CONGRATULATIONS

Class of 2020
To the Class of 2020:

It doesn’t seem that long ago when I welcomed you all as freshman. I told you then not to blink, and here we are - so, who blinked?? I could never have predicted how much you have enriched my life and the lives of so many others over the last four years.

I am confident that everyone in your families will agree that your colleges and universities do not fully realize yet how blessed they will be with you there to enhance their school communities.

Wherever you are, remember that we are with you, we are in your corner, and we are pulling for you. Please don’t forget that though you will go on to be and do many different things, that you will always be a Knight Forever and that Alter will always be a place where you are known and loved.

Know that as I pray for you all, I always pray that you have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God.

It was such an amazing day on Friday, June 26th, as we came together for three Baccalaureate Masses, 161 individual graduations, and our first ever Senior Awards/Baccalaureate Dinner combination. It was an honor and a privilege to walk alongside you over the past four years, and to finally stand beside you as you received your diploma and officially graduated.

As I told you at the dinner, one of my personal heroes is Mother Theresa. What's interesting about Mother Theresa is that she, like all of us, has no idea what God had in store for her. She simply knew that he was asking her to change the world. One of her most famous sayings is that if she were the only one to answer Christ’s call, she was determined to be that ONE.

On Friday night as you left as graduates, I asked each one of you to be the ONE. Be the one who offers hope; be the one who gives a hug or shares a smile; be the one who brings light into the room; be the one who loves.

I love you all!

Lourdes Lambert
Proud Principal
The Knight Times

SCHOOL UPDATES

SUMMER HOURS
Our office hours continue to be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. through the month of July.

Please make an appointment with the person you would like to see if you are able.

HEALTH & WELLNESS FORMS
Please continue to return your health and wellness forms to Mrs. Groene at barbara.groene@alterhs.org. These forms are required of all students new to Alter.

Returning students already have these forms on file.

PAPERWORK
Packets with the beginning of the school year paperwork and school schedules will be mailed August 3rd.

SPIRIT SHOP
Please be reminded that our Spirit shop continues to be open on Tuesdays and Thursday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

If you would like to visit the shop between 9 and 11 a.m., please use the sign up genius for a 15 minute time slot:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044FA4A723A6FC1-alter6

FRESHMEN ORIENTATION
Freshmen parents - please continue to save the date for Freshmen Orientation on Sunday, August 16, 2020 from 2-4 p.m. Details will follow regarding the program for this important date.

Please contact Mrs. Eiken at (937) 428-5303 or email laura.eiken@alterhs.org, if you have a change of address, phone number or e-mail. We use this information to provide you with updates.

PARKING PASSES
Parking passes will be on sale to seniors and juniors on August 4th and 5th. August 4th is for seniors from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., and August 5th is for seniors and juniors from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

All parking passes are $40, and this amount will be billed to your FACTS account.

Please look for the postcard coming to the homes of all juniors and seniors. This postcard must be filled out and submitted at the time of the pass purchase. Parking passes will be available on a first come first served basis.
Charlotte Kunesh & Mason Henry

Outstanding Seniors
Charlotte Kunesh & Mason Henry

Archbishop Alter Award
Miley Azbill

John Ernst Award
Hank Hacker

Maria Joseph Award
Katie White

Valor Award
Meredith Russ & Charles Broyles

William Truxel Award
Lydia Booth

School Citizenship Award
Cora Cunningham & Kofi Darkwa

Waging Peace Award
Anna Sweeney & Kofi Darkwa

Leo F. Trick Memorial Award
Elizabeth Jasek & Peter Schimpf

Hinkle Award
Zoe Borman

William F. Rankin Athletic Award
Cora Cunningham & Mason Henry

Gerald Bart Award
Jack Holtgreive
Lauren Schimpf

Outstanding Service Award
Lydia Booth, Rachael Harker, Thomas Junker, Lauren Schimpf, Trevor Towney, Ethan Deep, Jack Holtgreive, Allison Popp, Anna Sweeney

Class of 2020

Charlotte Kunesh
Valedictorian

Elizabeth Jasek
Salutatorian

Mason Henry
Outstanding Senior

Charlotte Kunesh
Outstanding Senior

alterhs.org
937.434.4434
GRADUATE DEMOGRAPHICS

Women: 82  
Men: 80  
Total Graduates: 162

4 Year College: 93%  
2 Year College/Program: 6%  
Joining Military Branch: 1%

86% Admitted to First Choice School  
76% Attending First Choice School  
76% Offered Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

- 6 Full Academic  
- 253 Partial Academic  
- 3 Full Athletic  
- 8 Partial Athletic  
- 1 ROTC  
- 5 Music  
- 1 Talent

SCHOLARSHIPS VALUED AT OVER $16.7 MILLION HAVE BEEN OFFERED TO 76% OF THE GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2020


CHARLOTTE KUNESH
VALEDICTORIAN

Good evening, administration, faculty and staff, parents, and classmates. Thank you all for being here tonight. Finally! I know this is not what we expected. None of this is. I remember sitting in physics class just a few months ago during one of Mr. Thuente’s science talks, and he mentioned something about a new virus in China, but it seemed so distant, so remote. Everything escalated so quickly, and just a couple of weeks later, I had an entirely new normal, one that seemed never ending and mostly consisted of logging on to Zoom classes in my pajamas.

