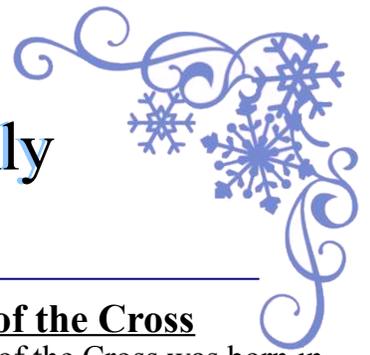




Mater Dei Academy Weekly

December 14th, 2018



Upcoming Events and Reminders:

There will be no Holy Mass next week.

Next *Wednesday, December 19th*, will be a half day with dismissal at NOON. After Christmas break, school resumes on *Wednesday, January 2nd*.

For school closings, please tune in to 10TV or 10tv.com. Mater Dei will be listed specifically. You will also receive an email no later than 6:00 AM if we close for the day.

Please make sure your child(ren) comes to school with appropriate coats, hats, and gloves/mittens when needed. Also, if they are cold in the classrooms, our dress code permits a navy blue button down cardigan sweater for girls and a navy blue pull over cardigan sweater or sweater vest for boys. These sweaters should not have hoods.

Saint of the Day: St. John of the Cross



Saint John of the Cross was born in Avila, Spain in 1542. His family fell into poverty; after his father died, his mother eventually found work weaving. John was sent to a boarding school for poor and orphaned children. He was given a religious education and served as an acolyte at an Augustinian monastery. As he grew older, he went to work in a hospital while attending a Jesuit school.

In 1563, he was able to join the Carmelite Order and then studied theology and philosophy. He became a priest in 1567 and met Theresa of Avila, a charismatic Carmelite nun, who asked him to follow her. John was attracted by the strict routine followed by Theresa, a routine she hoped to reintroduce to her order, as well as her devotion to prayer and simplicity. Her followers went barefoot, and were therefore known as the discalced Carmelites. Theresa founded a new monastery and John changed his name to John of the Cross. He became Teresa's confessor and spiritual guide. Around 1575, a disagreement over reform began to grow and create controversy between the Discalced Carmelites and the regular Carmelites. John was imprisoned in a cell by Carmelites and punished for nine months for disobedience, until he managed to escape. He joined Teresa's nuns in Toledo and worked for reform. In 1580, Pope Gregory ended the rift within the Carmelite order. During the last few years of his life, John traveled and established new houses across Spain. He died on December 14, 1591 and was canonized in 1726. He is the patron of contemplatives, mystics and Spanish poets.

Christmas Program

Tonight-- 7:00PM

Mater Dei Academy

Come for Christmas carols, fellowship, a potluck dinner, and a silent auction. Invite your friends and family.

Mater Dei families, please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Remember to bring items for the silent auction!

Have a safe and blessed weekend.

Almighty Father, You endowed John of the Cross with a spirit of self-denial and a love of the Cross. By following his example, may we come to the eternal vision of Your glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Christ-centered education in the Catholic Tradition

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