

CRUSADER CONNECTION

Fall 2014

Vol. 7 No. 2

A publication dedicated to the Marian/Mater Dei Catholic High School Community

www.materdeicatholic.org



**SWIMMING WITH SHARKS:
HOW SCIENCE ACADEMY STUDENTS
ARE STUDYING GEOSPATIAL SCIENCE
THROUGH ANIMAL BEHAVIOR**

PG. 12

**OUR STUDENTS IMPACT
THE LIVES OF OTHERS
YOU CAN IMPACT THEIRS**



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The Crusader Connection is published two times per year by Mater Dei Catholic High School. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this publication. Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions and report them to Laura Bookser at:
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A special thank you to those who took the extra time to write/proof the articles.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Blessed be God!

*Joy is the infallible sign
of the presence of God.*

Teilhard de Chardin

It is a pleasure to share with you all the accomplishments of Mater Dei Catholic High School. God has gifted us with many blessings in every student and family we serve; thus we embrace with joy our mission to promote excellence in Catholic education in the Diocese of San Diego.

Mater Dei Catholic High School operates under the President/Principal model. My role as President is to:

- assure that the spirit of the Catholic faith is embodied in the educational mission;
- serve as administrative officer to the Board of Directors and the Diocese of San Diego;
- direct Advancement and oversee school finances;
- formulate and ensure compliance with policy;
- coordinate long-range planning;
- manage the hiring and dismissal of personnel; and
- prepare communications with all stakeholders.

We delight in partnering with parents, the primary educators of their children, in the task of guiding and educating our young men and women to embrace the opportunities and challenges of the 21st Century.

We dedicate this issue of the Crusader Connection to each one of you who believes in Catholic education as a powerful tool to make a difference in the world.

May the Lord give success to the work of our hands, and may our Blessed Mother guide our journey.

Blessings!

Sister Lilia M. Barba, SJS
MDCHS President

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*We provide a quality
Catholic education,
a safe and secure
environment, and a
sense of belonging.*

On behalf of the Mater Dei Catholic High School faculty, staff and administration, I send my sincerest wishes to our Crusader family. As a Marian Catholic graduate, (Class of '72), faculty member and Principal, I am truly honored and privileged to continue the Crusader tradition within a Catholic educational environment.

Mater Dei Catholic utilizes the President/Principal leadership model. As Principal, I have the distinct role in leading and closely working with the Mater Dei Catholic community in the day-to-day operations. Our chief focus is providing a quality Catholic education while meeting the needs of our students, parents, faculty and staff.

It is our goal and responsibility to create a successful and challenging environment which provides excellent programs and opportunities for our students, secure faculty and staff dedicated to their discipline and expertise, in addition to fostering the Faith and allowing for open channels of communication for all.

We have been blessed in so many ways at Mater Dei Catholic. As always, I look forward to this upcoming school year and thank you for giving Mater Dei the opportunity to assist you with your son's or daughter's development educationally, spiritually, athletically and socially.

Yours in Catholic education,
George Milke
Principal



MATER DEI AROUND THE GLOBE

Far From Home: This Year's International Students on Campus Hail from China, Brazil, Vietnam, and Lithuania

The average high school student gets up every day to go to school, does on-campus activities, has homework, needs to keep their room clean, and wants to spend time with friends. Our international students have very much the same list of things to do, except they do it far from home, in a foreign environment, and with a host family that is very different from their own.

We are very proud of the tradition of having students from other countries study on the Mater Dei campus each year. Here are the students who arrived in Fall 2014. If you see them, please say hello and greet them. They are wonderful representatives of their home countries.

WELCOME TO OUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Top Row (L-R):

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Jiahu Hu (China) | 8. Isabella Raucci Facchini (Brazil) |
| 2. Stella Guan (China) | 9. Natalia Mari Nakamura (Brazil) |
| 3. Ruimali Zhu (China) | 10. Vitoria Krawczenko Mello (Brazil) |
| 4. Leyi "Solei" Song (China) | 11. Gabriela Rossato Defino (Brazil) |
| 5. Yixuan Liu (China) | 12. Giulia Gomés de Souza (Brazil) |
| 6. Maria Helena Guimaraes Fontes (Brazil) | 13. Jasmine Ho (Vietnam) |
| 7. Victoria Nahssen Corradini (Brazil) | 14. Yang "Bessie" Yang (China) |
| | 15. Kitty Yu (China) |

Bottom Row (L-R):

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 16. Juehao "Dylan" Lin (China) | 21. Zongyu "Eddie" Huang (China) |
| 17. Ruixi "William" Chen (China) | 22. Adomas Aleksandravici (Lithuania) |
| 18. Qineng "Tim" Zeng (China) | 23. Julio César Goncalves (Brazil) |
| 19. Ye Yijiang (China) | 24. Quyang "Jack" Zhao (China) |
| 20. Mr. Roy Vasquez (Mater Dei's Director of Admissions) | 25. Matheus Parra Manso (Brazil) |

*Not pictured: Jinxin Bai, and Billy Huang

GOING GREEN: HOW TECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING THE CLASSROOM AT MATER DEI



“Technology changes so quickly that we have to continually adjust what we offer to provide our students with state-of-the-art tools to make their learning dynamic.”

Bradford Bookser, Technology Director

Entering the computer lab in the Juan Diego Building, you’ll find a wall full of colorful computer-generated art by students in teacher Jessica Austin’s Graphic Arts class. Much of the work is complex and sophisticated, appearing professionally done.

“The students use these iMacs to do visual arts and media projects.” Bradford Bookser, Technology Director, shows off rows of 21.5-inch, large screen computers. “All students

learn how to use both Macs and PC computers while they’re here. These days it’s likely they’ll need both when they go out in the working world.”

Careers in technology are the fastest growing segment of the job market, and openings in skilled areas take twice as long to fill in the United States than in any other occupation. The administration at Mater Dei knows that technology in education is the key to closing that gap.



While many schools are deciding whether to buy every student a digital device in One-to-One programs or to have students use their own devices under BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), Mater Dei is being strategic in their technological approach. “Each year we look at the constantly changing technology to stay current as we prepare our students for college and the working world,” Mr. Bookser says.

The technology currently provided on Mater Dei’s campus consists of:

- Two Computer labs with 50 PC computers for student use
- A dedicated Mac lab with 25 large screen iMac computers

- A computer lab in the library with 15 PC computers
- Three mobile iPad labs with 30 tablets each for project or classroom use
- A portable laptop cart with 30 laptops
- A resource center with 10 all-in-one, touch-screen PC devices
- A desktop or laptop computer and an iPad tablet for every Mater Dei staff and faculty member

Mater Dei is also a Microsoft Office 365 school, which means that included in tuition students have access to Microsoft Office software: Word, Access, Excel, Lync, OneNote, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Publisher.

“Our AP student scores are nearly 15% above both the State average, and almost 18% above the Global average,” Assistant Principal/Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Frank Stingo, said. “We are continually working hard to give our students what they need to grow.”

Mr. Bookser and Mr. Stingo are both trained Microsoft Certified Educators. They consistently work to provide Mater Dei teachers with the tools and training that will allow them to successfully use technology in the classroom. “The foundation of our educational system is having skilled teachers leading the classes. One big focus we have is making sure our teachers keep up-to-date with the latest technological trends.”

