



Mater Dei Academy Weekly

February 15th, 2019

Upcoming Events and Reminders:

There will be NO SCHOOL on *Monday, February 18th* for Presidents' Day.

We are not having Mass on Tuesday.

Next Wednesday is Dress Down Day! There is a \$5 charge for dressing down. Make sure the students are dressed appropriately for the weather and in Christian modesty.

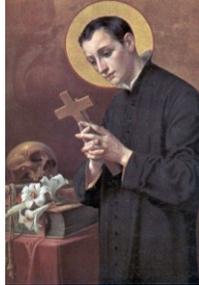
There will be NOON DISMISSAL on *Friday, February 22* for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Please call or email the school to schedule a conference time.

Interim reports will also be distributed on Friday.

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.

Feast Day: St. Claude la Colombière



Born to the French nobility in 1641, St. Claude de la Colombière early on felt called to religious life. He entered the Jesuit novitiate in Lyons, France, at 17, and began a life of study and teaching. After his ordination, he became a teacher at the Jesuit college in Lyons, preached, and served as moderator for several Marian congregations. He also preached against the heresy of Jansenism.

In 1675, Claude was made superior of a Jesuit house in Burgundy. It was there that he became the spiritual director for Sr. Margaret Mary Alacoque, to whom the Lord was revealing His Sacred Heart. Claude served as her confessor for many years. Margaret Mary had uncertainty about the visions she was experiencing, but Claude reassured her and told her to write down her experiences. In accepting the authenticity of the visions, Claude pledged himself to the mission of spreading the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In 1676, Claude was sent to England to serve as chaplain to the Duchess of York. He converted many Protestants through both his words and his holy example. Although encountering many difficulties, he was able to guide St. Margaret Mary by letter. In 1678, due to rumors in England of Catholic plots against the king and the re-establishment of Catholicism, Claude was imprisoned and accused of being a conspirator, but was saved from martyrdom by the efforts of the French King Louis XIV. Claude was then exiled to France, but with his health ruined, died in 1682. He is considered a "dry" martyr, having suffered every abuse for the faith except death. Claude de la Colombière was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1992.

Have a safe and blessed weekend.

St. Claude de la Colombière, you sought the perfect life of holiness and you strengthened others by your preaching; pray for us that we will persevere in times of trouble and remember the power of prayer to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Amen.

A Christ-centered education in the Catholic Tradition

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