

# DeMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## *Faith-Filled Gentlemen and Scholars*

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

### December 2022

#### December 1

- Tree Lighting
- No Shave - Tag Day

#### December 2-4

- DM Players Fall Play

#### December 3

- WAMTC Band festival
- BSU Sip & Paint

#### December 7

- No Shave November ends

#### December 8

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- Fall Concert: CBI, PEI, CB, CSI, CS

#### December 9

- Early Dismissal—Faculty Luncheon

#### December 12

- Fall Concert: APE, PE II, Symphonic Band

#### December 13

- Jazz Ensemble and DM Chorus Concert

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## DeMatha Matters

Volume 15, Issue 5

### Tree Lighting

Our annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on Thursday, December 1st at 6pm on campus. A reception will follow in the Antler Room afterwards. If you are interested in attending, email Teresa Farrell at [tfarrell@dematha.org](mailto:tfarrell@dematha.org).



## Merry Christmas

### Christmas Holiday

The school and offices will be closed **Monday, December 19**, through **Monday, January 2**, for the Christmas/New Year holiday. Classes will resume on **Tuesday, January 3, 2023**.

### Weather Related Information

DeMatha follows Prince George's County for delayed openings of one or two hours and school closings only. In cases of an early dismissal for Prince George's County schools, DeMatha will make an independent decision. Please listen to WTOP 103.5 FM, News Channel 8, check the website and be attentive to parent alert emails. Bus transportation updates will be found on the website and through parent alert emails.



### Principal Notes

The philosopher Heraclitus observed that one cannot step in the same river twice—by the time you pull your foot out and put it back, both you and the river have changed. This observation used to make me a bit melancholy but I think there is a deeper reminder in the statement that tells us to embrace change.

The notion of change has been with me in a particular way as I keep track of the demolition of the Fotos Building in preparation for the Cross Center. There are lots of memories in that old building so I have a sense of loss (I had both Sophomore and Senior Theology in that building) but also a sense of anticipation. And I know that the new building will be a place where great memories for a whole new generation will be made.

As we gather for the various family traditions of the Christmas season, I hope that we'll all be conscious of what we want to remember and what we look forward to as we step in the river of time.

Pax,  
Dr. Daniel J. McMahon

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**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.



## Support DeMatha with Amazon Purchases

Support DeMatha every time you shop Amazon through Amazon Smile. Choose from millions of products, using your Amazon account. Simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to shop. Products will be marked "Eligible for Amazon Smile Donation" on the product detail page. Select DeMatha as your charitable organization. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price from eligible products to your designated charitable organization. Further details can be found on our website.

## Workplace Giving

DeMatha will participate in the following campaigns: the United Way (#8392), Combined Federal Campaign (#89951), Maryland Charity Campaign, DC Government's One Fund, and others. Contributions are tax deductible and donors are recognized in the DeMatha Annual Report. Please contact Mrs. Maureen McCart in the Advancement Office at [mmcart@dematha.org](mailto:mmcart@dematha.org) or 240-764-2221 for questions.

## Parent Matters - DPO

- Sophomore Bake Sale on Nov. 18th was a SUCCESS!

***Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help!!***

- Bring-A-Pie Day - Thanks to everyone who participated to make our teacher appreciation a major success. The faculty and staff are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.
- The next Bake Sale will be held on Friday, Feb. 10th, sponsored by the Junior class. All junior families are asked to contribute homemade or store bought baked goods. Details to come.



## Financial Aid

### Deadlines Approaching

Financial aid applications are now available online. Application deadline for financial aid from the Archdiocese of Washington is **Friday, December 2, 2022**. Applications are available online only at <https://adwcatholicsschools.org/tuition-assistance/>. The application deadline for financial aid from DeMatha is **Thursday, December 15, 2022**. Applications are available online only at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3FSBN>. Decisions on DeMatha financial aid will be mailed in late January 2023. For more details please see the financial aid letter that was sent out on Vera-cross email. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Metz in the Business Office at [ametz@dematha.org](mailto:ametz@dematha.org)

## *Fr. James' Golden Jubilee*

Father's Ordination was 12/2/72. This year marks his 50th anniversary of priesthood. We will celebrate at a liturgy in December. We congratulate and celebrate you, Fr. James!