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

In the next few years, it is likely that laptops or a device with a keyboard, will be used daily by every high school student at Mater Dei in place of many of the traditional textbooks. This computer will serve as the books and notebooks for most classes.

In this vein, the school’s long-term goal is to create an eco-friendly environment to make Mater Dei a “greener” campus.

In addition, students will not just see these changes occur; they will be a part of the process. Having students work on hands-on-projects that allow them to learn new content through real-world experience is one of the things that the Mater Dei teachers and administrators want to continue to develop. It has been documented that learners only remember 15 to 20% of what they hear in a lecture, but retain up to 80% when they work with both their minds and their hands.

“As far as technology goes,” Mr. Bookser adds, “we’ll continue to do whatever we need to make sure our students succeed. That may require something different from year to year, but the only important thing is that the goal is met.”

Want to find out more, or ask a question about technology on Mater Dei’s campus? Technology Director, Bradford Bookser, would be happy to answer your questions at bbookser@materdeicatholic.org.

TEACHER PROFILE



ART TEACHER: DAWN ADAMS

“I love working with the students. I get paid to get dirty and teach people how to create beautiful things. What could be better than that?”

Art teacher, Dawn Adams, was born in Washington, D.C., but raised in Montana. Her love of art started in elementary school when she went to the Western Heritage Cultural Center, in Billings, MT, for the first time.

“The art and textiles of the Native Americans fascinated me,” she recalls of the center, which is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution.

Native American pottery is an art form with at least a 7500 year history in the Americas. Pottery is a form of clay that has been heated to create a ceramic item. Not surprisingly, ceramics is the specialty Mrs. Adams teaches at Mater Dei.

What may surprise her students, however, is that Mrs. Adams nearly became a doctor. In fact, she went to college with that intention.

“I originally wanted to practice medicine and become a pediatrician. I was studying at Montana State University, but it didn’t take me long to

figure out being a pediatrician meant I’d be treating some kids who would be sick and dying. That was more than I could’ve handled. Those kids and parents would’ve needed someone stronger than me for that.”

With her vibrant personality and passion for her work, Mrs. Adams seems suited to be an art teacher. In the classroom, she is strong and confident as she walks from table to table guiding her students and encouraging them. She plays music during class to help their creativity flow.

In the course of the year she will watch students fill the rows of shelving that line her large classroom.

When asked whether she makes her own art at home, she speaks about her family, husband, Travis, and two children, Aidan and Olivia. Olivia is a freshman this year at Mater Dei.

“While my children are still at home, time for my own art is limited. When they are grown, I’ll have time to focus on it more. For right now I just get excited to teach.”





JOY: THIS YEAR'S THEME OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

“Often in the liturgy we hear an invitation to rejoice, to be happy. Why? Because the Lord is near.” Pope Francis spoke to the faithful gathered in St. Peter’s Square on the third Sunday of Advent.

“Last year a student expressed to me the desire to have more joyfulness when sharing the word of God during our ministry.” Campus Minister Chris Schnitzius said in a speech to faculty and staff this August, “It made me really pause for a moment. I had to reflect on whether we were being joyful enough when sharing our message.”

As he reflected, he realized there couldn’t be a more important theme for the 2014/2015 school year than “joy”. This year if you see students wearing

black tee shirts emblazoned with the scripture “The Joy of The Lord is Your Strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10), they are likely campus ministers representing their commitment to this message.

“The Christian message is called “gospel,” that is “glad tidings,” an announcement of joy for the whole people. The Church is not a refuge for sad people, the Church is a house of joy!” Pope Francis

“Christian joy is not like having fun, which is good,” Pope Francis explained. “If we want to have fun all the time, in the end it becomes shallow, superficial, and also leads us to that state where we lack Christian wisdom.”

The “joy” you will see this year on Mater Dei’s campus will be one with a strong spiritual focus on a life in Christ. In the first retreat of the year, this August, incoming juniors were trained to be sacristans and learned about the Mass. Incoming seniors reviewed their retreat training and prepared to run the freshmen orientation.

Just as Jesus’ disciples were asked to go out and spread the Good News that Jesus taught them, student ministers are asked to do the same. They must have the strength to go out and share the joy of God’s love, which is not always an easy thing to do. Campus ministry students are living witnesses of their faith. They are always ready to lend a hand to those in need, with love, rather than judgment.



ACADEMIC HONORS

First Honors - Grade Point Average of 3.8 and above

AP Scholar Awards:

- * AP Scholar
Scored 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams
- † AP Scholar with Honor:
Averaged at least 3.25 on all AP Exams
- ‡ AP Scholar With Distinction
Averaged at least 3.5 on all AP Exams

SENIORS

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Jennifer Collins‡ | Ya Ling | Cara Parrella* | Joyce Anne Samson‡ |
| Christopher Conner‡ | Rosa Lopez | Samuel Rieta* | Dayan Tassinari |
| Diego Davila‡ | Fernanda Lopez-Tolsa- | Yoav Rosenberg† | Julia Thackrey |
| Alexia De Loera* | Valenzuela† | Nikka Roanne Salazar | Christian Valdez† |
| Brianne Go | Sergio Medina | Secilia Salem* | Brandon Zora |

JUNIORS

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Immran Arnautovic Hochi | Alonso Garcia Ballesteros | Dominique Lozano | Ivanna Quiceno* |
| Christopher Braden | Mary Rose Gonzales | Nicole Madrazo | Karina Quiroz |
| Amylene Cabrera | Luis Gonzalez-Flores | Brandon Mamou | James Ricketts |
| Michael Cain* | Madelyn Healy | Estefania Martinez | Sally Russell |
| Monica Cooper | Phuong(Jasmine) Ho | Michelle Miranda | Esteban San Roman |
| Estefania Corona | Margaret Holscher | Fabian Navarro | Kristine Joy Sellona* |
| Franco Faucher | Mallory Huston | Patricia-Anne Oquendo | Susan Shoemaker† |
| Luis Foglio | Matthew Ireland | Hannah Otte | Andrea Stonehouse |
| Jose Garcia | Trent Lilley* | Cintia Quan Kiu Kuang | Alfonso Valencia |
| | | | Yang(Bessie) Yang |

SOPHOMORES

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Carlos Alcocer | Diana De La Toba | Ana Paola Mata Zetina | Eric Rodriguez |
| Anamaria Ancheta | Alejandra Felix Campos | Matthew Sam Mejia | Kayla San Pedro |
| Elia Astiazaran | Madeline Friedrich | Maxwell Montes | Margarita Sanz |
| Danielle Jessica Bongulto | Maria Galvez | Kiersten Morales | Stephanie Schaffer |
| Steven Bradley | Maribel Garcia | Mario Pena | Alexandra Scott |
| Jordan Brasfield | Daniela Guerra | Rica Isabelle Perez | Marina Taitano |
| Nicholas Caruana | Jeffrey Jovellano | Fausto Polanco | Olimpia Veytia |
| Joseph Chiappe | Lauren Maalouf | Gabriela Quevedo | Ana Vildosola |
| Valeria Corral | Mary Machniak | Fernanda Rebollar | Tristan Wesson |

