

DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars

4313 Madison St. Hyattsville, Maryland 20781 Main: 240.764.2200 Fax: 240.764.2275

March 2022

March 1

- Early Dismissal
- Senior Service Hours Due

March 2

- **Ash Wednesday**

March 3

- Tag Day
- Lenten Drive

March 8-9

- Senior Service Interviews

March 11

- Early Dismissal (**Calendar Change**)

March 14

- *St. John de Matha Day Celebration*

March 16

- Muffin Madness

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DeMatha Matters

Volume 14, Issue 8

St. John de Matha Day

Celebration, Monday March 14:

We will celebrate the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, St. John de Matha. The day is full of celebration - beginning with Mass, the presentation of the St. John de Matha Medal, and a complimentary lunch. Pasta w/ tomato sauce, meatballs, assorted fresh breads, cupcakes and water/juice will be provided to students and faculty at no cost. There will be **no other food for sale in the cafeteria.**



Lent Begins Ash Wednesday

PCR testing

Please remember to enter, on Thursday mornings (day after Wednesday testings) through the main building entrance. In the event that you did not receive your result, please come to school on Thursday anyway. There is a quarantine room should that become necessary.

Thank you everyone for your cooperation and for staying safe!

Principal Notes

I pray with my classes each day and many of those prayers are idiosyncratic - quotations or observations that we then discuss. The conversation about what we are doing when we pray is my favorite part because I believe that a mature faith is going to require an ability to navigate places where absolute and correct answers are not available - and still we must act.

The framework I share with my students is that prayer usually comes in one of three categories: help; thanks; wow. The first two tend to be pretty recognizable - we need help or we give thanks. Prayers of awe are rarer but one class had a great experience recently when a student submitted to two beautiful photographs for the prayers. This gave us a chance to express awe and wonder at our place in the universe.

Humility is the thing that links all forms of prayers - I hope to practice that this Lenten season.

Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

Parent Alert Emails: Communications on closings, weather, activity and sports updates from DeMatha will automatically be sent via e-mail to the primary email listed on the student's Veracross account.

Graduation Video



The 2022 Commencement Video will be available to purchase for \$50 if ordered prior to April 1. This professional DVD typically runs 2 hours, 15 minutes and contains graduation from start to finish and more. Orders placed after April 1 will be \$55. DVD's will be shipped directly to your home. Order forms can be found on our website under forms, and in the Main Office. *Other delivery formats also available.*

Senior Calendar

(check website for most updated info.)

March 18

Senior Service Reflections Due

April 7

Mandatory Senior Parent Meeting, 7:00pm, NO STUDENTS.

April 30

Senior Service Hours Due

May 2 –13

AP Exams

May 2

Senior Exit Survey Due

May 6

Prom—optional. No Classes for Seniors

May 11-13

Senior Exams (**Mandatory**)

May 12

Graduation Practice 10:30am at Original Gym

Senior/Faculty Picnic

May 23-25

Senior College Prep

June 1

Graduation Practice, (**Mandatory**) 11:00am at the Shrine

June 1

Baccalaureate Mass, (**Mandatory**) 4:00pm at the Convocation Center. Seniors to arrive at 3:30

June 3

Graduation 9:00AM at the Shrine

Parent Matters - DPO

Thank you to all our Junior parents who donated to the bake sale Feb. 11th. It was a huge success.

- March Muffin Madness will be held on **Wednesday, March 16**. We ask that all junior and senior families donate muffins and drop them off in the main lobby before school.
- Plan to attend the DPO Parent Social & Raffle on **Wednesday, May 11** to network and meet others in a relaxing setting with refreshments and music. It will take place outdoors. Details to come. For more information, contact the DPO@DeMatha.org
- Unfortunately, the Annual Mother/Son Luncheon is canceled.

DeMatha Players



The DeMatha Players are proud to present *The Frogs*, a musical comedy based on the Aristophanes' play of the same name from Ancient Greece. This rollicking and raucous comedy follows Dionysius, the god of drama & wine, on a journey to the underworld to rescue the soul of a playwright and address the problems of the world. Adapted by Steven Sondheim, Nathan Lane and Burt Shevelove, this highly entertaining show will run **April 8-10 in DeMatha's Original Gym**.

Annual DPO Tuition Raffle

Wouldn't you love a \$10,000 credit toward your son's tuition???

Raffle information was mailed to every family. Single ticket @\$35.00 or two @\$60.00

Drawing on May 11th.

If you need more information, please stop by the main office or contact dpo@dematha.org

Good Luck!

Academic Matters

Summer Session

School regulations stipulate that any failing grade must be made up in summer school. Students are also required to attend summer school if they meet one of the following criteria: a final grade of F in any class; a grade of D in Algebra 1, Part 1; Algebra 1, Part 2; regular Algebra 1, or Algebra 2. A grade of D in Honors Algebra 1 or Honors Algebra 2 does not result in required summer school. Instead, the student will move out of the honors math program. A grade of D in the first two levels of a world language also requires remediation in summer school. If a student achieves an extremely low final grade, he may be required to repeat the course the following year depending on individual academic department regulations. DeMatha makes every attempt to remediate failed classes. Please check the website for summer session offerings beginning April 1. Please take the summer school dates into consideration when making vacation plans. **Summer school: Tuesday, June 21 – Thursday, July 21.** Failure to make up a class in summer school will result in a \$400 fee being assessed in the fall for administrative and scheduling purposes.