*50th Anniversary*



## Stag Store

*DM Swag makes great Christmas gifts!*



DeMatha apparel and other Stag items are available online (<https://store.dematha.org>) and in The Stag Store. The Stag Store hours are 7:30am-2:45pm on regularly scheduled school days (closed 11am-12n).

The Store will also be open:

Saturday, December 17 - open 10am-2pm

Monday, December 19 - open 8am-12n

Tuesday, December 20 - open 8am-12n

Thursday, December 22 - open 8am-12n

Friday, December 23 - open 8am-12n



## Calendar Updates

Dec. 1: No Shave Tag Day

Dec 3: WAMTC Band festival

Dec 7: 2:00 Dismissal

Dec 13: Jazz Ensemble & Choral Concert, 7:00pm, Convocation Center

### DM Black Student Union

Presents

### Sip & Paint Fundraiser

Hosted by Mr. Vaughn Holsey  
In the Antler Room,  
Saturday, Dec. 3, 6:00-8:30pm  
Email: MAlaya@dematha.org for ticket information



## Bus Transportation

DeMatha operates bus routes servicing the following areas: 1) Annapolis-Bowie, 2) Dunkirk-Upper Marlboro, 3) Charles County - Ft. Washington, 4) Montgomery County, 5) Eastern Market, - AM only, 6) Eastern Market - PM only, 7) Howard County/Laurel, and 8) St. Peter's/Waldorf.

**For updates, information regarding times, routes and costs, check our website under DeMatha Quicklinks/Bus Transportation.**

Call Mr. Andrew Eck at 240-764-2194 or email aeck@dematha.org for more information. Please respect the bus drivers as you would respect school staff. If a student is disciplined for an infraction, the parents shall still be responsible for payment of all fees for transportation services. **No refunds will be given.** Thank you for your cooperation. For billing questions: 240-764-2216 or ametz@dematha.org

## Asbestos & Lead Monitoring

Several times a year, the facilities of DeMatha are inspected to ensure that our buildings meet all requirements with respect to the containment and abatement of asbestos covered surfaces (pipes, floor tiles, etc.). DeMatha fully complies with all environmental laws and regulations mandated by state and federal regulations with regard to AHERA. Copies of inspection reports and AHERA compliance documents are available in the Main Office during normal business hours. Additionally, as mandated by MD state law, all drinking water supplies have been inspected for lead and found to be in compliance with state regulations.

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## Dean's Office:

### Attendance

If your student is going to miss school for any reason, make sure you notify the Attendance Office at 240-764-2230 or email: Attendance@Dematha.org *Advance notice is preferred.*

### After-School Waiting Room

Open from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the cafeteria on regular school days. There is no charge.

### After-School Study Hall

After School Study Hall will be held in the library from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., M-Th. There is no charge.

## Music Matters - All Invited!

- ◆ Concert Band I, Percussion Ensemble I, Concert Band, Concert Strings I & Concert Strings, **Thursday, Dec. 8,** Bladensburg HS 7:00pm
- ◆ Percussion Ensemble II, Adv. Percussion Ensemble & Symphonic Band, **Monday, Dec. 12,** Bladensburg High School, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Jazz Ensemble & DM Chorus, **Tuesday, Dec. 13,** Convocation Center, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Sinfonia, Philharmonic & Wind Ensemble **Thurs., Dec. 15,** Bladensburg High School, 7:00 p.m.

## Free Metro Shuttle



Metro Shuttle Service  
Pickup at College Park Metro at 7:45am. Should arrive at DeMatha before 8:00am.

**Morning pickup:** Picks up on the ROUTE 1 SIDE of College Park Metro.

**Afternoon pickup:** Picks up on 44th Street, along the side of the Convocation Center at 3:10 p.m., and drops off at College Park Metro.