As much as I do not want to dwell on what has turned into our unexpected reality, I also think it is important to acknowledge the strength and resilience that the Class of 2020 has had to obtain to endure the past months. We had loved ones or friends of loved ones experience the health or economic impacts of the pandemic. We had our last day of high school without even knowing it. We missed out on moments, performances, seasons that we have worked so hard for. We never got goodbyes. We never got closure.

Now I am sure that just like me, you have experienced firsthand in the past months how easy it is to let the disappointments be the thing that flood your perspective, to question why events had to unfold the way they did. I will never know why, but what I do know is that we have the power to shift our focus. By refusing to let the darkness permeate all that is good, we can stop counting the things we have lost and try to count the lessons we have gained.

Firstly, I know I learned the significance of being truly present in the moment. There are so many times when I got to school and just went through the motions. I wanted to get through a multi-genre, a Chemistry lab, a Spanish homework. As much as I love to learn, there were plenty of times when I would find myself saying, “You just have to get through this day” when I should have been saying, “You get the chance to go through this day.” The truth is, life is unexpected and moments are fleeting. I know that from now on, I will carry with me the importance of living in each moment. After all, Catholic priest and theologian Henri Nouwen once said, “God is a God of the present. God is always in the moment, be that moment hard or easy, joyful and painful.”

Secondly, lack of conventionality does not mean lack of accomplishment. Nobody and nothing can take away all that you have achieved. I especially feel gratitude to all the Alter faculty and staff. Thank you for not letting the end of this year and all the seniors go uncelebrated. You showed us that quarantine does not isolate us from love; sometimes, you just have to get a little creative in order to show it. I mean, who would have known how happy we would all be to just sit in the same parking lot together?

Finally, I think the biggest takeaway of this time has been the importance of unity. We can never do it alone, and it is times like these that emphasize just how much we need each other. As much as I missed events like the Washington DC trip and Prom, I realized what I missed even more was just you, our community. I missed waving to people in the hallway. I missed the last-minute conversations that took place before the bell rung. I missed hearing Trevor say “And now for the pledge” every single morning without fail. I missed being together in any shape or form. It was not until I was in a state of such isolation that I truly realized the impact that we have on one another. I want you to remember that impact and how great of an influence you hold in the lives around you, even if you don’t realize it. Use that influence. Use it to remind people how much you value them and how much they are loved.

I am honored to be a part of the Class of 2020. It is no secret that I am here surrounded by high-achieving students, artists, and athletes, but more importantly genuine, compassionate people. Thank you for pushing me to always be my best self. Thank you for creating a community where people are built up and supported. Thank you, teachers, for enriching the lives of us, the students, and for being examples of patience, hard work, and selflessness. Thank you to Mrs. Lambert, who always goes the extra mile to make each and every one of us feel seen and loved. And thank you to our families, particularly our parents, who are our first teachers and who have made so many sacrifices so that we can be where we are today. I especially want to thank my family. Thank you, Mom and Dad, for being the ultimate example of work ethic, love, and service to others. I couldn’t do any of this without you.

As we go our separate ways, I offer you these pieces of wisdom:
Grow without fear of failure. Whether we like it or not, we’re growing up. We are transitioning into the real world and we have a lot to learn. It is intimidating not knowing what the future may hold. I challenge you to push yourself, ask questions, and most importantly allow yourself to fully experience both the successes and the failures. Let failure in and do not let it scare you from going after what you want or from trying something new. Every moment, especially the failures, is an opportunity for growth.

As you leave this small community and enter into a much larger and diverse one, you are going to meet people who are different than you, those of different cultures, backgrounds, faiths, and beliefs. Embrace those differences and learn from those around you. Each person you encounter is an opportunity to broaden your perspective. When things don’t go as planned, and they won’t, do not lose faith. Relinquish control and the notion that you have to have everything figured out. Trust in God. It is not our plan at the end of the day. It’s His.

