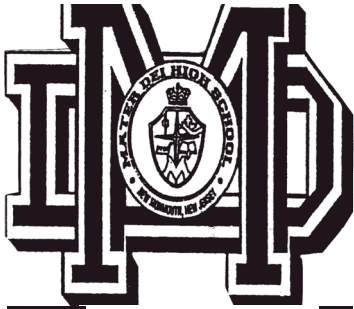


Spring 2008



Mater Dei High School

Dear Mater Dei Community Members,

It is a great time of the year. It is a time to prepare for graduation, a time for moving on to another level of formation, a time for stepping into a new level in living life as best we can. Congratulations to those who will graduate this June. Congratulations to family members who have supported their four year formation period in Mater Dei. Thank you to the faculty and staff who have led their formation at Mater Dei.

Summer time is great but is also a time to make good decisions, to be careful and to be caring. Pope Benedict spent several days with us recently and encouraged us to build our relationship with Jesus. Put a focus on that relationship these days and renew your commitment to belonging to the family of Jesus acknowledging His way as truth and looking to living his Ideals.

More and more we are relying on technology to connect with one another. It is very limited. We need to know that. It is very good for sending a message to another person regarding an event or a reminder regarding an appointment. It will never replace human conversation engaged in face to face. We must not replace human interaction with thru tech connecting. It can't work. To the degree that we only learn that way we will be limited in our ability to relate throughout our whole lives. Be certain to talk about this as a family. Realize how much we speak with our whole bodies little of which can be transmitted through technology.

I encourage all to be ambassadors for Mater Dei. All of us belong to the community of Mater Dei. We do not just go there for a service. We are part of a wonderful history that is such a great servant of Church and People. We are in Mission as disciples of Jesus to bring the life of God to others through our experience at Mater Dei. Live each day in service to God and others. Live each day in a way that will show all around you the great love of God in your heart and the great dedication to serving in God's Kingdom.

May Mary Mother of God be our intercessor to her Son Jesus for all of us!

Fr Mike Walsh

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INSIDE MD

MD Community Service Club

Mrs. Walsh

It has been a long and very successful year for the 2007-2008 Mater Dei Community Service Club. The club was lead by Mrs. Walsh, who has played an important role in helping the members accomplish so much.

The Community Service Club got off to a quick start in the beginning of the year. During the holiday seasons, the group put together food drives, bake sales, and mission dress down days to support needy families. One of the best charities they did was to play "Santa Claus" for one family during the Christmas season. Money was raised in order to buy new clothes, toys, shoes, and coats for the family.

In the Spring, the CSC sponsored "Cinderella's Closet" for high school girls who could not afford prom gowns. Many of the students and parents of the Mater Dei Community contributed to the dress drive. Their generosity gave other girls the opportunity to attend prom and have a great time.

Towards the end of the year the CSC also plan on having a couple of bake sales and dress down days to raise money for two other charities: The Fisher House and the Smile Train. All of the money given to the Fisher House will be used to help returning soldiers and their families. The Smile Train donates money to children all over the world who are born with cleft palets. The \$250 surgery will give them a normal palet and a perfect smile!

-Danielle Murphy, CSC Secretary

Principle's Letter

Mr. Harding will be mailing a separate newsletter in June. This letter will provide parents with important information regarding academics, athletics, accomplishments, and what lies ahead.

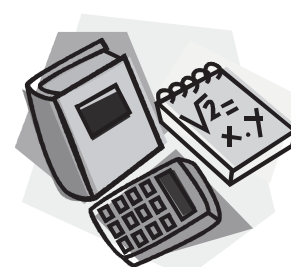


Math Seminar

Jeanne Dickinson

By the time this newsletter is out, the A.P. Calculus Exam will have been administered to the 15 seniors (May 7th). The group worked extremely hard this year in preparing for the exam. They met every other Sunday evening at school for 2 to 2.5 hours to practice exam questions. They completed a rigorous “Food Lab” to better understand the concept of volumes by slicing, washers, and shells. There were a lot of nervous moments which all went away by noon on May 7th. I could not be prouder of the work this group put forth this year. Congratulations to **Jillian Donadio, Lauren Florio, Tess Gagliano, John Glynn, Will Grenger, Ryan Killeen, Pat McGee, Willie Nelson, Aimee Patterson, Ben Popovich, Alexandria Price, Joanna Sblendorio, Courtney Scott, Debbie (Kate) Snyder, and Ashley White!!**

I wish all of my seniors the best of luck in all their future endeavors. I am certain they will all be very successful in whatever avenue they follow.