## SAT Information

Register for the SAT online [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). The SAT Test dates and registration deadlines for the year are as follows:  
CEEBS# 210660

### Test Date & Registration Deadline

(Late registration is available)

Mar 11, 2023	Feb 10, 2023
May 6, 2023	Apr 7, 2023
Jun 3, 2023	May 4, 2023

## Campus Ministry

### Food Drive Update:

Thanks to everyone who donated to our 2022 Food Drive! We collected over 13,000 canned food/ packaged food items that will benefit over 600 families this holiday season. Amico House brought in the most donations to win House points. All donations benefited our charities including Mary House, Little Sisters of the Poor DC, St. Jerome's, St. Mark's, Holy Redeemer DC and St. Augustine's. And DeMatha earned a day off on Nov 28!

### Our Annual Toy Drive

Reminder: DeMatha's Annual Toy Drive starts **November 29** and runs through December 9. We are collecting new, unwrapped non-violent toys for kids ages 0-12. Donations will benefit the St. Augustine's and will be given to families in need. Please bring any toys to the main lobby by Christmas tree by December 9. Thank you!



### Service Hours

All December service hours are due on **Saturday, December 31**. Any hours that were completed in December should be turned in then. *Senior service hours are due March 6, 2023* and the required Senior Reflection Paper is due on March 24.

Students are required to complete Christian service hours each year at DeMatha. Christian service hours can only be submitted via the MobileServe App. Please visit our website > Student > Christian Service Program for details and instructions. Students need to work with organizations that fulfill their specific yearly requirement. Pre-approved service locations for each grade are listed on the website for your reference. Please do not complete projects without checking to see if they fulfill the requirement first!!! For community service concerns, your son should visit the Campus Ministry Office or see pages 38 - 40 in the Student Handbook. Please email all questions about deadlines and opportunities to Mrs. Bright at [ebright@dematha.org](mailto:ebright@dematha.org). Be sure to identify your son's graduation year in the email.

## Attendance

- **Lost and Found:** Lost and Found is located in the Attendance Office.
- Every student should have a Student Handbook. Please review the handbook with your son.
- We have incorporated "strategic long weekends" along with the holiday breaks. We hope you will use these weekends for college visits, medical appointments, etc.

**December 19 - January 2**  
Christmas/New Year Holiday

**January 16**  
MLK Day

**February 13**  
Cyber Day

**February 20**  
President's Day

**March 31 - April 10**  
Easter/Spring Break

**May 29**  
Memorial Day

**REPORT ABSENCE DIRECTLY**

**240-764-2230**

or

**Attendance@DeMatha.org**

## DM Players

The DeMatha Players are proud to present ***The Werewolf and His Problems*** by Tim Kochenderfer as our fall production this year. This farce involves the struggles of a man who returns to a frontier trapping community to find his love engaged to another man, which prompts him to enter into a Faustian bargain. As the situation spins out of control, the jokes roll apace in this fun piece. The show will be performed December 2, 3 and 4, with a small live audience and available to stream as well. We hope to see you there! Visit the Stag Store for ticket information.



## December 2022

*Cont. from pg 1*

### December 10

- Toy Drive Ends

### December 15

- Financial Aid & Admission Applications Due

### December 16

- Mass—St. John de Matha Day

### December 17

- St. John de Matha Day

### December 19—Jan 2

- Christmas & New Year Holidays

*Merry Christmas!*

### December 31

- Service Hours Due

*Happy New Year!*

### January 3, 2023

- Classes Resume

### January 11

- NHS Induction Ceremony

### January 13

- End of Second Quarter

## Graduation Video

The 2023 Commencement Video will be available to purchase for \$45 if ordered prior to Dec. 31. This professional DVD typically runs 2 hours, 15 minutes and contains graduation from start to finish and more. Orders placed Jan.1-April 1, will be \$50. After April 1, cost is \$55. DVD's will be shipped directly to your home. Order forms available in Main Office or on our website (under forms).