I think it is quite evident that the world is broken. Our country is full of division and hurt. It’s overwhelming as a young person to have to step into this world and see all the issues plaguing our society. You may not know where to start, you may not think you can make a difference, you may not want to interfere. But being peaceful and loving does not mean you have to be silent. Use your knowledge, your faith, your gifts and your values to be a voice for what you want to change in this world. It is our future. We decide how we are going to shape it. So shape it with grit and tenacity, but also with kindness, inclusivity, and empathy.

Four years ago, I walked into Alter, ready to start a new chapter and full of excitement, nerves, and anticipation. Mrs. Lambert told me not to blink, but I didn’t listen and here we are again, about to embark on a new adventure. Though we are on separate paths, there is no doubt that we are tied together in a bond more unique than any other class. I am incredibly grateful to have known you all, and I look forward to celebrating all your accomplishments and successes, no matter how far apart we are. Congratulations, my fellow knights of the Class of 2020!
ELIZABETH JASEK
SALUTATORIAN

Welcome faculty and staff, parents, and fellow classmates to this night of celebration of the Class of 2020. It is a true gift to be physically present with you all tonight.

But yet - to state the obvious - we wouldn't all be present here, there wouldn't be a present, without a past. Our past as a class has contained so many fond moments, friendships, challenges, and - most importantly - so much growth. That growth was gradual, it crept up slowly inch after inch, until we unfortunately blinked - despite Mrs. Lambert's warnings - and were suddenly 7 feet tall. Well, perhaps not literally for most of us, but maybe metaphorically? I think if we all did a sort of Freaky Friday switch between our current selves and our freshman selves, we would perhaps be just a little surprised at how different we actually were. Like how clueless, uncultured, and simply dumb we used to be... Okay, maybe that's a little harsh, but surprise! - we did actually receive an education when we went to high school! And now, we know a lot more not just about how to write an essay or do math, but about different perspectives, how to be leaders, and how to survive when utterly sleep deprived.

We also have grown closer and closer as a class, bonding through all we've experienced together. Remember being squeezed like sardines at the freshmen Fairmont game? Feeling awkward at those Emotional Intelligence meetings? Those AP Gov “Identifies” that took you 7 hours? Speech class? Need I mention all those PSATs, ACTs, and college applications you probably mostly blocked out? We've survived through it all together.

Along the way, we've also had the unique opportunity that not many high schoolers get to educate our spirits. Junior retreat and especially Kairos were particularly meaningful moments where we learned the power of openness and vulnerability and the beauty of Christ-like love and empathy for one another. That spiritual education of integrity, service, and trust in God incorporated throughout our past four years has affected us all in some way and helped shape us into more compassionate, purposeful people.

We also have learned that, sometimes, even Mr. Thuente can be wrong. For, despite his prediction that COVID would never close down schools, it unfortunately did. And all, as Mr. Schuster would say, was chaos. Our world and our ideas of what the end of our senior year would be like were suddenly turned upside down. It was a time of complex emotions. We longed for those daily interactions with our friends, peers, and teachers we could no longer have, and at least some of us discovered we actually missed going to school. But, to be honest, we also all quickly became tired of staring like zombies at computer screens and couldn't wait for this new “Zoom High School” thing to be over.

And now, after over a month of wondering whether we have actually graduated or not, we can now say that we’ve officially done it. And we’ve made history in the process, as the first Alter class that has graduated during a worldwide pandemic. Although masks may be the new normal, we have not let our love and camaraderie be masked. Although we may have to sanitize and disinfect, our accomplishments, dreams, and faith have not been wiped away. And, although we may have to keep social distance, we have neither distanced ourselves from one another nor ceased looking into the distance towards bright futures full of hope.

Today, we celebrate and remember with gratitude our past four years as a class - all the joys and challenges, shared memories, and ways we have grown in resilience, identity, and spirit. My sincere thanks to my teachers, parents, and fellow classmates for it all. And, without further ado, with our memories of these past 4 years perhaps slightly more refreshed, let us continue to celebrate this most monumental day!
The Knight Times

CLASS OF 2020
GRADUATION

Below is the link and password for viewing graduation photos.
Graduation photos will be available to purchase online after July 4th.

https://easterlingstudios.zenfolio.com/f286601320
Password: ALhs20
TOP 10 GRADUATION PICS

The Knight Times
Pauline Rocco, Lindsey Rocco ’20, Anthony Rocco ’91

Michelle Misenko ’81 Harker, Rachael Harker ’20, Mike Harker ’81

Sophie Leen ’20, Jennifer Mercuro ’91 Leen, Brian Leen ’91, Lauren Schimpf ’20, Matthew Schimpf ’20, Kim Graf ’88 Schimpf, John Schimpf ’88

Christina Homan ’85 White, John White ’83, Kathryn White ’20, Maura Homan ’20, Dave Homan ’87, Amy Homan

