



# Campus Ministry Online

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*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.*

*(Mater Dei Mission Statement)*

*Life is...*

By Mother Theresa

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.

Life is beauty, admire it.

Life is a dream, realize it.

Life is a challenge, meet it.

Life is a duty, complete it.

Life is a game, play it.

Life is a promise, fulfill it.

Life is sorrow, overcome it.

Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.

Life is a tragedy, confront it.

Life is an adventure, dare it.

Life is luck, make it.

Life is too precious, do not destroy it.

Life is life, fight for it.

## Backpacks, Books & Chicken Mondays

After a rather long hot summer, it is that time to settle in, get serious and focus on studies. It is always great to see all the faces of our returning students and the new freshmen. Some we saw this summer when they were here for camps or Driver Education. We are a family here at Mater Dei and more importantly a Faith Community. We need to always remember that this is the reason for our school and that we must always “keep the Main Thing the Main Thing.

As we begin anew and adjust to the different rhythm of school days take some time to consider ways of keeping God in the forefront through prayer. A short prayer in the morning, meal prayer, a prayer of thanksgiving after a competition, etc. helps to make God more present to our young people and raises that awareness of God’s presence in all. By turning to God in prayer, we receive strength and come to realize that he is there for us.

## A Prayer for a New School Year

Spirit of God, fill our hearts with a desire to seek truth and rejoice in beauty.

Help us to know what is pleasing to you and to understand what is right and good in your sight.

Give us the spirit of learning that we may please you by our thoughts and love you in your creation.

Give all teachers your constant encouragement and guide them in their good work.

Spirit of God, make us effective witnesses of your truth to all whose lives we touch. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

**Amen.**

## Prayer Opportunities

At Mater Dei, we strive to keep prayer as a central part of our community experience. Friday morning prayer, Religion class Masses & prayer services in addition to our All-School Masses provide numerous opportunities for worship. Our classes and functions all begin with prayer. If you have a prayer need please call or email it to Mater Dei. It will be placed in our prayer booklet in Chapel, on our classroom prayer boards and in our bulletin.

### A Psalm for Students

The Lord is my teacher; I shall not sleep.  
He makes me stay awake in my studies all night;  
He leads me from page to page.  
He restores my sanity;  
He guides me in the path of consciousness,  
For my grades sake.  
Even though I grow weary in the shadow of books,  
I fear no test, for Thou art with me.  
Thy rod and Thy staff, they keep jabbing me.  
Thou wilt prepare a test for me  
In the presence of my classmates.  
Thou hast crammed my mind with so much knowledge; my eyelids droop.  
Surely a good grade and a kind teacher  
Will follow me after the test,  
Or I will dwell in this class forever.

*These newsletters are a service of Mater Dei Campus Ministry in an attempt to:*

1. *Share information about our Catholic faith to keep our community aware of some of the teachings of our tradition.*
2. *Update our community of changes in understandings and rituals*
3. *Assist parents with the faith formation of their youth.*
4. *Provide links to sites with helpful information on faith and parenting.*

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# Liturgy

Mater Dei has been blessed with a very beautiful space for prayer and worship, our Chapel. Please know that we do reserve the Eucharist in the tabernacle and all are welcome to use this place of prayer. Every Friday morning there is a short morning prayer experience for anyone who wishes to attend and during the week, religion classes have an opportunity for the Eucharist. You are always welcome to our school liturgies

Sept.25	Tuesday 9:40	Homecoming Liturgy
Nov. 1	Tuesday 9:40	All Saints Liturgy
Nov. 21	Wednesday 9:40	Thanksgiving Liturgy
Dec. 12	Wednesday 9:40	Our Lady of Guadalupe Liturgy
Jan.30	Wednesday 9:40	Catholic Schools Week Liturgy
Feb. 13	Wednesday 9:40	Ash Wednesday Liturgy
May 7	Tuesday	May Crowning Liturgy

## Mater Dei Seniors Assist PSR Programs

Mater Dei seniors have assisted our parishes with their mission to teach for several years. Seniors who choose to participate are given Religion credit for graduation by committing to teaching religion in one of the morning PSR programs. Seniors are trained by Mrs. Kampwerth and do additional reading to deepen their understanding of their role as teachers in these programs. This year we have 23 seniors who have committed to this task and are serving in six different parishes.

### *Messages From God*

1. "Let's Meet At My House Sunday Before the Game." — God
2. "C'mon Over And Bring The Kids." — God
3. "What Part of 'Thou Shalt Not...' Didn't You Understand?" — God
4. "We Need To Talk." — God
5. "Keep Using My Name in Vain And I'll Make Rush Hour Longer." — God
6. "Loved The Wedding, Invite Me To The Marriage." — God
7. "That 'Love Thy Neighbor' Thing, I Meant It." — God
8. "I Love You...I Love You...I Love You..." — God
9. "Will The Road You're On Get You To My Place?" — God
10. "Follow Me." — God
11. "Need Directions?" — God
12. "You Think It's Hot Here?" — God
13. "Tell The Kids I Love Them." — God
14. "Need a Marriage Counselor? I'm Available." — God
15. "Have You Read My #1 Best Seller? There Will Be A Test." — God

### Helpful Websites

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops	<a href="http://www.usccb.org">www.usccb.org</a>
Center for Parent/Youth Understanding	<a href="http://www.cpyu.org">www.cpyu.org</a>
Diocese of Belleville	<a href="http://www.diobelle.org">www.diobelle.org</a>
TEC Retreats	<a href="mailto:chairperson@bellevilletec.com">chairperson@bellevilletec.com</a>
Quest Retreats	<a href="mailto:washed_up_dj@yahoo.com">washed_up_dj@yahoo.com</a>