FRESHMEN

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Ana Alcantar | Emilly Contreras | Paola Garcia-Carrera | Fernanda Lutteroth |
| Ana Astiazaran | David Cooper | Javier Gomez | Claire McNamara |
| Mary Bailey | Sergio Cuadra | Brighid Healy | Roy Emmanuel Medina |
| Hazel Barajas | Tayra Curumilla | Amorette Hernandez | Malia Noble |
| Ezekiel Campos | Myles Domingo | Chelsie Hernandez | Ashlyn O'Hara |
| Eduardo Charvel | Jorge Escasan | Jenna Kruse | Madelyn Tassiello |
| Bethany Colgrove | Cassandra Esparza | Kevin Li Zhang | Sergio Villafranco |
| | | | Juan Pablo Villegas |



Cast (top row L-R): Phillip Cuesta, Kazi Baker, Carlos Landeros, Allison Malunes, Mallory Huston, Madeline Friedrich, Daisy Powell, Carlos Cortés, Karina Curumilla, Kirsten Galon, Sara Litke. (Center L-R) Alexandra Rodarte, Martina López, Cassie Esparza, Andrew Almazan

SPRING '14 PRODUCTION: DIVIDING THE ESTATE

Considered to be one of Broadway's best, Horton Foote's production, *Dividing the Estate*, has managed to awe audiences worldwide. Nominated for a Tony Award in 2009, it tells the story of the Gordons, a wealthy family in Texas that are struggling with their finances.

Headed by Mrs. Rebecca Brown, this student production was staged at Mater Dei's Kassebaum Theatre on April 4-5, 2014.

The plot takes place in the fictitious town of Harrison, Texas where the Gordons have been established for well over a century. The audience is taken through the hardships that the family is facing. After the death of their oldest family member, Stella, the family loses grasp on their assets and find themselves facing bankruptcy. Fortunately for the Gordons, Son manages to bring order back to his struggling family and manages to restore some of their financial power.



Intermission entertainment :
Chris Braden, Amy Cabrera, Marcello Samartano

Thanks to the incredible cooperation in the Mater Dei community and to its flawless facilities, students produced a successful show enjoyed by all.



FALL PRODUCTION

The Drama Club is currently preparing for their next play, *Beyond the Fourth Wall*-written and directed by Student Playwright, Margaret "Maggie" Holscher.

The production will be shown on October 17-18, 2014.

Hope to see you there!

FACULTY AND STAFF ALUMNI

We have a dedicated team of faculty and staff, but none more committed than former Marian Catholic alumni who continue showing their Crusader pride by working for Mater Dei today. In addition to Principal George Milke, we have nine such faculty/staff on campus that we want to acknowledge for their loyalty, as well as the spouse of one alumni. Go Crusaders!



Karen Chudy '68



Sherry Kelleher '69



Peter Wraith '73 -
Married to Tricia (Wahlroos) Wraith '73



Rocio (Gonzalez) Hodges '81



Monica (Gonzalez) Alvarez '83



Greg Smyth '89



Karen Nerat '89



Domonic Cruz '98
Married to Monique (Leon) Cruz '98



Erin (Day) Link '01

HONORABLE MENTION:



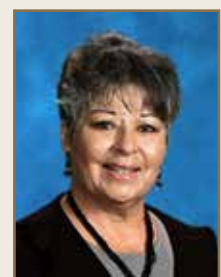
Terri Day - Married to Gordon Day '74



PAT MCGREGOR

*Congratulations
on your Retirement*

*Thank you
for your service to
Marian/Mater Dei*

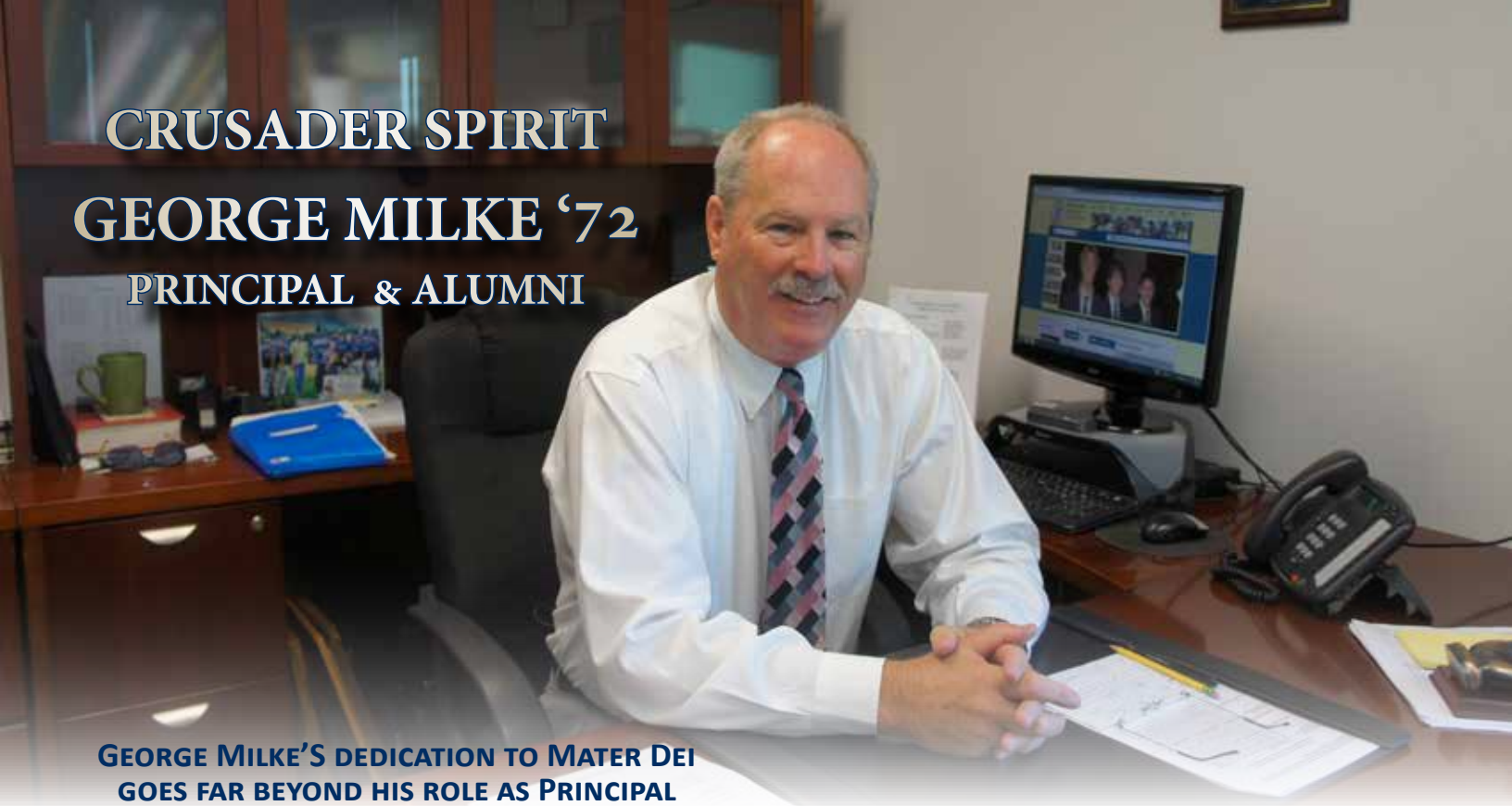


SYLVIA TORREZ

CRUSADER SPIRIT

GEORGE MILKE '72

PRINCIPAL & ALUMNI



GEORGE MILKE'S DEDICATION TO MATER DEI GOES FAR BEYOND HIS ROLE AS PRINCIPAL

"I've been a Crusader for 35 years. I was class of '72 at Marian High. I met my lovely wife, Jeanine, in high school, (Marian, class of '73), and both of our sons, Scott and Matt, were Crusaders. In fact, my youngest son, Matt, went to Marian for three years but completed his senior year and graduated on the new Mater Dei campus in 2008."