Bernie Holtgreve, Jack Holtgreve ’20, Shannon Finsdon ’86 Holtgreve

John Kunesh ’85, Charlotte Kunesh ’20, Sarah Kunesh

Kristen Schweisthal ’88, Meredith Russ ’20, Steve Russ

Brydgett Lair, Kate Lair ’20, Nick Lair ’88

Jenny Moore ’94 Schoen, Lucy Schoen ’20, John Schoen ’92

Teri O’Brien ’90 Fortman, Michael Fortman ’20

Peter Schimpf ’20, Dennis Schimpf ’86, Angie Gehring ’86 Schimpf, Chuck Kohnen ’85, Kenneth Kohnen ’20, Angie Fratini ’86 Kohnen

Sara Meunier ’98 Drozda, Matthew Drozda ’20, Joe Drozda

Deb Breakall ’88 LiBrandi, Sara LiBrandi ’20
From the Guidance Office
Shannon Brown, Kati Fulk, and Teresa Rupper

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE:
After a whirlwind semester and crazy end-of-the-year unknowns, we were so happy to finally witness the Class of 2020 have their special Graduation Day!! Congratulations and best wishes from the Guidance office to each one of you and your families! Every year, our graduating seniors have so much to brag about, and this year that is especially true. Not only did they navigate the end of their senior year in a pandemic, but they managed to stack up a long list of accomplishments as well. We wish we could list them all, but here is a brief snapshot. As of graduation, 99% of our 162 graduates will be attending college (either two or four-year) in the fall and have been offered over 16.8 million dollars in scholarships. We are so proud of all our seniors’ hard work, drive, flexibility and perseverance! If any senior has made a change in their post-high school plans, please contact the Guidance office immediately. This is vital for ensuring final transcripts are sent to the appropriate college or university. Final transcripts were forwarded to colleges in mid-June. Additionally, transcripts were uploaded to the NCAA for those students who required that as well.

SENIORS:
In all likelihood, the Class of 2021 will have its own challenges for the upcoming college application season. Although there are many unknowns ahead, be assured that we will all navigate them together. Although they can’t actually finalize and submit any college applications until mid to late September, there are a few potential projects students can start to get some of the work off of their plates. Several tasks might include: compiling a list of potential schools and deadlines; researching scholarships/financial aid available from those schools; thinking of whom they would like to ask and/or asking for a recommendation letter; and making notes for potential college essays are all great ideas for application planning. Additionally, if students will be using the Common Application to apply to college, those essay prompts have been released. Students are advised to pick one essay from the available seven and write 650 words or less on their chosen topic. Common essay prompts can be found by visiting https://appsupport.commonapp.org/applicantsupport/s/article/What-are-the-2020-2021-Common-Application-essay-prompts

JUNIORS:
Current juniors (Class of 2022) planning to play Division I or II sports in college are reminded that they must be registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center. This link will help you get started: www.eligibilitycenter.org We look forward to another wonderful school year and pray for a more normal one ahead. In the meantime, enjoy your summer! A counselor will be in the office on Thursdays in July during office hours (9:00-1:30) However, if you would like to meet in person, an appointment is highly recommended.
A FEW LAST REMINDERS TO THE CLASS OF 2020:

To update your resume:
- Add any awards and scholarships received
- Add your university/college name and major (if you know it) under the Education section above the Alter entry
- Remove your Alter email and add college email and/or personal email

Finally:
- Request transcripts from the university for any College Credit Plus classes taken while at Alter
- Write thank you notes for any scholarships you received
- Write a thank you to any teacher, coach, counselor who wrote you a LOR

CLASS OF 2021 SENIOR PARENTS

Please watch for upcoming information for a fall meeting of **MY FAMILY’S FIRST**

Sharon Talarczyk, Facilitator of the Taylor College Resource Center, will discuss:

- the college application timeline
- acceptance statistics of Ohio’s public and private universities
- definition of college terms
- changes in parental involvement

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2020

The new Alter graduates will continue their education at 39 different colleges or universities in 18 states. An amazing 76% of the Class of 2020 were awarded some type of scholarship, either directly from the college or from a civic organization, for their outstanding academics, athletics, or service to the community. A few have chosen to serve the US military by accepting ROTC scholarships or enlisting directly. I sincerely hope all seniors found the Taylor College Resource Center to be beneficial in their college and career search.