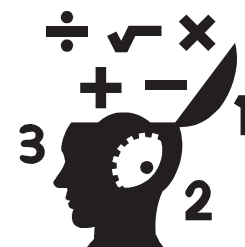
Math Club

Jeanne Dickinson

The Varsity Math Team finished with a flourish in both the New Jersey Math League and the Catholic High School Math League. In the N.J.M.L., the team finished in 8th place in Monmouth County. It's the highest finish for the team in the last 7 years. The team competed against local high schools like Holmdel (1st), High Tech. (2nd), Ocean (3rd), Freehold (4th), MAST (5th), Allied Health and Colts Neck (6th). We finished tied with Middletown North for 8th. **Ben Popovich, Rob McCauley, Courtney Scott, and Cara Heusel** were the leaders in the N.J.M.L. In the C.H.S.M.L., the group finished in 12th place (one point behind St. John Vianney and 7 points behind St. Rose). **Ben Popovich, John Glynn, Will Grenger, and Joanna Sblendorio** were the leaders in the C.H.S.M.L.

The JV Math team competed in the Catholic High School Math League this season and finished in 7th place. It's the highest finish for the JV Team in the last 6 years. The only local catholic school to finish above us was CBA (2nd). The team was led by **Amanda Mennen, Michael Gallo, John Caddock, and Michelle Hemhauser.**

Great Job, Mathletes!! To the seniors as they leave Mater Dei and begin the next chapter of their lives, I wish you the best of luck in all your endeavors. To the underclassmen, have a wonderful summer and I'll see you in September.



Mater Dei's Softball Team goes to Disney

Coach— Jeanne Dickinson

On March 24, 16 softball players, 7 coaches, and 7 families boarded Jet Blue flight 827 bound for Orlando, Florida. The group was going to participate in "Disney's Spring Training 2008!"

The entire experience would make a wonderful "PRICELESS" commercial. The team members, coaches, and their families worked for 5 months raising the money necessary to make the trip possible. There were many anxious, stressful moments trying to raise over \$21,000 in 5 months. But, through everyone's hard work and generosity, we reached our goal. We arrived at Disney's All-Sports Resort Monday afternoon and were checked in by Monday evening (just a few loose ends to take care of). We started our magical adventure Tuesday morning when we went to Magic Kingdom for some early morning adventures to get our blood pumping—Space Mountain, Big Thunder Mountain, and Splash Mountain. We played Meigs County High School from Tennessee in the afternoon (which we won 7-4) and returned to Epcot for the fireworks and laser show in the evening. Wednesday we got up early for a game against St. Francis High School from Minnesota (which we won 7-1) and then an afternoon at Animal Kingdom for a trip down "Everest" and the Kahli Rapids and a safari ride. We spent Wednesday evening in MGM/Disney Studios for "Fantasmic" lights and fireworks extravaganza. Thursday morning saw us at Epcot for a little "Soarin" and "Fast Track" and then it was out to the softball field for a game against Becker High School from Minnesota (which we lost 8-3). Thursday evening meant a return to Magic Kingdom to see the popular "Parade of Lights" and fireworks over Cinderella's Castle. Friday morning, with exhaustion starting to set in, we returned to Disney Studios for "Tower of Terror" and "Rockin' Roller Coaster." We finished our spring training adventure with two games on Friday afternoon against Elks Lake High School from Pennsylvania (which we lost 4-3) and Montclair High School from New Jersey (which we won 14-5). Friday night was left to shop, pack, and "chill". We headed home on Saturday morning on flight #820 and pulled into the Mater Dei High School parking lot around 1:30 p.m.