An imposing figure at 6'5" tall, Mr. Milke's demeanor is usually one of being a no-nonsense leader, but his leadership style comes from the fact that he doesn't just see Mater Dei as a school.

"It's my family," he says with a chuckle and a shrug. "It's always been a part of my life. I've had opportunities to leave and move on to do other things, but I feel like this is my vocation. The good Lord has kept me here at this wonderful place, and it is an honor and a privilege."

Mr. Milke's job as Principal is not an easy one. With over 700 students enrolled, and nearly 100% of students accepted to college after graduation, his standards are high, and his expectations for himself, for the faculty, and for the students are even higher.

"We are small enough that we have many faculty and staff looking out for each student. Wherever they want to be in four years, we can help them get there, no matter how big the goal."

"Our students can't skate by like they might in other schools. We have support for them, even support for their parents, so that every student who comes through our doors can think about and reach goals for themselves that they might not have had before."

Mr. Milke was an athlete while at Marian, playing baseball, football and basketball. Today he is just as proud of how many sports teams can be found on Mater Dei's campus. There are twenty sports and cheer teams at the school, that perform at the highest levels of local, regional, and state contests. He can be found, all year long, on the field, in the theater, or in the bleachers, watching and lending his support.

The school also has top-tier athletic facilities, and is one of the few high schools in the area with a dedicated pool

for swim and water polo, as well as for use by Mater Dei's Science Academy, for experiments and events such as their Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta.



"What makes this school special is that we provide a quality Catholic education, a safe and secure environment, a sense of belonging. Our motto is that Mater Dei is "A Place for Everyone". We are here for support and for encouragement and we do that on a personal level. It's not just the coaches, it's not just the teachers, or the counselors, or even the administration. It is a team effort, and that makes me very, very proud."

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AT MATER DEI LEARNING THROUGH REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE



ACADEMY OF SCIENCE STUDENTS STUDY GEOSPATIAL SCIENCE THROUGH ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

It is nine o'clock on an overcast September morning and seventeen Mater Dei Science Academy students stand in snorkel gear, perched on the edge of the ocean. They listen intently to their instructor who is talking to them about their safety before they dive into an area known for shark activity.

Director, Dr. Suzanne Till, is suited up beside them. "If they're a Science Academy student, they'll be in the water," she says. "In this area it is vital that they study this way, especially living in San Diego, where many new jobs will involve ocean and water science and technologies."

The sun is sporadically peeking out from behind the clouds, offering the hope that underwater visibility will be good as they dive in, ready to hunt.

"We're tracking leopard sharks," says student, Andrea Stonehouse. "How they travel and their environment."

"Because it's hurricane season in other places," adds student, Sebastian Rice, "the sharks travel to find coves where the water is calm and warm and they use it as a sanctuary."

The students from Mater Dei Academy of Science are well spoken and eager to talk about their scientific research. They are passionate about their studies, as is Dr.

Till, who has developed a program unlike any other in San Diego County. It is rare to find a high school that offers students unparalleled opportunities to swim with leopard sharks, learn biogeochemistry involved in setting up a habitat for homeless octopi, and about the complex mathematics and astronomy that sailors used to navigate around the world in the 1700s, all while learning to perform well in rigorous academic testing.

"Project-based learning (PBL) is great," Till says. "Obviously, we do a lot of hands-on research. Besides PBL, the academic testing and scientific writing we teach allow our students to advance in college and in a career in science."

Leopard sharks are native to the Pacific Coast of North America. Each year they migrate thousands of miles between the Oregon coast and Southern California. It is still a mystery why they migrate, and are studied by the Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

Geospatial Science: Students are learning how different species migrate hundreds and thousands of miles, and how they navigate. Students also learn how humans navigate by learning the mathematics and geometry of location, and geospatial technologies utilized for navigation such as GPS.

RENOWNED SCIENTIST INSPIRES STUDENTS

Dr. Guillermo Calero, a molecular biologist and assistant professor with the Department of Structural Biology at the University of Pittsburgh, spoke with Mater Dei's Science Academy students on August 19th, on his way to guest lecture at Stanford.

A huge part of the biochemistry world is to understand the structures (mostly proteins) that exist in living organisms, and how they work. A protein crystallographer in the field of Structural Biology, Dr. Calero spoke to the students about RNA Polymerase, the protein that decodes DNA to messenger RNA, (mRNA). The lecture was eye opening to the Science Academy students, who realized how dedicated they would need to be to advance in the field of science.

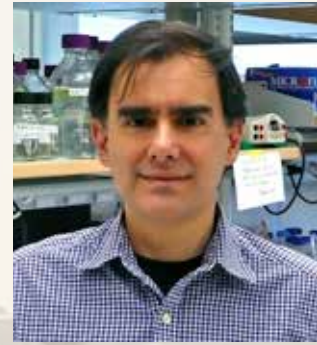


Photo: University of Pittsburgh

"My next goal is to take what Dr. Calero spoke about and put it into context for our students." Science Academy teacher, Christine Melton said. "Now that they understand organelles they can begin to understand how they make proteins."

Dr. Calero did an excellent job of talking to the students about where to start in the field of science research, and how to get a foot in the door at a laboratory. The students left the lecture class excited to talk about internships in their fields of interest.

BLUE STEM

"The Science Academy focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, but," Dr. Till says, "I feel we have a special niche in what we call Blue STEM. I would define Blue STEM education as sustainable science-based ocean and water curriculum through project based learning."

Academy students partner with businesses and organizations in the county, giving them the opportunity to work with groups like the University of San Diego Department of Environmental and Ocean Sciences, the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute, the National Weather Service, San Diego Maritime Museum, Chula Vista Living Coast Discovery Center, and San Diego State's Coastal Marine Institute and Center for Earth Systems and Analysis Research. The goal of these partnerships is to teach science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), while fostering a culture of innovation based on leadership, social justice and serving our global community.

Last year through a partnership with the SDSU Coastal Marine Institute and

the Chula Vista Living Coast Discovery Center, MDCHS Science Academy student interns worked with aquaculture experts to set up a tank to create a kelp forest for a lone Giant Pacific Octopus who needed a home. The tank (and octopus) can currently be seen at the Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive, Chula Vista, CA 91910.

Students who want to be a part of Mater Dei's Academy of Science have to earn their spot. Freshmen must receive a B or above in both of their first semester math and science classes at Mater Dei, must have completed Algebra 1, and need to have a minimum 3.0 GPA.

"We have the resources and opportunities to give students the best science-based education they can get in the region. They study Newtonian Physics and aeronautical engineering by learning how a sail works. They learn about buoyancy and boat design through our annual Cardboard Boat Race Competition. They operate an aquaculture fisheries system through "the Sea Bass in the Classroom" program. They



are now building a weather station, and using geospatial technologies to better understand climate change and the El Nino Phenomena. They do media technology and science filmmaking. No one else does Blue STEM at the level we do."