Congratulations to all Alter students who received scholarships but especially to the following students who used the Taylor Center extensively for their scholarship search and application: Miley Azbill, Dejah Blackmon, Cora Cunningham, Kofi Darkwa, Matthew Drozd, Lindsey Gross, Shannon Hamilton, Rachael Harker, Maura Homan, Nora Jackson, Elizabeth Jasek, Collin Kepple, Makenna Korzan, Charlotte Kunesh, India Murphy, Margaret Pascual, and Kathryn White. These students took the extra time and effort to search and complete scholarship applications, proving that the Taylor Center mantra of “The best kind of money is free money” is certainly true!
The Taylor College Resource Center

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES
FOR RISING SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS:
• Volunteer in areas of interest
• Update your resume
• Here's a great sample resume with “action verbs” when you're struggling with how to describe your activity https://www.mass.edu/gearup/documents/WritingaResume.pdf
• Visit a college-virtually for now but hopefully on-campus tours will resume sometime this summer!

FOR RISING SENIORS:
• Finish college visits- virtually for now but hopefully on campus tours will resume sometime this summer!
• Prepare your list of schools for which you will apply
• Update your resume
• Here's a great sample resume with “action verbs” when you're struggling with how to describe your activity https://www.mass.edu/gearup/documents/WritingaResume.pdf
• Volunteer-especially with a group or business related to a potential academic major
• The Common App essay prompts have been announced and can be found at: https://www.commonapp.org/apply/essay-prompts
• Choose 1-2 teachers, coaches, mentors, or supervisors to ask to write a Letter of Recommendation when you return to school

FOR PARENTS:
• Enjoy some extra time with your children. Before you know it, you will have an Alter graduate
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL FOR THE 2020 – 2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

President: Aidan Plate  
Vice – President: Jack Ruffolo  
Social Officer: Marie Lunne  
Spirit Officer: Julia Ruffolo

Senior Class Officers:  
Izzy Brose  
Taylor Thornburg  
Simon Yacoub

Junior Class Officers:  
Ashley Fortman  
Mike Lantz  
Elizabeth Schlemmer  
Tommy Switala

Sophomore Class Officers:  
Izzy Albrecht  
Barret Callejo  
Grace Girmann  
Anthony Ruffolo

SCIENCE FAIR

These students went above and beyond the classroom by receiving Superiors at the District Science Fair and then competing at the State level. Congratulations to all! What a wonderful representation of Alter!

Mr. Ben Thomas Burkhardt  Superior  
Project Title: The Effects of Muscle Fatigue on Balance

Ms. Cassandra Marie Eckert  Superior  
Project Title: The Filtration of Nanosilver from Water Using Hollow Fiber and Carbon Membranes

Mr. Thomas Joseph Eckert  Excellent  
Project Title: Sound Absorbers All Over

Mr. Ryan D Geiger  Excellent  
Project Title: Dayton Area Tap Water Quality

Mr Joey Gulas  Superior  
Project Title: The Effect of Road Salts on Soybean Growth and Production

Ms Arpita Gulati  Excellent  
Project Title: Beating Bacteria: the Effectiveness of Herbal Alternatives and Pharmaceuticals Compared

Mr Andrew Daniel Schenck  Excellent  
Project Title: The Effect of Plastic in Soil on Grass Growth

HONOR ROLL

4TH QUARTER

ALTER

ARCHBISHOP HS and Fairmont HS are holding a Kettering community blood drive.

Since March, Community Blood Center has lost over 8000 units of blood due to covid 19 closings. They need our help.

If you can, please donate blood so we can supply area hospitals and patients in need.

Please schedule an appointment to donate blood at: Kettering Unity in the Community  
Friday, 07/10/2020 (10:00 am - 04:00 pm)  
3033 Far Hills Ave.  
St. Albert the Great Church: Unity in the Community - Gym  
Kettering, OH 45429
Dear Senior Parents and Students,

I know that some of you have already started to think about getting senior pictures taken. Easterling is our school photographer. All senior must have their yearbook photo taken at Easterling studios.

Easterling is much more than just a yearbook studio. They offer casual sessions which highlight your personality. They have many different options for backgrounds and have an outdoor area.

The attached brochure features specials Easterling is running during the months of July and August. This is a great time to have your senior portrait done for the yearbook. You can call (937)222-8410 to make an appointment.

You are free to wear anything you want for your photo shoot. However, in order to maintain the professionalism of the yearbook and the school, Alter High School has established a dress code for your actual yearbook portrait. The details are as follows:

**Males** – sport coat or suit coat, dress shirt, and tie. *Men must be clean shaven (no stubble or visible facial hair).*

**Females** – a dressy shirt, blouse, sweater, or dress with a *modest neckline and sleeves*, or the traditional black drape provided by Easterling Studios (shoulders covered).

The deadline for senior pictures: **November 20, 2020**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Kathy Riegel, kathy.riegel@alterhs.org
THE ALTER FUNNY PAPERS

It's important to keep our sense of humor during this time. Here's a peek at our recent Funny Papers.

