

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

It is with a renewed spirit that we begin the month of April at Mater Dei, for with its many rain showers, April also brings an opportunity for new beginnings! We look forward to warmer weather, the success of our spring activities and athletics, and the continued academic success of our students. As you will discover from reading this month's newsletter, our students will be involved in numerous activities during the remaining weeks of school. Therefore, please help your child remain focused throughout the fourth quarter, as the expectations we hold for our students will remain high.

As always, be assured that your decision to become a member of the Mater Dei family is highly valued by our administration and faculty. Because we truly believe that Catholic schools support family, church, and community through the education of our youth, we continually fulfill our calling to serve as exemplary models of academic excellence, successful extracurricular activities, and faith development. In fact, research shows that Catholic schools positively affect the attitudes and behavior of their students, who later serve as cornerstones of their parishes. We thank you for your trust in our Mission!

In closing, I pray that God continues to bless your family as you enjoy Easter and the beauties of spring!

2024-2025
Registration
Due April 19

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year continues! We encourage parents and students to plan course selections together and to utilize the academic counseling offered by our class advisors. The *Curriculum Guide*, which provides descriptions of and prerequisites for all courses, was emailed to parents and students March 18 and is available on PlusPortals ("School Links and Files") and our [website](#) ("Academic" menu, "Curriculum" page).

Please return the registration form with a parent signature and the \$50 registration fee by April 19. The registration fee will be applied to the student's 2024-2025 Course and Activity Fee.

Again, our class advisors' goal is to ensure that our students select courses in which they will be challenged and achieve success. Therefore, please do not hesitate to request assistance!

STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER

We are pleased to announce our Students of the Quarter for the third quarter:

seniors Cameron Foster and Aidan Toennies
juniors Amelia Rapien and Nathan Kuhl
sophomores Melaina Rakers and Ethan Wheelan
freshmen Olivia Kunz and Gavin Klostermann

The Students of the Quarter are selected by the faculty from the list of students who have earned high honor roll or honor roll recognition.

Join us in congratulating these students and their families for this accomplishment!



Easter Blessings

May you be blessed with
the gladness of Easter,
which is hope;
the promise of Easter,
which is peace;
the spirit of Easter,
which is love.

APRIL KNIGHT LIFE

- 1 No School: Easter Monday
- 5 Musical: *Cinderella* (7:00 p.m.)
- 6 Musical: *Cinderella* (7:00 p.m.)
- 7 Musical: *Cinderella* (2:00 p.m.)
- 8 School Board Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
Mothers & Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 12 Calendar Drive Day
- 13 ACT Testing at Mater Dei (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)
Mothers & Friends Dinner Auction
- 15 Band Parents Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 19 2024-2025 Registration Due
- 23 The College Planning Process (6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.)
- 24 Clinton County Academic Excellence Awards (7:00 p.m.)
- 25 Student Council Blood Drive
- 26 Six Flags Physics Day
X-Schedule (11:15 a.m. dismissal)
- 27 Prom (8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.)
Late-Night Prom Festivities (11:00 p.m. to 3:30 a.m.)
- 29 Fathers & Friends Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 30 Baccalaureate Mass (9:30 a.m. at Cathedral of St. Peter)



Friday, April 5, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 6, 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 7, 2 p.m.

Enjoy a performance of Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical *Cinderella* on Friday, April 5, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 6, at 7 p.m.; or Sunday, April 7, at 2 p.m.

Tickets (adults \$6, students \$4, all general admission) may be purchased in advance in the office (until April 5 at 4 p.m.) or purchased at the door.

NOTE: Mater Dei students and Knight Club members receive free admission.

Prom An Enchanted Forest Knight: April 27

Plans are underway for Prom 2024: An Enchanted Forest Knight! The evening will begin with the dance from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. (coronation at 9 p.m.) and conclude with the late-night prom festivities from 11 p.m. to 3:30 a.m.

The late-night prom festivities will include a hypnotist, a dodgeball tournament, a bags tournament, inflatables, painting, games, and a lot of food. The many prizes include JBL speakers, Apple watches, Apple AirPods, gaming systems, a TV, tickets to sports events, and more. All guests will receive a gift card as an attendance prize.

For dedicating their time and talents to this event, we thank our junior class; our prom moderator Mrs. Emily Timmermann; and the late-night prom festivities co-chairs Kim Miller and Kerry Foppe.

For their donations to support the late-night prom festivities, we thank our families, Mothers & Friends, and local businesses. (Families may still send donations.)

Finally, we thank you, our parents, for helping us achieve our goal of keeping Prom 2024 memorable and safe!

NOTE: Students are strongly encouraged to change clothes at Mater Dei following the dance. Hangers and garment bags will be available for tuxes, dresses, and jewelry.

END-OF-YEAR SCHEDULE

The May *Knight Life* will include exam schedules and dismissal times.