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS



SOFTBALL CONGRATULATIONS, LADY CRUSADERS!

When speaking about champions, Mater Dei's Lady Crusaders Softball team leads the pack. Even with a move from Division IV to Division II, the team clinched the title again this year.

With five CIF championship titles in five straight years, not many schools in San Diego can boast such a record, especially with a group of athletes that can be called champions not just on the field, but off as well.

Their Honorary Player Program has made news recently for allowing girls with physical limitations, who might not otherwise be able to play, to be honorary members of Mater Dei's softball team. Coach Mike Centrullo started the program with the hope that a child could have a new experience and that players on the team would learn that being a champion is something that goes beyond athletics.

BOYS BASKETBALL

MATER DEI FINDS ITSELF WITH A FRESH, NEW TEAM WITH MOST OF LAST YEAR'S STARTERS NOW AT COLLEGE

Reigning Division II champs, the Mater Dei Crusader Boys Basketball team put up well over 1600 points last season. Thanks to a team that exemplified what it means to be successful, under the dynamic leadership of coach, Kenny Caesar.

This year, the only remaining starting player is Jaylen Hands, who was one of last year's best players.

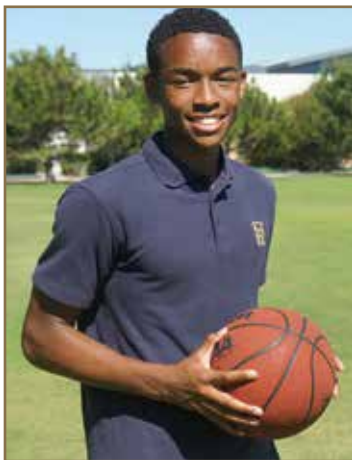
Despite being the team's youngest starter, he is positive that this

year's team is just as good. "A lot of people will doubt us because we are so young, but we are going to prove them wrong."

If anyone would know about overcoming skepticism it would be Mr. Hands himself who, as last year's freshman prodigy, has shown that age isn't always an indicator of talent. Already training and bonding as a team, before their season has even started, this year's players are eager to get on the court and earn their place in the league.



Last year's star players now at college (Back row L-R): Philip Labuguen, Sebastian Kelley, Israel Seales, Spencer Vering, Jonathan Dutra. (Center L-R): Robert Harris, Iman Chatman.



JAYLEN HANDS: MATER DEI'S POINT GUARD

Jaylen Hands started playing basketball at the age of two. "My dad was a great basketball player and taught me to play when I was really little."

His father created a youth basketball team, a traveling league that Jaylen played with for several years. Later, he would make his way into the San Diego Ballers, a local youth basketball club. Yet his love for the sport doesn't distract him from having other goals. "I'm known for

being on the court, but I'm also getting a good education. That's important because I'd like to study business when I go to college. Even though my dream is to play in the NBA, I like the idea of having a business too."

Jaylen stresses that he wants to be known for more than basketball. "I don't want to take for granted what I have here at Mater Dei. I'm learning a lot and know it will help me in the future and when I get to college."



Congratulations to the Class of 2014



GRAD PROFILES '14

Each year we ask our graduating seniors to give us feedback as to how their time at Mater Dei has prepared them for moving on to college and to becoming independent adults. We've chosen the insights of 17 diverse graduates to share with you.

Alonso Alzua

Pennsylvania State University



Alonso came to MDCHS from Colegio Reina Isabel in Tijuana. He is currently a freshman at Penn State, majoring in both Petroleum Engineering, and Energy Business and Finance. An excellent student and athlete, he received multiple scholarships, including a Commonwealth Scholarship, and a Housing Award from Penn State.

Alonso showed his commitment to success while he was on campus. A popular athlete, he played varsity sports, including Football, Wrestling and Track and Field. He also helped with fund raisers and blanket drives, and was Homecoming King in his senior year.

"Mater Dei has shaped me into a well-rounded individual. This school has inspired me to become somebody who will go out and change the world. I plan to do a double major in college, and when I graduate as an Energy Engineer I know I will be able to contribute to the world."

Secilia Salem

University of California, San Diego



Secilia was a student at Santa Sophia Academy in Spring Valley before MDCHS. She was the Commencement Valdedictorian. She is attending UCSD, where she is studying Physiology and Neuroscience. "Mater Dei provides the perfect foundation to form yourself as a well-rounded and cultured individual. I am truly blessed to have spent my four years here and I encourage any person who seeks self-improvement and achievement to attend."

Secilia was awarded the Soroptimist Violet Richardson Award, which honors girls who are making a difference through volunteer service, the Salute to Education Scholarship awarded through San Diego County Ford Dealers, and a Veterans of Foreign Wars Scholarship.

Secilia was a member of the Science Academy, Campus Ministry, Ambassadors for Christ, NHS, CFS, was Vice President of the ASB, served with the Pro-Life Club, as well as assisted with her own organization, the San Diego Iraqi Refugee Assistance Program.

Joyce Samson

University of California, Los Angeles



Joyce was a student at St. Michael's Academy in San Diego before MDCHS. At graduation she was a Commencement Co-Salutatorian. Now a freshman at UCLA, she received multiple scholarships, choosing to use the academic scholarship from UCLA, and the San Diego Foundation Qualcomm scholarship she received.

Joyce was the editor-in-chief for Mater Dei's award-winning yearbook. She was the founder and president of the Book Club, Treasurer for the Science Academy, a software engineer for the Robotics Club, an Ambassador for Christ, captain of the Academic League, and a member of both the CFS, and the NHS.

"Mater Dei, mother of God, raised me in Christ, in the womb of a beautiful campus. I am now ready to move on to do a Chemistry major at UCLA, with a minor in English. I want to focus on science research and science writing, ultimately having a career doing Biomedical Chemistry Research."

Samuel Rieta

Texas A&M University



Samuel came to Mater Dei from St. Didacus Parish School. He is now a freshman at Texas A&M University at Galveston.

"My goal is to become an archaeologist with focus on the ocean. I'd love to work and travel around the world."

He received an honor scholarship to Texas A&M, and an Italian Catholic Federation scholarship. He will be starting Maritime Studies with a focus on Nautical Archaeology, and a minor in Diving. An avid swimmer, Samuel did four years of Varsity Swim for Mater Dei, where he served as Swim Captain.

He also did three years of Varsity Water Polo, served on the Yearbook Committee, worked with the Campus Ministry and the Ambassadors for Christ, and was a member of the Asian Pacific Islander Club, the NHS, and the CFS.

GRAD PROFILES '14

Brianne Go

University of California, San Diego



Brianne came to Mater Dei from Holy Family School in San Diego. Currently she is a freshman studying Biology at the University of California, San Diego.

“Mater Dei has truly shaped me into the person that I am today. These four years have provided me with many opportunities to grow. I have the goal of becoming a Forensic Scientist and I know I can achieve that goal.”

While at Mater Dei, Brianne participated in NHS, the CFS, Varsity Girls Volleyball as both Captain and Libero, Asian Pacific Islander Club (APIC), Choir, WASC, Campus Ministry, as well as both Yearbook and ASB during her junior and senior year.

