



Mater Dei Academy Weekly

May 10th, 2019



Upcoming Events and Reminders:

Holy Mass and Confessions will be on *Tuesday, May 14th* at 8 AM. All are invited to join us! Please let us know if you will attend to ensure enough hosts for Holy Communion. The servers for Mass will be Madison Hewitt and Xavier Mascari. The readers will be Munro Hewitt and Joseph Storck.

Please return your re-enrollment packets, if you have not yet done so. Thank you!

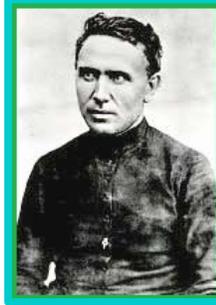
Fun Day will be next *Friday, May 17th*. Students may dress down in clothing appropriate for the weather and in Christian modesty. No spaghetti straps or cap sleeves are allowed. Students should wear tennis shoes. No sandals, please. Please note: Dismissal changed to **11 AM**.

Cleaning day is on *Thursday, May 23rd*. Students need to bring a bucket and rags. They may dress down in clothing appropriate for the weather and in Christian modesty. Students should wear tennis shoes. No sandals, please. Dismissal at **NOON**.

Report cards will be sent home on Cleaning Day.

Graduation Mass will be at 10:00 a.m. on *Friday, May 24th* at Holy Family Church with a luncheon to follow. Students should be there by 9:40. All students, except the graduate, must be in uniform. Since it counts as a regular school day, all students are expected to attend, and may leave with their parents after Mass. Family and friends are welcome to come to the Mass and luncheon. Please support our students by attending! Holy Family is at *584 W Broad St., Columbus*.

Saint of the Day: St. Damien de Veuster



St. Damien was born Joseph de Veuster in Tremelo, Belgium, in 1840. At age 20, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, the order to which his brother also belonged. There he took the name of Damien. He was sent to the Hawaiian missions in 1864 and was ordained a priest. For the next nine years, Fr. Damien worked in various missions throughout the island of Hawaii.

At that time, the Hawaiian Government decided on a very harsh measure aimed at stopping the spread of leprosy: the deportation of all lepers to the neighboring island of Moloka'i. Fr. Damien volunteered as a missionary priest to the leper community. His first course of action was to build a church and to establish the Parish of St. Philomena. He went out "into the highways and byways," caring for the dying, building homes, making coffins and digging graves. Under his leadership, working farms were organized, basic laws enforced, and hospitals, schools and orphanages established, for Fr. Damien had a particular concern and care for the children of his mission. He brought hope to this place of despair, and became a source of encouragement for the lepers as their pastor, the doctor of their souls and of their bodies. He was, above all, a witness of the love of God for His people. Fr. Damien contracted leprosy himself in 1885, but continued to work selflessly and vigorously among his flock until his death in 1889, having served them for sixteen years. He was canonized on October 11th, 2009.

Have a safe and blessed weekend.

God, Light and Shepherd of souls, You established Blessed Damien as Priest in Your Church to feed Your flock by his word and form it by his example. Help us through his intercession to keep the Faith he taught by his word and follow the way he showed by his example. Amen

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