It was truly a dream come true filled with unforgettable memories. It may have brought on some tension and anxiety, but I'm sure none of us will soon forget all the excitement!! We may not have gotten much rest on our vacation, but rest is overrated!!

The team returned to start their season on April 1st. As of April 30th, the varsity team is 13-1, tied for first in their division, into the quarter-finals of the Monmouth County Tournament, and looking to continue their good fortune in the months of May and June.

THANK YOU to all who helped us in our Disney endeavor!! We couldn't have done it without the support of our families, friends, and parishioners. Who knows, maybe we'll do it again some day!!



Mater Dei Girls Track

Welcome to the world of the Mater Dei Girls Spring Track team, where every second, every inch, and every meet counts. The Lady Seraphs, about 65 strong, have had a great season so far, with huge divisional wins against Point Beach (103-28) and close competitor St. Rose (81-50). It was an exciting day, as Mater Dei swept Triple Jump and Long Jump along with three other events and junior **Ciara Chaly** became the first ever Mater Dei girl to Pole Vault in an interscholastic meet. At the Howell and Matawan Relays, the girls came together to take third place in fields of 17 and 24, respectively, showing off a first place finish in the Distance Medley Relay both days. Also, in the Holmdel Relays, amongst some of the best teams in the state, the Seraphs were able to capture first place finishes in the High Jump, Sprint Medley, and the 4x800 Relay and top five performances in the Shuttle Hurdles, 4x400 Relay, Long Jump, and Discus. The girls have two more divisional meets left against Keyport and Asbury Park- both expected wins for the Seraphs and their post season will begin with the Monmouth County Championships in May. The season's top performers include seniors **Marissa Kettle, Katie Snyder, Katie Hestler, Meg Corless and Katilin Elliot**, juniors **Kelly Rossidis, Ciara Chaly, and Marie Walsh**, sophomores **Liz Shaw, Kerry Donnelly, Danielle Costanzo, Jackie Seamens, and Shanna Kirgan** and freshmen **Julia Koch, Brianna Kierans, and Kaitlin Gatto**.



Notes From the Guidance Office

HONOR ROLL – SECOND MARKING PERIOD 2007/2008

Grade 9

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the second marking period:
Juliana Grassia, Kerrin McCarthy, Amanda Mennen and Kara Teehan

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the second marking period:

Caitlin Ault, Kathleen Begley, Sarah Buffa, Toni Ann Costanzo, Kathryn Davidson, Michael Eckert, Danielle Hesler, Christine Kelleher, Julia Koch, Kathleen Lane, Sara Manzon, Robert Maxfield, Brianna Murphy, Carley Palmer, Daniel Tartaglia, Vincent Telesino, Wesley Textores and Katherine Weir.

Grade 10

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the second marking period:
Michelle Budzyna, John Caddock, Amanda Caruso, Stacie Fanelli, Michael Gallo, Nicole Gravish and Edward Lamar.

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the second marking period:

Nicholas Ault, Genna Basso, Colleen Begley, Casandra Branick, Cassandra Burton, James Cortiglia, Danielle Costanzo, Kerry Donnelly, Nora England, Matthew Erickson, Bridget Ferber, James Ferber, Elizabeth Henry, Glen Holck, Elizabeth Howley, Shanna Kirgan, Jaclyn Lino, Danielle Locicero, Victoria Lonny, Christopher Maturo, Ryan McCormick, Kelli McIntee, Christophe Molicki, Molly Morrow, Janine Necef, Shayla Norton, Janeen Palmiotto, Nicole Pellicane, Paula Pilipovic, Katheryn Popowych, Amanda Theobald, Karissa Trotter, James Tucker, Alexandra Vaughan, Elizabeth White and Lauren Yetman.

Grade 11

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the second marking period:
Cara Heusel, John Necef and Aliya Simnor.

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the second marking period:

Jennie-Lee Albanese, Lauren Anderson, Casey Andress, Maria Basile, Katherine Buffa, Ciara Chaly, Christine Fiorelli, Shannon Greene, Michelle Hemhauser, Mary Janosi, Nicholas Kelleher, Samantha Lupino, Robert McCawley, Gina Moure, Nicole Murphy, Travis Paulson, Cara Ray, Jasmine Rivero, Gena Rosko, Catherine Strbo, Caroline Swinyer Alicia Trapanese, Brian Walsh, Danielle Warren, Rachelle White and Kelly Whitley.