“Thanks to my time at Mater Dei, I’ve become a person I am proud of. It has also blessed me with many people and memories that I will forever hold in my heart.”

Matthew Habana

University of California, Irvine



Matthew came from St. Michael’s Academy in San Diego to Mater Dei. He is currently a freshman at the University of California, Irvine, where he received a scholarship. He is studying Biology and minoring in Psychology.

Matthew was the President of the ASB, a member of the Asian Pacific-Islander Club, sang in the school Choir, played Boy’s Volleyball, as well as worked with Mater Dei TV (MDTV), WASC, Campus Ministry,

Ambassadors for Christ, NHS, and CFS.

“I want to have a career that involves understanding and helping people’s minds and thoughts. Mater Dei gave me the tools I needed to have a great high school experience. Amidst all the serenity and chaos, I was able to begin my lifelong journey of discovering myself. Thanks, Mater Dei.”

Cara Parrella

George Washington University



Cara went to our Lady of Grace, in El Cajon, before Mater Dei. Cara had her choice of multiple scholarships: the USD Dean’s and Trustee Scholarships, and American University’s Presidential Scholarship, but ultimately she chose the George Washington University (GWU) Presidential Scholarship. She is now a freshman at The Elliott School of International Affairs at GWU. Her goal is to become a US Foreign Service officer serving abroad.

An excellent and active student at Mater Dei, Cara participated in Volleyball, Varsity Golf, NHS, the CFS, Campus Ministry, Ambassadors For Christ, the Pro-Life Club, and the Yearbook.

“Mater Dei provided me with constructive opportunities to positively change my life. The symbiotic relationship we had involved a continuous exchange of dedication, love, and hard work. I will forever be grateful to God for blessing me with the treasure of Mater Dei Catholic.”

Gerardo Pedroza

San Diego State University



Gerardo attended La Mesa Middle School before arriving at MDCHS. He was a dedicated Varsity Soccer player for all four years, he participated in Campus Ministry during his junior and senior year, and he was a member of the CFS.

This year he is attending San Diego State University, as a part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). EOP is an admissions program that follows accepted students throughout their undergraduate education to assist them in succeeding in receiving their college degrees.

“I am majoring in Kinesiology at San Diego State. My goal is to one day become a sports physician.”

GRAD PROFILES '14

Lindsey Finch

Franciscan University



Lindsey was a student at St. Kieran Catholic School in El Cajon before coming to Mater Dei. She is now attending Franciscan University of Steubenville, where she received an academic scholarship and is working toward a double major in Business Management and Theology.

"Mater Dei has given me many opportunities to grow in my faith and find myself as a person," Lindsey said. "My teachers and fellow classmates have inspired

me to be the best I can be, to follow my dreams, and to never give up! After I receive my education, I would love to become a mom and have children, as well as continue the tradition of working for my family's business."

An athlete and scholar, Lindsey took advantage of the many opportunities she had here on campus. She played many Varsity sports (Softball, Volleyball, Golf, Soccer, and Water Polo), and participated with the Campus Ministry, Ambassadors for Christ, NHS, and CFS.

Brandon Zora

San Diego State University



Brandon attended St. Pius X in Chula Vista before coming to Mater Dei. He is currently a freshman at San Diego State University where he's doing a double major of Accounting and Statistics with Actuarial Science.

"I plan on getting my education to become a CPA and an actuary one day. With these two, I hope to become a CFO for a company."

An athlete and a scholar, Brandon played Basketball, Volleyball, did Track and Field, worked on the Yearbook, did Campus Ministry, and participated in both the NHS and the CFS while a student at Mater Dei.

"I am very happy to have been in such a close family here at Mater Dei. It truly shaped me into a well-rounded student. Here I picked up the values of faith and honesty that I will hold on to for the rest of my life."

Jennifer Collins

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



Jennifer went to our Lady of Grace, in El Cajon, before becoming a student at Mater Dei. At graduation she was a Commencement Co-Salutatorian. She is currently attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), in New York, America's oldest technological research university, where she received both a Presidential Scholarship of \$20,000 per year, and a Leadership Scholarship of \$12,000 per year.

Jennifer is planning on doing a challenging double major of Nuclear Engineering and Physics. She hopes to become a U.S. Navy officer and work as a nuclear physicist for the military. While at Mater Dei she was committed to being involved, participating with the Campus Ministry, Ambassadors for Christ, NHS, CFS, as well as Varsity Cross-Country, and Varsity Track Field.

"Mater Dei has become the best choice I have ever made, because it shaped me into a strong, religious person who loves myself, others, and God. I love everyone I met here and appreciate the opportunities Mater Dei has offered me."

Alexia de Loera

University of San Diego



Alexia attended Sacred Heart Parish School in Coronado before coming to Mater Dei. She is attending the University of San Diego this year, thanks to a scholarship from the ALSAM Foundation, and a grant from USD. She will be studying Chemistry with the plan of one day becoming a Scientific Researcher for a university.

"Mater Dei has helped me to become the young woman I am today. It provided me with countless opportunities and experiences, as well as friendships I will never forget. Thank you Mater Dei."

Alexia was an extremely active student on campus. Her extracurricular activities included Varsity Volleyball, Varsity Golf, NHS and the CFS, Campus Ministry, Ambassadors For Christ, ASB, Senior Class Vice President, Pro-Life Club, Yearbook, And The Science Academy.

Christopher Conner

University of Pennsylvania



Christopher came from Eastlake Middle School in Chula Vista. He is currently attending the University of Pennsylvania, where he will be studying Mathematical Economics.

Christopher wants to become an Economist after graduating from college. An active member of ASB starting in sophomore year, Christopher was the Executive Secretary his senior year at MDCHS. He was also president of the Ecology Club and was a member of the NHS

and the CFS. "Mater Dei was a great experience. I made a lot of friends, was really challenged academically, and overall just had a good time."

Yoav Rosenberg

California Polytechnic State University



Yoav was a student at Instituto Cumbres de Tijuana before coming to MDCHS. He was awarded Presidential Scholarship for Embry Riddle, but ultimately decided to become a student at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo where he is currently studying Aerospace Engineering.

Yoav was in Swimming from 9th to 12th grades and played Water Polo for two years, was a member

of the Robotics Club, and participated in both NHS and CFS. "I am grateful to Mater Dei for giving me the opportunity to study and do everything I want to do. My goal is to become an engineer for Lockheed Martin or Northrop Grumman. I will always remember MDCHS as the place where I grew and became myself."

Julia Thackrey

University of California, Berkeley



Julia Thackrey attended All Hallows Academy, in La Jolla before coming to Mater Dei. She is currently a freshman at the University of California, Berkeley where she plans on studying Molecular and Cell Biology with an emphasis on Immunology and Pathogenesis.

Julia received a scholarship for full tuition and housing to UC Berkeley and was awarded a Theo and Evelyn Yakel Scholarship, and a special RESDC Community Service Award. While a student at Mater Dei, She was involved in Varsity Cheer, Track And Field, was

Christian Valdez

University of California, Los Angeles



Christian went to Our Lady's School in San Diego before coming to Mater Dei. This year he is attending UCLA and will be majoring in Psychology.

"Mater Dei has allowed me to improve myself academically, spiritually and athletically. After my four years here I believe I've come out the best, most well-rounded student I could be. I plan on becoming a psychiatrist and using my degree to help the community."

