



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.

THANK YOU PARISH FAMILIES

During Catholic Schools Week, we especially celebrate and thank our parish families for their continued support! Your generosity truly makes a difference in the lives of our students, as it assists us in providing them with the opportunities and experiences shared below. "And may the Lord reward you for your kindness" (Ruth 1:8).

"At Mater Dei, I am able not only to continue my Catholic education, but also to be active with my faith. As a member of Mater Dei's St. Vincent de Paul Society and Teens for Life, I am able to give to others who are in need, which I enjoy. I have also enjoyed the opportunity to develop friendships with students from different areas. Mater Dei is the perfect size – not too big and not too small!"

Carley Emig, Class of 2023, St. Paul Catholic Church (Highland)

"With an environment that promotes and encourages students to achieve their best, Mater Dei is a remarkable place for academics. The faculty challenges students in their classes, and students strive to attain high goals. Mater Dei's academic environment truly values the success of students and prepares them for the next level of education."

Logan Mattson, Class of 2021, St. Boniface Catholic Church (Germantown)

"Mater Dei offers the opportunity to participate in multiple activities. Personally, I participate in both band and athletics. The band directors and coaches are very supportive and willing to "split" practices when a conflict arises. Additionally, serving as a member of multiple activities has helped me develop leadership skills, time-management skills, and a variety of friendships."

Ellen Antonacci, Class of 2021, St. Dominic Catholic Church (Breese)

"As a student who enjoys learning, I appreciate the dedication of the teachers at Mater Dei. They take the time to know their students, academically and personally, and challenge their students to push themselves. Also, the teachers are flexible when arranging a time to discuss my questions. I know I will be well prepared for the future!"

Trina Brokering, Class of 2021, St. George Catholic Church (New Baden)

"From the amazing friendships to the numerous academic opportunities, Mater Dei provided me with an incredible high school experience that was better than I ever could have imagined! Because I spent a lot of time there for school, practices, and events, Mater Dei became my home away from home, and the Mater Dei community became my second family. As a result, I never felt alone; there was always someone there for me no matter what I needed, whether it was a friend, faculty member, or coach. I also know my dream of becoming an engineering student at U of I became a reality because Mater Dei teachers challenged me to become the best version of myself. I can confidently say that even though I was sad to move on, I know Mater Dei prepared me for the next stages of my life."

**Meredith Innes, Class of 2020, St. Damian Catholic Church (Damiansville)
currently attending University of Illinois**

JOIN THE MATER DEI FAMILY

Contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene for additional information.
(mzurliene@materdeiknights.org)

Registration

February 20, 2021, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Freshman Welcome

Information will be provided in the spring.

SHADOW A KNIGHT

Join us for a day to truly experience the Mater Dei spirit!

Contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene to schedule a visit.
(mzurliene@materdeiknights.org)

TRANSPORTATION

We provide **free** transportation for students living outside the Central Community High School district: east to Salem, north to Highland, south to Mt. Vernon, and west to O'Fallon (I-64/ Air Mobility Drive).

SCHOLARSHIPS & TUITION ASSISTANCE

We are committed to ensuring that **all** students have the opportunity to attend Mater Dei, regardless of financial resources.

Scholarships and Memorial Grants

Applications for numerous scholarships and Mater Dei Memorial Grants (tuition assistance) are available following a student's registration.

Invest in Kids Illinois Tax Credit Scholarships

For the 2021-2022 school year, the application process opened January 13, 2021.

Applications for qualifying families are available on the Empower Illinois website, www.empowerillinois.org, under the "Apply" menu.

KNIGHTS LEARN

EXTENSIVE 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.

TECHNOLOGY

Bring Your Own Device Program For academic purposes, students may utilize the electronic device of their choice, as well as the school-wide Wi-Fi.

Electronic Learning When necessary, including on "snow days," students electronically attend live-streamed classes via Microsoft Teams.

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 a Mater Dei email address and a license to utilize Microsoft Office 365 products on their device(s).

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.

CLASS OF 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Average ACT Score The average of the ACT composite scores is 23.5.

ACT Composite Scores of 24 or Higher The top forty-two ACT composite scores (47%) are all 24 or higher and have an average of 27.9.

ACT Composite Scores of 27 or Higher The top twenty-five ACT composite scores (27%) are all 27 or higher and have an average of 30.

ACT Composite Scores of 30 or Higher The top eleven ACT composite scores (12%) are all 30 or higher and have an average of 32.3

Illinois State Scholars The average of the ACT composite scores for the seventeen Illinois State Scholars is 30.

Scholars The Class of 2020 included two National Merit Scholarship finalists and seventeen Illinois State Scholars (17% of those eligible).

Scholarships Seventy-three percent of the Class of 2020 received offers, which totaled \$9.8 million.

College Credit Hours Through our dual credit courses, the Class of 2020 earned 2,022 hours of college credit, which equates to an average of nineteen hours per student and a future savings of at least \$700,000.

National Honor Society (NHS) Forty-eight percent of the Class of 2020 were members of NHS, having earned a GPA of 3.6 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

KNIGHTS SERVE

LEARNING OUR FAITH

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

We welcome students of other faith traditions, who currently represent nearly 12% of our student body.

LOVING OUR FAITH

For our masses, students serve as ushers, servers, musicians, and lectors.

The Class of 2021 also includes eight catechists who serve YFF/PSR programs at local parishes and seventeen extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

LIVING OUR FAITH

Missions and Special Collections

During the 2019-2020 school year, our students, faculty, and staff donated nearly \$13,600 in support of class missions and special causes.

Service

Students provide service both as a school community and as individuals. Underclass students complete twelve hours of service each year, and seniors complete a three-week service project.

Liturgical Opportunities

Students participate in Mass and prayer both as a school community (seven Masses and daily prayer) and in their theology classes.

During Lent, we offer daily Eucharist services and a reconciliation service.

KNIGHTS LEAD

ACTIVITIES

Academic Challenge Team,
Art and Photography Club,
Bass Fishing, Book Club, Chess Club,
Chorus, Color Guard, Fall Play,
Future Business Leaders of America,
Liturgical Music Group,
Liturgical Planning Team,
National Honor Society,
Newspaper, Peer Tutors, Pep Club,
Sacred Brothers Sacred Sisters,
Scholar Bowl, Spanish Club,
Spring Musical,
St. Vincent de Paul Society,
Student Ambassadors,
Student Council, Teens for Life,
and Yearbook

Concert Band, Jazz Band,
Marching Band, Wind Ensemble,
and Indoor Percussion

ATHLETICS

Fall

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

Winter

Basketball, Bowling,
and Cheerleading

Spring

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

STUDY HALL MEETINGS

Numerous activities meet during a designated school-wide study hall, which allows students to participate in multiple activities.