Grade 12

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the second marking period: **Nicolena Basso, Sara Cline, Christina DeKovics, Ryan Killeen, Joanna Sblendorio** and **Ashley White**.

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the second marking period:

Victoria Ault, Erin Carroll, Rory Chrimside, Luaren Christiana, Megan Comerford, Kaitlyn Cunning, Deanna Dini, Lauren Florio, William Hazeltine, Katie Hesler, Alexander Horan, Connor Hughes, Kathleen Kielpinski, Patricia McKinley Andrew Ming, Courtney Scott and **Molly Shea**.

Students of the 2nd Quarter

At the end of the **second marking period**, students were chosen to receive awards in the following areas: **Academics, Fine Arts, Service, Athletics, and Junior Class Spirit**. Those students are:

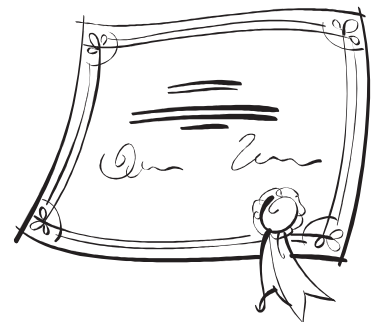
John Caddock achieved a **4.50 G.P.A.** and is the recipient of the **academic award**.

Pat McGee and **Nicole Murphy** received the **Fine Arts Award**.

Deanna Dini received the **Athlete Award**.

Erin O'Malley received the award for **Junior Class Spirit**.

Bill Hazeltine received the **Student Service Award**.



Honor Roll— 3rd Quarter

Grade 9

The following student has earned **Honors with Distinction** for the 3rd marking period:

Juliana Grassia.

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the 3rd marking period:

Caitlin Ault, Kathleen Begley, Sarah Buffa, Toni Ann Costanzo, Kathryn Davidson, Amanda Giaquinto, Danielle Hesler, Mary Catherine Jennings, Christine Kelleher, Julia Koch, Courtney Kurkemelis, Kathleen Lane, Kerrin McCarthy, Andrew McGee, Amanda Mennen, Brianna Murphy, Dominique Skiptunis, Catherine Sperry, Kara Teehan, Vincent Telesino and Wesley Textores.

Grade 10

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the 3rd marking period: **John Caddock, Amanda Caruso, Kerry Donnelly, Nicole Gravish, Edward Lamar and Paula Pilipovic.**

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the 3rd marking period:

Genna Basso, Colleen Begley, Michelle Budzyna, Cassandra Burton, James Cortiglia, Danielle Costanzo, Matthew Erickson, Stacie Fanelli, Bridget Ferber, Michael Gallo, Glen Holck, Shanna Kirgan, Alex Mak, Christopher Maturo, Ryan McCormick, Janine Necef, Janeen Palmiotto, Nicole Pellicane, Katheryn Popowych, Theresa Russo, Amanda Theobald, Karissa Trotter, James Tucker, and Lauren Yetman.

Grade 11

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the 3rd marking period: **Cara Heusel, Nicole Murphy, John Necef and Aliya Simnor.**

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the 3rd marking period:

Jennie-Lee Albanese, Lauren Anderson, Maria Basile, Maria Basile, Katherine Buffa, Ciara Chaly, Alexandra DeGirolamo, Jessica DiGiorgio, James Ferrick, Thomas Ferrick, Christine Fiorelli, Shannon Greene, Michelle Hemhauser, Mary Janosi, Kieran Kelly, Samantha Lupino, Gina Moure, Danielle Murphy, Travis Paulson, Cara Ray, Gena Rosko, Kelly Rossidis, Catherine Strbo, Brian Walsh, Danielle Warren and Rachelle White.