Christian was active on campus during his time at Mater Dei participating in Soccer, French Club, NHS, Book Club, Ecology Club, and the CFS.

Fernanda López-Tolsa Valenzuela

University of San Diego

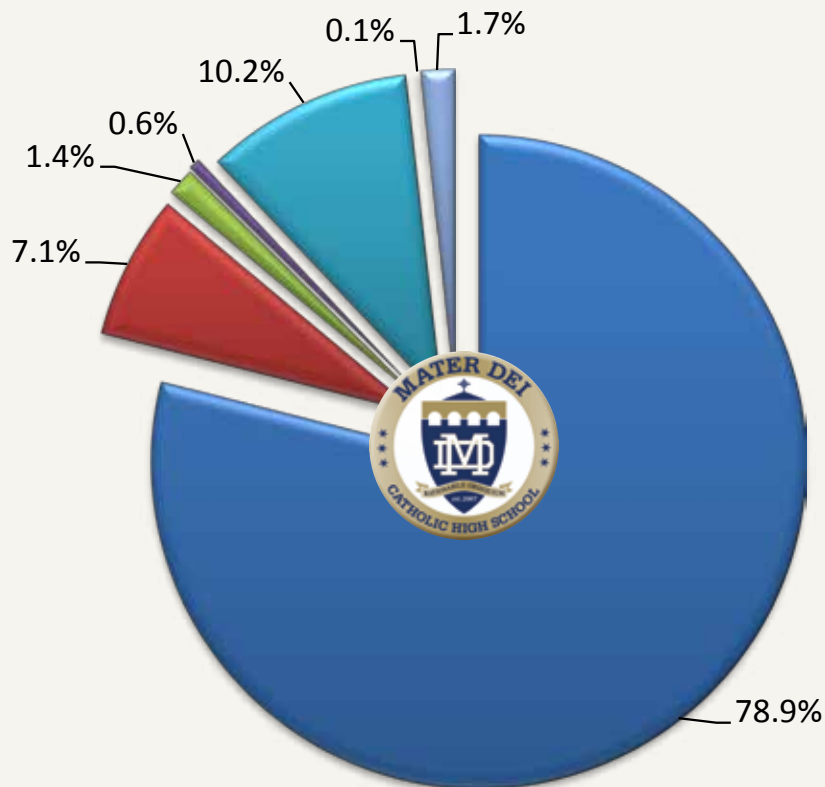


Fernanda came to MDCHS from Colegio Reina Isabel in Tijuana. She is continuing her education at the University of San Diego, where she received a Presidential Scholarship, to study Political Science and International Relations. At Mater Dei, she was a Campus Minister, a member of NHS and CFS, and was the President of the French Club.

"Mater Dei has helped me to discover who I am and what my purpose in life is. I will be going to Paris to perfect my speaking skills this year. My goal is to become a lawyer and one day a United Nations delegate. By relying on Christ, I've become the best student and person I can be. I thank Mater Dei for giving me the strength to be myself."

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REVENUE

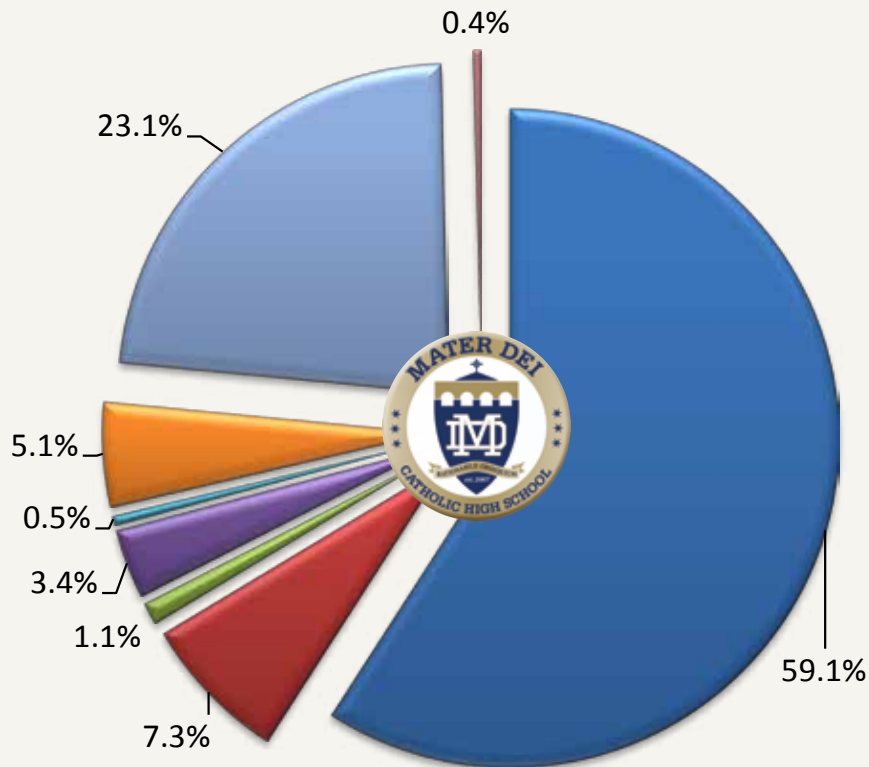


| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ TUITION | 7,003,592 |
| ■ OTHER FEES | 633,349 |
| ■ AUXILIARY SERVICES | 120,019 |
| ■ ATHLETICS | 48,859 |
| ■ DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING | 907,544 |
| ■ INVESTMENTS | 11,757 |
| ■ FACILITIES LEASING | 145,868 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 8,870,988 |

THE PER STUDENT GAP (@ 661 STUDENTS) \$ 1,773
 THE GAP BETWEEN TUITION & FEES INCOME AND TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 1,171,689
 TUITION & FEES COVER 87% OF EXPENSES

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

EXPENSES



| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ SALARIES & BENEFITS | 5,206,851 |
| ■ ADMIN/STUDENT/PTG/RECRUITING/MISC. | 642,941 |
| ■ EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS & RESOURCES | 97,057 |
| ■ ATHLETICS | 300,346 |
| ■ AUXILIARY SERVICES | 42,046 |
| ■ DEVELOPMENT | 449,564 |
| ■ PLANT OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE | 2,038,904 |
| ■ DEBT SERVICE | 30,921 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$ 8,808,630 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| STUDENTS APPROVED FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE | 305 |
| TOTAL TUITION ASSISTANCE GRANTED | \$1,512,329 |
| AVERAGE PER STUDENT AWARD | \$4,958 |

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

Honor Roll of Donors

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ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES 2013 – 2014 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Annual Crusade | \$167,950 |
| Walkathon | |
| Gross: \$30,816 | Net: \$28,901 |
| Online Auction | |
| Gross: \$11,752 | Net: \$9,121 |
| Golf Tournament | |
| Gross: \$31,767 | Net: \$17,240 |
| Designated Grants | \$644,076 |
| Dr. Kassebaum Scholarship Balance | |
| 6/30/2014 | \$252,754 |

