



Pictured Left to Right: Leticia Oseguera, Principal of Mater Dei Juan Diego Academy; John Rey, President of Mater Dei; Fr. Martinez, Incoming President of Mater Dei; and Frank Stingo, Principal of Mater Dei Catholic High School.



Office for Schools

March 22, 2021

Dear Mater Dei Catholic Community,

Being president of a Catholic high school has to be one of the most complex jobs around. You're an educator. You're a minister. You're the mayor of a small town. You're a fundraiser. You're a cheerleader. You name it, the buck stops with you.

On top of that, you have to succeed somebody, like Mr. John Rey, who's done an amazing job leading Mater Dei during an incredibly challenging pandemic year.

After completing a national search for the next Mater Dei president with our Selection Committee, imagine our surprise when we find him, not from another U.S. region, but leading the Catholic community at the UCSD Newman Center in La Jolla.

Fr. Joaquin Martinez, SJ, has been named the new president at Mater Dei Catholic starting July 1. A lifelong educator, Fr. Martinez has been a science teacher in public, private and Catholic schools. He's been the president of a large Jesuit high school in Ohio and an administrator at several prominent Catholic schools, including Saint Ignatius in San Francisco.

Prior to coming to UCSD, Fr. Martinez was in Rome, where he served as the International Education Coordinator for Jesuit Refugee Services, overseeing 175 primary and secondary schools in 20 countries serving 140,000 students.

Fr. Martinez will be visiting campus periodically before his start date in July getting to know the school community in anticipation of hitting the ground running this summer. We are excited for this next chapter in Mater Dei's success, and we ask that you join us in welcoming our new leader. Don't hesitate to walk up and say hello to Fr. Martinez if you get the chance!

May the entire MDCHS/MDJDA community of faith and learning remain blessed.

In Mission,

John Galvan
Director, Office for Schools
Diocese of San Diego

Fr. Martinez



[Fr. Martinez Bio](#)

[Letter from Fr. Martinez](#)