Junior College Night

- March 17 @ 7:00pm Antler Room

SAT Information

Register for the SAT online www.collegeboard.org. The SAT Test dates and registration deadlines for the year are as follows:
CEEB# 210660

Test Date & Registration Deadline

(Late registration is available)

Mar. 12, 2022	Feb. 11, 2022
May 7, 2022	Apr. 8, 2022
June 4, 2022	May 5, 2022

Honoring

25 Years of Service

This month we will celebrate and honor these faculty members for their 25 years of service to DeMatha:

Fr. James

Mr. Chris Benedick

Mr. Paul Davies

Mr. Kelly Lama

Mr. Jim Turk

We are grateful and we thank them for their dedication to our community.

#OneDeMatha

Music Matters

Mr. James Roper, Director of Instrumental Music, announced that he will retire at the end of this school year. Mr. Roper has taught at DeMatha for 41 years. Thank you Mr. Roper! You will be missed!

March 15: Pre-Festival Concert
7:00pm @ Bladensburg High School

April 21-23: Music Festival Trip to Williamsburg, VA

Spring Concerts: (All are invited)

April 28: Bladensburg HS, 7:30 PM
Concert Band I & II, Percussion Ensemble I, Concert Strings I & Concert Strings

May 3: Bladensburg HS, 7:00 PM
Percussion Ensemble II, Adv. Percussion Ensemble, Sinfonia & Philharmonic

May 5: Bladensburg HS, 7:30 PM
Concert Band & Symphonic Band

May 9: Bladensburg HS, 7:30 PM
Wind Ensemble

May 14: Convocation Center, 6:30 PM
Instrumental Music Awards Ceremony



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School & Offices Closed

March 21st to March 25th

~ Spring Break ~

AP Exams

Advanced Placement (AP) Exams will take place **Monday, May 2** through **Friday, May 13**.

Students must be registered by submitting payment to be permitted to take his exam(s). Payment is due by **Friday, March 11**, **Payment can be made via the Stag Store**.

If you have any questions concerning AP testing, please contact Mr. Garrett at 240-764-2229 or tgarett@dematha.org.

Support the Annual Fund!

DeMatha's Annual Fund provides for ongoing yearly costs, including student programs and scholarship funds. Donations, as well as gifts of stocks, real estate and planned giving, allow us to continue educating all of our young men in the DM tradition. Designations to scholarship funds or specific programs are welcome. For more information or to donate online, please see "Support DeMatha" on the website, or contact Mr. Thomas Ponton at 240-764-2222 or tponton@dematha.org.

Campus Ministry - CMO

March 1, 2022

Senior Service hours are due. Seniors who were given an extension for their hours can ignore this deadline. Please submit hours using the link on the Christian Service webpage.

March 2, 2022

DeMatha will have Ash Wednesday Service on this day. Ashes will be distributed and we will prepare for the season of Lent.

Lenten Drive:

This year, we are raising money and awareness to support teen mental health and promote a healthy spiritual life. We will be raising money throughout Lent to benefit The Jed Foundation which seeks to provide schools and campuses with resources to address various issues affecting teens and young adults. We will also be utilizing prayers and other activities to help students improve their mental health and stress levels as well as finding solace in God's love and providence. More information will be released throughout the 6 weeks of Lent.



Mrs. Bright and Mr. Twigg took 12 students on a four day trip to Romero Center in Camden, NJ. They served various organizations, learned about the challenges of urban poverty and built community with the other school participants. They spent the weekend living out the Gospel call to prioritize the poor and marginalized and honor the dignity of all God's creation.

Lent / Cafeteria

On Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, there will be no meat served in the cafeteria as part of our Lenten observance.



Academic Awards Night

On **Wednesday, April 27**, beginning at 7:30 p.m., we will celebrate the academic achievements of our students. All students who have been on the Honor Roll, Academic Dean's List, or Principal's List for three consecutive quarters (1st quarter, 1st semester and 3rd quarter) will be awarded lapel pins. In addition, special awards will be given to seniors graduating with honors (a cumulative 3.0 average) and with highest honors (a cumulative 3.8 average). Also receiving recognition will be students who have achieved excellence in other academic pursuits. Attendance is by invitation only. If you receive an invitation, please RSVP in a timely manner to Mrs. Davis: DDavis@dematha.org.

Weather Related Information

While DeMatha usually follows Prince George's County for delayed openings and school closings, DeMatha does make independent decisions on occasion. **Please check the website and be attentive to Parent Alert emails.** If DeMatha is delayed one or two hours, buses will run 1 hour or 2 hours later accordingly.



Attendance

- We encourage frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer located throughout the school. If students are sick or not feeling well, please keep them home.
- We have incorporated "strategic long weekends" along with the holiday breaks. We hope you will use these weekends for college visits, medical appointments, etc.

March 21 - March 25

Spring Break

April 14 - April 15

Easter Break

April 18 Cyber Day

May 30 Memorial Day

REPORT ABSENCE DIRECTLY

240-764-2230

or

Attendance@DeMatha.org

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March 17

- NHS Tag Day
- Junior College Night

March 18

- End of 3rd Qtr.
- Senior Service Reflection Due

March 21—25

- Spring Break

March 30

- Grades Posted

March 31

- Service Hours Due

April 1

- Grades Published