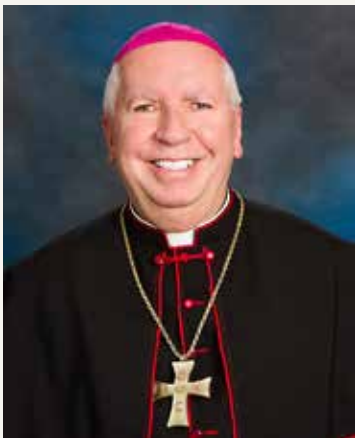
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- † Mr. John G. Appel
- † Arturo Aquitania
- † Steve Ashcraft '77
- † Ron Baker
- † Sherrill Baker
- † Thomas A. Balestrieri
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- † Rev. Msgr. John E. Baer
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- † Marvin Finch
- † Jeanette & Bud Gallagher
- † Alberto Gallegos
- † Marty R. Garcia
- † James E. Gates
- † Reyna Genel
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- † James S. LaRiviere
- † Joe Hertel
- † John & Katherine Lawler
- † Ron Hillsbery
- † Audelia Lizarraga de Rojas
- † Paul V. Hoban '73 Master Mariner
- † Thomas Lopez
- † Barbara J. Hodges
- † John William Huston
- † Pat MacCarthy
- † Carlos Daniel Jimenez
- † Scott Christopher Lyons
- † Willie E. Jones
- † Joseph F. McGregor
- † Jerry Judge
- † Marian Class of 1989
- † Rosa Kaloyan
- † Marian's Founding Parents 1964-66
- † Dr. Estelle L. Kassebaum
- † Vincenzo Maruca
- † Mr. & Mrs. Louis Kassebaum
- † Camelo and Onofre Martinez
- † Mrs. Bernieta Masters
- † Dale Powers
- † Dortha G. Kassebaum
- † Joseph F. McGregor
- † Dom and Helen Pretzie
- † Teresa Kayachanian
- † Abilio (Abel) Mendes
- † Joe Raef, Class of '74
- † Bobby Keyes
- † Graciela L. Mondragon
- † Dom and Helen Pretzie
- † Julie Klant
- † James & Hannah Mooney
- † Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Rhein
- † Jane B. Knowlton
- † G.G. Moran
- † Juan & Josefina Rios
- † Joe L. Rojas
- † Kehrman-Weller Family
- † William Patrick Moran
- † Mrs. Roberta Moran
- † Jose & Cesarea Moreno
- † Bill & Mary Murphy
- † Vy. Rev. J. Walsh Murray
- † John W. Novobilsky
- † Jim Oberle
- † Maxine E. Otte
- † Thomas Walter Otte '77
- † Francisco & Elvira Padres
- † Cristina O. Paredes
- † Dave Parker '77
- † Melody Parks Wynn Kilcrease
- † Patrick J. Patek
- † Dolores Elena Paulauskis
- † Rev. John Pejza, OSA
- † John R Perez
- † Thomas Petrone, Jr.
- † Sarah Weber Pierson-Boaz '77
- † Frances Helen Pitts
- † Dale Powers
- † Dom and Helen Pretzie
- † Joe Raef, Class of '74
- † Joseph Ruiz Renteria
- † Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Rhein
- † Juan & Josefina Rios
- † Joe L. Rojas
- † Esperanza C. Rojas
- † Maria Angulo Rojas
- † Teresa H. Rojas
- † Leonardo Rojas Contreras
- † Marta Rojas de Méndez
- † Teresita Rojas Hdz
- † Agustin Rojas I
- † Katherine Ann Rubano
- † Otila Salazar
- † Andy Sanchez
- † Luis Sanchez-Cortez
- † Louise Perry Schum
- † Mr. & Mrs. Fred Schwehofer
- † Wilfred & Amelia Searcy
- † June and Al Stahl
- † Kenneth William Sunega
- † Sisters of Mercy
- † Samuel Skaggs
- † Mary P. Slovinsky-Roche
- † John "Sully" Sullivan
- † Luis Jorge Tere
- † Buster & Mildred Lee Thrasher
- † James P. Tollefson
- † Sabel Tolosa
- † Gloria Torres
- † Pete Torrez
- † Rose Torrez
- † Macedonio & Ramona Torrez
- † Leon Tuttle
- † Chris Tuttle
- † Lillian Valdez
- † John Vernetti
- † Victims of Abortion
- † Mr & Mrs. Harvey Westrick, Sr.
- † Michael Winchell
- † Belen D. Yap
- † Leonardo D. Yap
- † Rommel Schroeder Yarza
- † To those who have passed before us, Class of 1973

IN MEMORIAM



BISHOP CIRILO FLORES

Bishop Cirilo Flores passed away on September 6, 2014 at Nazareth House in San Diego. As the Diocese of San Diego's first Hispanic bishop, he was known to be warm, gracious, and approachable to all he served. He was a spiritual leader for the almost 1 million Catholics living in San Diego and Imperial counties

Raised in Corona, Bishop Flores was the third of six children born in a devout Catholic family. He attended Riverside's Notre Dame High School, Loyola Marymount University, and Stanford Law

School. His legacy was his commitment to youth ministry, aiding those who were underprivileged, and in supporting parochial schools.

Born to parents of modest means, his Catholic high school education was paid for by the Knights of Columbus. As an adult, Flores would become a fourth degree Knight, the organization's highest rank, and as Bishop he showed his commitment to faith-based education by convening an advisory panel on Catholic schools.

Through God's mercy, may his soul rest in peace.



STARTING A NEW LEGACY:

MATER DEI TO BECOME FIRST DIOCESAN K-12 SCHOOL

We are excited to announce that the Mater Dei Catholic campus will soon become a K-12 school community. Preparations have begun for a new parochial school to open its doors for the 2015-2016 school year. Starting with grades K through 2nd in its first year, it will ultimately become a K-8 school.

A new diocesan school is a great honor for us. Because children are inevitably exposed to a myriad of things these days, many parents want their exposure to the secular world to be filtered through a faith-based education. We are pleased to partner with parents, to support and guide their young children in a Catholic tradition setting.

Our mission is to provide our students with a solid STEM based education, a deep understanding of their faith, a good moral foundation, and a community that becomes a home to them. The familiarity for students to have their entire academic career on one campus makes transitioning from elementary to middle school, and again from middle school to high school, easy and comfortable.

The new elementary school program will be separate from the high school; yet will still be on the same campus. If you are interested in finding out more or enrolling your child, please visit our website at www.jdacv.org or call Mater Dei Catholic High School at (619) 432-2121.



Mater Dei Catholic High School
1615 Mater Dei Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91913
Phone 619.423.2121
www.materdeicatholic.org

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ADMISSION DATES 2014-2015

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 1

Thursday, September 25, 2014
9:00 am - 11:45 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 2

Wednesday, October 8, 2014
9:00 am - 11:45 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 18, 2014
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Prospective 8th Grade Students & Parents
Begins and ends in the Lima Center

8TH GRADE VISITATION DAY 3

Wednesday, November 12, 2014
9:00 am - 11:45 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students
Begins and ends in the Lima Center
Lunch Included

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

Saturday, January 24, 2015
7:45 am - 11:45 am
Prospective 8th Grade Students

INCOMING 9TH GRADE PARENT MEETING

Saturday, January 24, 2015
10:00 am - 11:00 am
Prospective 8th Grade Parents
Begins and ends in the Lima Center

For information or to schedule a school tour, call Mr. Roy Vasquez, Director of Admissions
at (619) 423-2121 x106 or email: rvasquez@materdeicatholic.org