Grade 12

The following students have earned **Honors with Distinction** for the 3rd marking period: **Nicolena Basso, William Grenger, Patricia McKinley, Alexandria Price and Joanna Sblendorio.**

The following students have made the **Honor Roll** for the 3rd marking period:

Rory Chirmside, Sara Cline, Christina DeKovics, Jillian Donadio, Lauren Florio, Tess Gagliano, Janine Gibney, Connor Hughes, Ryan Killeen, Patrick McGee, Andrew Ming, William Nelson, Aimee Patterson, Benjamin Popovich, Courtney Scott, Molly Shea and Ashley White.

Students of the 3rd Quarter

At the end of the 3rd marking period, students were chosen to receive awards in the following areas: **Academics, Athletics, Fine Arts, Service, and Sophomore Class Spirit.**

Patrica McKinley achieved a **4.455 G.P.A.** and is the recipient of the **academic award.**

Kyle Conway and **Katie Hesler** received the **Fine Arts Award.**

Stacie Fanelli was chosen for her **service.**

Ryan Critti and **Hugh Gallagher** received the award for **Sophomore Class Spirit.**

Lauren Florio has been chosen the **Athlete of the Quarter.**

An Ice Cream party was held on April 16 to recognize the Students of the Quarter and those who made the honor roll for the third quarter. **One hundred and five** students were invited to attend.



A Letter from our PTA President

Dear **Parents, Mater Dei Staff, Msgr. Walsh, and Friends,**

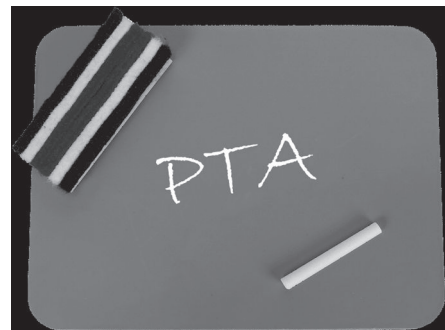
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for helping to make my first year as **Mater Dei PTA President** such an enjoyable and enriching experience. We have had a successful fundraising year, and for that I thank my hardworking, dedicated **board** and all of the selfless **volunteer parents**, as well as the endless and committed support I have received from **Fr. Mike** and the **Mater Dei teachers and staff**.

Our fall fundraiser, a Super 50/50 raised close to \$10,000. This is in no small part to the **Mater Dei parents** and **St. Mary's parishioners**, without whose financial support this important fundraiser would not be possible. Our Annual Fashion Show and Gift Auction was a tremendous success. A fun night was had by all – including the **students**, whose help and enthusiasm was invaluable. We raised almost \$19,000. Our vacation raffle is underway, and we appreciate in advance any and all support our parents can give to this equally important fundraiser.

All monies raised by our **PTA** go to ensuring the continuing financial and academic success of **Mater Dei**. In addition, the **PTA** this year has established a yearly scholarship to be given to an underclassman who shows a spirit of commitment to themselves, to others and, importantly, to **Mater Dei**. Again, all of these efforts are a result of **your** dedication to **Mater Dei** – and I thank you again!

Have a wonderful, safe, and blessed summer.

Mary Kelleher



Mark your Calendar



23rd – School closed

26th – School closed – Memorial Day

27th – 29th– Senior Final Exams

30th – Mandatory Senior Class Meeting – 11:30 am

Senior Picnic – 12 noon

Last “school day” for Seniors



1st – Baccalaureate Liturgy – 3:00 – Mary Mother of God Church

Senior Dinner – 5:00 – 9:00 pm – Jacques Reception Ctr.

2nd – Senior Cruise

3rd– Graduation Practice – 9:00 am – Mary Mother of God Church

4th – S.A.B. Speeches – 8:15 am – Memorial Hall

5th – Graduation Practice – 9:00 am – Mary Mother of God Church

Graduation – 7:30 pm – Mary Mother of God Church

6th – Marking Period IV ends

9th – Exams 1 and 2 – 11:05 Dismissal

10th – Exams 3 and 4 – 11:05 Dismissal

11th – Exams 5 and 6 – 11:05 Dismissal

12th – Exam 7 and make-ups – 9: 20 Dismissal



Empowering Success

MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL

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