PRETTY WILD HOW WE USED TO EAT CAKE AFTER SOMEONE HAD BLOWN ON IT... GOOD TIMES...

STRATEGIC CLEANUP FOR ZOOM CALLS

Finally understood what zoom meetings remind me of.

MOM GETS A PHONE CALL.

When my son failed a math test before March 1, 2020:
“Did you not study? Are you not paying attention in class? Do you need a tutor?”

When my son fails a math test today:
“Weep, buddy, we did our best.”

At the store, there was an X on the floor, for me to stand on.
I’ve seen too many Road Runner cartoons to fall for that crap!

BREAKING NEWS...

John Travolta was hospitalized for suspected COVID-19, but doctors now confirm that it was only Saturday Night Fever, and they assure everyone that he is Staying Alive.

Apparently, he had chills that were multiplying.

WHERE’S WALDO?

SOCIAL DISTANCING EDITION

NOT FUNNY!

CLOWNS IN SELF-QUARANTINE

“Remember, as soon as he has joined the videoconference, it’s showtime!”

GIRL, I ALMOST BIT YOU

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAIR, WHY YOU GOT A MUSTACHE.

Here’s Debbie

Debbie is 31 years old and has been home schooling her kids for the past 4 hours.

COMICSKINGDOM.COM
Rhymes with Orange
Rhymes with Orange

The Knight Times
It's not too late to join the Alter Marching Knights!

Play an instrument? Join us!
Want to learn an instrument? Join us!
Love to dance and perform? Join our Color Guard!

Registration and $100 deposit for 2020-21 season.
Email Director of Bands, Todd Tucker for registration link and information. todd.tucker@alterhs.org

Our 2020 show will feature the music of The Beatles!

All Member Camps:
Mini Camp: July 20 - 24, 2020, 9:00am - 5:00pm at Alter High School
Band Camp: July 27 - 31, 2020, 8:30am - 6:30pm at Alter High School

We have been invited to perform in Orlando, Florida at Walt Disney World. We are currently still planning that performance trip for November.

Featuring our own Todd Tucker

The latest promo from Music for All, "With A Little Help From My Friends", an unscripted conversation with master teachers, presented by Yamaha. Live on July 1, 2020 at 8pm ET.
Alter Castle Players is celebrating another year of heartfelt storytelling as they wrap up their 2019-2020 season. The year began in October with the somber *26 Pebbles*, a play that recounts in first person the horror and aftermath of the Sandy Hook elementary school shootings. Audiences were left with stark images of the impact the event left on the families and the entire Newtown, Connecticut community. The production even received the attention of the playwright, Eric Ulloa, who sent the cast and crew a video message in advance of opening night.

Once the curtain fell on *26 Pebbles*, the Castle Players team quickly moved into rehearsals for *Freaky Friday*, the winter musical that shifted gears and made audiences laugh and cry as the cast and crew shared the story of a mother and daughter who switch bodies and learn to appreciate each other's struggles and fears. They both survive planning a wedding, running a catering business under the watchful eye of a top catering magazine in town to feature the family business, and getting through a week of high school. Once they return to themselves, their family is closer than ever.

In February, Alter's Got Talent took over the stage and featured the area's top teen talent. The annual talent show welcomes students from all schools grades 6-12 and showcases singing, dancing, comedy, magic, and any other talent the students are willing to share. This year's winner was Faith Chambers, an Alter sophomore, who wowed the crowd with her amazing vocals. The top five finalists all win cash prizes, with the winner taking home $500.

The program was set to end the season on a high note with its production of Tony Award-winning *Once on This Island*, the story of life, loss, and hope told through the love story of Daniel and Ti Moune and shared by the gods of earth, death, love, and water. However, COVID had other plans for all of us, and the show has been postponed until later this summer. Everyone in Castle Players is hopeful that the cast and crew will be able to share this musical masterpiece with an eager audience. Stay tuned for updates once Castle Players has more information.

"Our cast and crew are heartbroken to postpone the show, but we are optimistic that we will still be able to share it with everyone when the time is right," said Megan Sears, director. "The cast and crew poured their hearts into this production and the story is relevant for today, now more than ever. It is a testament to hope and to life conquering the hardships that we encounter."

In addition to *Once on This Island*, Castle Players will also hold its annual theatre celebration where program awards will be announced, and the seniors will perform for the last time on the Alter stage.