FOR SENIOR STUDENTS

- May 10 Semester Exams**
- May 13 Semester Exams**
- May 14 Semester Exams, Last Day**
- May 16 Senior-Parent Mass and Banquet**
- May 17 Breakfast and Graduation Practice
Graduation Ceremony**

FOR UNDERCLASS STUDENTS

- May 16 Semester Exams**
- May 17 Semester Exams**
- May 20 Semester Exams, Last Day**

Volunteers Needed For Late-Night Prom Festivities

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

Volunteers are needed Saturday, April 27, to set up and to pick up food.

Volunteers are also needed from Saturday, April 27, at 10:45 p.m. to Sunday, April 28, at 3:30 a.m. to host the event.

To volunteer for a shift,
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 for our students and their guests!

**WE ARE MD
PROUD**

SCHOLAR KNIGHTS NAMED TO IHSSBCA ALL-SECTIONAL TEAMS

We are proud to announce that three Scholar Knights were selected to an Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association (IHSSBCA) Class 2A All-Sectional Team: Garrett Arentsen – First Team, Keegan Kohlbrecher – Second Team, and Kayleigh Lampe – Second Team!

Throughout their season, our Scholar Knights placed first in the Clinton County Tournament, the Regional Office of Education #13 Quad-County Tournament, and the Catholic Schools Tournament. They also placed second in the Heartland Catholic Schools Tournament, a multi-state online tournament, and the Masonic Academic Bowl Class 2A Greenville Sectional. Their season concluded March 4 at the IHSA Class 2A O'Fallon Regional.

Join us in congratulating our Scholar Knights and moderator Mr. Scott Timmermann on their successful season!

MATER DEI MUSICIANS COMPETE IN IHSA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE SECTIONAL

We are proud to announce that our musicians earned seven Division 1 ratings, three Division 2 ratings, and two Best of Day selections (one awarded per judge) at the IHSA Solo and Ensemble Class B Centralia Sectional held on March 2! Join us in congratulating these musicians and Director of Bands Mr. Jordan Profitt for their achievements!

Honors Percussion Division 1 and Best of Day: Isaac Chambers, Austin Cook, Sylvia Heiligenstein, Jon Marble, Chris Millikin, and Derek Morales-Rios

Clarinets Division 1: Nick Adams, Reese Brines, Abby Brown, Ella Marron, Finley Meyer, Ellie Miller, Ella Paterson-Heier, Ashley Ratermann, and Xander Voss

Percussion Division 1: Adelaide Chambers, Isaac Chambers, Austin Cook, Dawson Detmer, Ella Detmer, Sylvia Heiligenstein, Sarah Hentz, Jon Marble, Chris Millikin, Derek Morales-Rios, and Oliver Varel

Brass Division 2: Heidi Beer, Ella Detmer, Olivia Jourdan, Robert Klostermann, Peyton Muscarello, Reagan Porter, and Ethan Wheelan

Flutes Division 2: Sophie Beer, Elise Etheridge, Olivia Kunz, and Claire Thole

Saxophones Division 2: Alex Beyer-Powe, Marley Kock, Keegan Kohlbrecher, Deidre Morales-Rios, Andrew Sinnock, and Trevor Zeeb

Solos Nick Adams, Piano, Division 1 and Best of Day; Sylvia Heiligenstein, Marimba, Division 1; Olivia Kunz, Flute, Division 1; and Ella Paterson-Heier, Clarinet, Division 1



We thank the members of our Mater Dei family for their continued dedication to serving as the hands of Christ for others!

Mater Dei Family Raises \$7,693.95

During the third quarter, our Mater Dei family raised \$3,665.30 — \$615.30 for our class missions and \$3,050 for our Catholic Schools Week Charity (for the benefit of Rachel (Robben) Rehkemper)! Therefore, through the third quarter, we have raised a grand total of \$7,693.95!

971 Food Items Donated To NHS Easter Food Drive

During the National Honor Society (NHS) Easter Food Drive held March 11-22, our Mater Dei family donated 971 food items for local food pantries! Since 2005, the annual NHS food drive has resulted in the donation of 33,206 food items!

Mater Dei Business Council Hosts Lenten Almsgiving Challenge

Our Accounting Principles students competed in Mater Dei Business Council's Lenten Almsgiving Challenge, during which they discussed the mission, financial impact of donations, and personal impact of a charitable organization of their choice. A \$250 donation was made in the name of each of the four weekly winners, as voted by classmates: Eli Kohrmann — The Children's Heart Foundation, Avery Pingsterhaus — Illinois Center for Autism, Carson Dorries — American Stroke Association, and Wil Harris — Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association. An additional \$500 donation was made to The Children's Heart Foundation in the name of Eli Kohrmann, who won the championship round, as voted by a panel of judges from the Mater Dei community.

