and over 25 laundry supplies. 1st Step supports families in Clinton County and Washington County.



**EASTER
FOOD DRIVE
MARCH 14—23**

From March 14 - 23, our four classes will enjoy a friendly competition for a good cause: collecting canned goods for local food pantries.

Like last year, when our Mater Dei family donated 1,089 canned goods, the top homeroom will earn a soda and a snack, and the top class will earn a jeans day.

We offer our gratitude to Mrs. Deb Foote, Mrs. KK Schneider, and our National Honor Society members for hosting this event, which has resulted in the donation of a total of 31,090 canned goods since 2005!



MOTHERS & FRIENDS DINNER AUCTION

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Planning continues for "A Knight in Germany," the Mothers & Friends dinner auction scheduled for Saturday, April 22! This event, one of our largest fundraisers, is an opportunity to enjoy fine food and fellowship in support our students!

NOTE: The information below, as well as the referenced documents and links, are provided on our website: www.materdeiknights.org ("Parents" menu, "Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction" page).

DONATIONS Please contribute to the dinner auction's success by donating an item, party, or service. You may donate individually or coordinate with friends to donate a larger item, such as the always popular tailgating parties, card parties, and dinners. Donation forms are available in the office and on our website.

RESERVATIONS Please submit reservations (\$75 per seat) as soon as possible, as seating is limited. The invitation and the reservation form are available in the office and on our website.

VOLUNTEERS The dinner auction's success is a direct result of our parents' willingness to share their time and talents! Volunteers are needed to set up April 20 and 21, to assist during the dinner auction April 22, and to clean April 22 and 23.

RAFFLES As in the past, the dinner auction will include a number of raffles that may be purchased by both attendees and those who are unable to attend. The raffle order form is available in the office and on our website. A link for online purchases is also available on our website.

PROGRAM So you may enjoy a sneak peek and plan your bidding, the dinner auction program will be provided on our website when finalized.

CONTACT To volunteer or to receive additional information, contact dinner auction chairs Melissa Becker (618-401-3420) or Tracy Mensing (618-830-4816) or email mdauction2023@gmail.com.

THANK YOU for supporting this vital fundraiser!



Happy
St. Patrick's Day!

May your troubles be less.
May your blessings be more.
May nothing but happiness
come through your door.



REQUEST FOR PARENTAL SUPPORT

Our administration and faculty take great pride in the high level of support our parents continually provide throughout the school year. Thus, as we prepare for our final quarter together, we are requesting additional support in regard to attendance and dress code for the remainder of the year.

ATTENDANCE Please remind your child that he/she is required to arrive in his/her first period class by 8:10 a.m. in order to ensure he/she does not receive a tardy or unexcused absence.

DRESS CODE Please remind your child that a dress code polo shirt must be worn at all times. Moreover, only sweatshirts and jackets with a Mater Dei logo; and solid black, navy, or white sweaters and fleece quarter-zip pullovers (not gray, not with a non-Mater Dei logo) may be worn during the school day. In addition, shorts and Capri pants are not permitted until announced by the Administration.

For parents of male students, please remind your son that he must be clean shaven with sideburns no longer than his ear lobes, his bangs may not cover his eyebrows, and his hair may not touch his collar.

The complete attendance policy and the complete dress code policy are provided on in the *Student Handbook*, which is available on PlusPortals ("School Links and Files" window) and our website ("Parents" menu).



PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

ACT TEST AT MATER DEI APRIL 15

For the ACT test at Mater Dei on April 15, the registration deadline is March 10. (The late registration deadline, which includes a late fee, is March 24.) Registration information is available in the College Placement Office and on the ACT website: www.actstudent.org.

NOTE: If the registration page shows no seats available, please immediately inform Mrs. Goetz via email or Teams chat, as she can add additional seats.

ACT "BOOT CAMPS" MARCH 25 AND APRIL 1

Students have the opportunity to attend two ACT "boot camp" prep sessions: English and reading on Saturday, March 25 and math on Saturday, April 1, both from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The fee is only \$10 per session. Students may register in the College Placement Office.

MINI COLLEGE FAIR MARCH 22

We are proud to host a mini college fair on March 22, during which thirteen colleges and universities will be in attendance. All students will have the opportunity to attend the fair, as it will be held during the school day. Additional information will be provided in the near future.

CLASS OF 2023 SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Mrs. Goetz reminds parents of seniors to encourage their child to continuously review scholarship information available in the College Placement Office.

NACAC VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIRS

NACAC is hosting two virtual national college fairs this spring: March 19 and April 23. For additional information and to register, visit the NACAC website: www.nacacfairs.org ("Attend" menu, "Attend NACAC Virtual College Fairs" page).

FREE ACT PREP ONLINE

For a variety of free ACT prep tools, including a practice test, students are encouraged to visit the ACT website: www.act.org/academy (in the "For Students" section, select "Access Student Learning Resources").

NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE? FILE THE FAFSA NOW

Parents of seniors who have not yet filed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) are encouraged to do so as soon as possible via the Federal Student Aid website: www.studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. For assistance, contact Mrs. Goetz (dgoetz@materdeiknights.org).

ELIGIBILITY FOR NCAA ATHLETICS

Students who are considering playing athletics at an NCAA Division I or Division II college or university should register with the NCAA Eligibility Center via their website: www.eligibilitycenter.org.

ACT TEST DATES

For registration information, visit our College Placement Office or the ACT website: www.actstudent.org.

April 15, 2023 (at Mater Dei)
deadline March 10, 2023
late registration deadline March 24, 2023

June 10, 2023
deadline May 5, 2023

July 15, 2023
deadline June 16, 2023

NOTES

In order for Mater Dei to receive ACT scores, the registration must include our CEEB code (where a student attends school). **The Mater Dei CEEB code is 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 they would like their ACT scores to be sent.

ACT TEST ANSWERS

Students who complete the ACT test at a national test center on a national test date in December, April, or June may order the ACT Test Information Release (TIR) for \$32 per test date.

The TIR may be ordered at the time of registration or during the six-month period after the student's test date.

The TIR provides a digital copy of the test questions, a student's answers, and the answer key. For the writing test, a student will receive a copy of the writing prompt, the scoring rubric, and the scores assigned to his/her essay.