*The season for next year is being established and will be shared as soon as possible. To learn more about Castle Players, see a gallery of past shows, and support the program, visit alterhs.org/arts/theatre/*
**CASTLE PLAYERS NEWS**

On Sunday, June 14th the Castle Players and their families gathered in the school parking lot to celebrate their 2019-2020 theatre season. We couldn’t have asked for a more beautiful night filled with wonderful speeches, inspiring performances, and so much love. It truly was an INCREDIBLE night celebrating these talented students and all the work they were able to accomplish this year. This year they have shown hope, perseverance, joy and what it is TRULY like to “live in the moment”. I am SOOO proud!

Thank you to everyone that made this theatre season possible. It truly takes a village. Thank you to the patrons, without our fans, we wouldn’t have a show. Thank you to the parents for hopping on the train with me and trusting me with your greatest gifts- they make me a better educator. Thank you to the theatre boosters and our fearless booster president, Deb LiBrandi. You all give complete and total dedication to not only this program and these kids, but to me. Thank you to my designers for giving in to my crazy visions and producing them so elegantly. And thank you to Principal Lourdes Lambert and the Administration. Without your support this program wouldn’t exist. We are so lucky to have a school that cares so deeply for the arts.

To my beautiful, talented, courageous, driven and passionate seniors— “Time to fly…. Time to fly!”

(Emily Dillon, Elizabeth Jasek, Charlotte Kunesh, Sara LiBrandi, Issi McCoy, Ben Mueller, Jack Nyhan, Marcael O’Neal, Maggie Pascual, Sigurd Peterson, Jason Rosario, Meredith Russ, Zoe Singleton, Zach Steams, Arianna VanKirk, Alison Wallace)

**SPECIAL SENIOR AWARDS**

- **Breakthrough Performance- Alison Wallace and Ben Mueller**
  A breakthrough performance is an industry term recognizing the performance of an actor or actress in a production which represented significant advancements to both their individual development of craft and the production at large - all through one singular standout performance.

- **Outstanding Crew- Emily Dillon**
  Awarded to a student who has shown dedication and excellence behind the scenes in the Castle Players productions. This student’s large contributions make Castle Players productions of high technical standard and maintain the professionalism for which this program is known.

- **Superb Leadership- Elizabeth Jasek**
  Awarded to the student who exemplifies superior performance and strong leadership - all the while serving as a constant example of Christ’s love and compassion to others.

- **St. Genesius- Charlotte Kunesh**
  Awarded to the student who has achieved excellence in theatre performance and exemplified consistency and hard work to excel as a triple threat performer in areas of music, acting, and dance - thus contributing not only to productions but the betterment of cast and crew at large. St. Genesius is regarded as the patron saint of actors.

- **Lifetime Achievement- Sara LiBrandi and Meredith Russ**
  Awarded to the student(s) who has shown dedication and excellence in EVERY Castle Players production. Their commitment and contribution to Castle Players is exemplary and demonstrates a commitment both on and off stage. This student’s impact will be felt long after leaving Alter as the high standard they achieved helps to shape the next new standard for the program.

- **Department Award- Sara LiBrandi**
  Awarded to a student who is not only a true leader on and off the stage, but who has shown dedication, excellence and passion for theatre. As the program’s highest honor, this student personifies the values - both artistic and intrinsic - that are the hallmark of Castle Players. While high level performance is one facet of this award, supreme dedication to the craft, training and the program as a whole is the most identifying characteristic of this award. This award is presented to a student whose contributions will shape the future of the department and its productions.

**ONCE ON THIS ISLAND UPDATE**

Dear Castle Players Supporter,

This update is brought to you with many tears, pain and prayer. With the current guidelines and no “end in sight” for theatre, it is with an extremely heavy heart that we cancel the July production of ONCE ON THIS ISLAND. As you know, this was NEVER our intention, but the future is still so unknown and we cannot continue hoping for a miracle for the state to lift restrictions for theatres.

This hurts, we know it does, and we wish we could take that pain away, but in times like these, we look to theatre to bring us that hope. And it WILL come back. The dress rehearsal production The Castle Players performed for their parents in March was more than we could have ever asked for. At its heart, ISLAND is about weathering storms and the Castle Players has weathered its fair share over the years. And we have survived, this will be no different. Answers are hard to come by - and we all have a lot of questions. But this is not the end, just a new kind of beginning. We are ENDLESSLY proud and cannot wait to create with the students again soon.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

For those of you that purchased tickets to ONCE ON THIS ISLAND, thank you for supporting the arts.