**BE
THE
HANDS
OF
CHRIST**

SENIORS HONORED FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We are pleased to announce the seniors who will be honored for their academic achievements at the Clinton County Academic Excellence Ceremony on April 24: Garrett Arentsen, Alayna Benhoff, Kristen Gerdes, Daniel Goring, Grace Huelsmann, Avery Pingsterhaus, Simon Toennies, and Olivia Wolden.

Sponsored by the four Clinton County high schools, this honor recognizes students in the top 10% of each senior class.

Join us in congratulating these students and their families for their academic accomplishments!



Memorials honoring
the late Bella Brefeld '24
support counseling services

IT'S A
Glitz AND Glam
KNIGHT
Saturday, April 13, 2024

MOTHERS & FRIENDS DINNER AUCTION

Planning continues for "It's a Glitz and Glam Knight," the Mothers & Friends dinner auction scheduled for Saturday, April 13! This event is not only one of our largest fundraisers, but also an opportunity to enjoy fine food and fellowship! **THANK YOU** for your support!

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).

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.

RAFFLES The dinner auction offers seven raffles that may be purchased by both attendees and those who are unable to attend. Raffle tickets may be ordered via the printable raffle order form (in the office and on our website) or via the secure online order form (link 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.

HALL OF HONOR CLASS OF 2023

On May 3, we will celebrate the induction of the Mater Dei Hall of Honor Class of 2024: John Burke, Jr. '86, Helen Essenpreis '73, Kevin Haselhorst, M.D. '77, Joseph Klostermann '63, and Vernon Mohesky '63.

Established in 1997, the Hall of Honor recognizes alumni and friends of Mater Dei who have lived their lives as witnesses of our mission.

The celebration will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Mass, followed by dinner and the induction ceremony.

Memorials made in the name of the late Bella Brefeld, a member of our Class of 2024, help support counseling services provided through Campus Ministry.

In addition to the services provided by Mrs. Tammy Carroll, our counselor and school psychologist, support through external services is available.

We are grateful to the Brefeld family for supporting the mental health of our students in memory of Bella!

VOLUNTEERS - PARENTS AND STUDENTS

The dinner auction's success is a direct result of our parents' and students' willingness to share their time and talents!

Parent volunteers are needed to set up April 11 and 12, to assist at the event April 13, and to clean April 13 and 14.

Student volunteers are needed to assist at the event April 13. A SignUp Genius for each group is available on our website.

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



PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

KASKASKIA COLLEGE PLACEMENT TEST AT MATER DEI

English and Writing Test: April 5

Kaskaskia College will offer their English & Writing placement test at Mater Dei on April 5, during period 6 study hall for juniors planning to enroll in our English 101 or CNA courses who have not earned an ACT English score of 18 and for seniors planning to attend Kaskaskia College.

NOTE: Students must register with Mrs. Goetz and complete Kaskaskia College's free admission application (www.kaskaskia.edu/admissions) prior to completing the placement test(s).

ACT MATH TEST PREP AT MATER DEI: APRIL 6

Miss Sackett will offer an ACT math test prep session on Saturday, April 6, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The fee is only \$10. Mrs. Goetz will accept registrations and payments (cash).

NOTE: A minimum of eight students is required.

THE COLLEGE PLANNING PROCESS: APRIL 23

A Presentation for Parents of Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen

Director of College Placement Mrs. Donna Goetz will host "The College Planning Process" for parents of juniors, sophomores, and freshmen on Tuesday, April 23, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Lampe Commons.

During this event, Mrs. Goetz will provide valuable information regarding various aspects of the college planning process, including the benefits of dual credit courses and the procedures for college testing, college applications, and scholarship and financial aid applications. In addition, Mrs. Sarah Ratermann from the Kaskaskia College Financial Aid Office will present information regarding financial assistance.

For questions, contact Mrs. Donna Goetz (dgoetz@materdeiknights.org).

NACAC VIRTUAL COLLEGE FAIR: APRIL 21

NACAC is hosting a virtual national college fair on April 21. Visit the NACAC website, www.nacacattend.org/24VirtualApr21, for additional information and to register.

SENIORS: REQUEST TRANSCRIPTS VIA PARCHMENT

Final Mater Dei transcript and Kaskaskia College transcript

Seniors must order final transcripts for Mater Dei and Kaskaskia College (for dual credit courses) via their Parchment account (www.parchment.com).

In their account, students must add Mater Dei and Kaskaskia College as institutions. (The Kaskaskia College student ID will be required.) They may then place an order at any time and should indicate "hold for grades."

For questions, contact Mrs. Donna Goetz (dgoetz@materdeiknights.org).

ACT TEST DATES

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

June 8, 2024
deadline May 3, 2024

July 13, 2024
deadline June 7, 2024

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 (\$40 if ordered after the test).

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.