As I am sure you know, COVID caused many issues for our school community that had a ripple effect on every program, and theatre is no exception. With 100% of production costs already paid for, we depend on ticket sales to offset the cost of the production and fund future Castle Player productions. At this point we will be entering next year’s season in a deficit. To help offset some of this loss, we are asking patrons like you to consider making a donation to our program in the amount of your tickets. We hope that the generous support of patrons like you will help The Castle Players program in a difficult time. We know that everyone is in need right now, therefore, if you would like a refund, we completely understand. PLEASE NOTE, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING AN EMAIL FROM BOOKITX DIRECTLY REGARDING THE DONATION/REFUND OF YOUR TICKETS. However, they are only operating on a full donation or full refund. If you have special requests, (donating partial ticket orders) please let us know so we can accommodate. Also, let us know if you would like a tax- deductible letter if you chose to donate the amount of your tickets.

*We are currently exploring other fundraising ideas involving viewing the dress rehearsal of ONCE ON THIS ISLAND AND previous Castle Players productions- from your own home! More to come soon! Thank you and much love,
Megan Sears and The Castle Players

The Knight Times
ARCHBISHOP ALTER HIGH SCHOOL
2020-2021 CALENDAR

AUGUST
13/14: New Teacher Orientation
16: Freshman Parent/Student Orientation (2-4pm)
17: Teacher Retreat
18: Teacher Workday
19: Freshman First Day (½ day retreat, ½ day school info)
20: First Day All students
20: All School Mass at St Charles.
25: Underclassmen Picture Day
26: Meet the Teacher Night 7-9pm
Parking lot will close starting tonight for Alterfest
27: Alter vs. Fairmont Football Game

SEPTEMBER
3: Alter vs. Marshall Football Game
7: Labor Day – No School
18: Homecoming Football Game
19: Homecoming Dance
20-21: Junior Retreat - #1
22-25: Kairos #1
26: Bands of America Competition - WSU

OCTOBER
1: All School Mass
1-4: Fall Play (Arts Wing)
7: Knight of Gratitude (Arts Wing)
9: End of First Quarter
10: Turnabout (TENTATIVE) Soph-Seniors
11-12: Junior Retreat #2
14: ACRE/Senior Grad. Info. and PSAT testing
(½-day Sophs, Jr. and Srs) No School Freshman
17: Band Competition – Miamisburg HS
18: Open House (1-3pm)
22: Parent Conferences (11-7pm) No School
22: 8th Grade Parent Meeting 7pm
31: Band Competition – Centerville HS

NOVEMBER
2: All School Mass (All Saints)
3: Blood Drive
7: Band State Competition
12-14: Band Grand Nationals
21: High School Placement Test
20-22: Lances to Indianapolis
20-25: Band in Disney
24: Grandparents Day and All School Mass
25-27: Thanksgiving Break – No School
30: Giving Tree Assembly

DECEMBER
2: Reconciliation Services
3-6: Winter Production (Arts Wing)
8: All School Mass
8: Band Concert
10: Exams 1 and 2 – Noon Dismissal
11: Exams 3 and 4 – Noon Dismissal
14: Exams 5 and 6 – Noon Dismissal
15: Elementary Band Concert (Arts Wing)
16: Exams 7 and 8 – Noon Dismissal
17: Exam Make Up Day and Teacher Workday
17-Jan 3: Christmas Break – No School

FACULTY SCHOOL OF FAITH:
August 18: 8:30 to 3:00
October 14: 12:30 to 3:00
December 10: 8:30 to 11:30
December 16: 8:30 to 11:30
February 23: 12:30 to 3:30
March 11: 12:30 to 3:30
May 24: 12:30 to 3:30
May 26: 12:30 to 3:30
### Summer Days & Knights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boy's Basketball</td>
<td>2-5</td>
<td>July 6-9</td>
<td>8:30am-11:30am</td>
<td>$90</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART: Middle School Monets</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>July 6-9</td>
<td>12:30-3:30pm</td>
<td>$80</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART: Pint Sized Picassos</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>July 13-16</td>
<td>12:30-3:30pm</td>
<td>$80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>3-12</td>
<td>July 20-24</td>
<td>9am-3:15pm</td>
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<td>Alter Soccer Academy (Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>3-9</td>
<td>July 20-24</td>
<td>6pm-8pm</td>
<td>$120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musical Theatre Audition</td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>July 27-31</td>
<td>9am-12pm</td>
<td>$135</td>
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<td>Junior Lancies</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>July 29</td>
<td>9am-1pm</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hockey Camp</td>
<td>10 &amp; Under</td>
<td>August 4-7</td>
<td>10am-5pm</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 &amp; Under</td>
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<td>11:30-6:30pm</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<td></td>
<td>High School</td>
<td></td>
<td>2pm-8pm</td>
<td>$450</td>
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Please note: Summer camps are subject to cancellation. Payment will not be accepted online. Payment by check or cash is due on the first day of camp.

Register online today! [ALTERHS.ORG/CAMPS](#)

Wishing you a blessed, healthy, and safe summer!

The Knight Times