December 2, 2022



DECEMBER – A TIME OF PREPARATION FOR OUR HEARTS AND MINDS



Lourdes Lambert

Dear Families:

I hope this newsletter finds you well, and re-energized after time with your loved ones over Thanksgiving break. We began our long Thanksgiving weekend with our grandparents, and are so grateful for their spirit of love, kindness and compassion. It was a great way to kick off Thanksgiving break for students, faculty and staff!

As we look ahead to December, we recognize that it is the season to prepare both our hearts and our minds.

We prepare our hearts during Advent for the birth of our Savior. We had our traditional giving tree ceremony on Monday, November 28th to start the season. We ask that you consider donating to either Catholic Social Services or Hannah's Treasure Chest by choosing an ornament from the giving tree and returning the gift by December 15th. We will also have the opportunity to donate new pajamas to children in need on Friday, December 9th. On this day, we will have our Pajamas for pajamas event where our students may wear pajamas to school if they bring new pajamas to donate. More details on specific sizes of pajamas for each grade level will be forthcoming. As we prepare our hearts through giving, we will also prepare our hearts by participating in Advent Reconciliation Services on Wednesday, December 7th in Theology classes, and by celebrating Mass together on Thursday, December 8th for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

As we prepare our hearts, we know it is also the season where we must also prepare our minds for semester exams. Our semester exams begin on Thursday, December 15th, and, during this time of preparation, I have a few suggestions that may make exam preparation a bit easier especially for our freshmen students and students new to our school:

Take time now to encourage your child to gather materials for their exams. Remind them to collect old tests, notes, flashcards, study guides and quizlets.

- Suggest to your child to begin to review as early as December 1st. This gives them a good two weeks to spend a few minutes each night reviewing for each exam rather than trying to study all night the night before the exam.
- · Take advantage of study guides and exam review materials provided to students by their teachers. Complete the review materials, and use those to study nightly as well.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions your child's teachers will answer any questions your child has about the format of the exam or the best way to study for the exam.

On the day of exams, it is important for students to have had a good night's sleep the night before, and a protein rich breakfast to help them stay focused. They should also bring a snack for the break between exams or have money for snacks from the cafeteria during the break. Water and a granola bar would be an example of a perfect choice! I have included our exam schedule for your convenience below:

Thursday, December 15th: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – First Period Exam 10:05 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Break 10:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Second Period Exam 12 noon – Dismissal

Friday, December 16th: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – Third Period Exam 10:05 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Break 10:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Fourth Period Exam 12 noon – Dismissal

Monday, December 19th: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – Fifth Period Exam 10:05 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Break 10:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Sixth Period Exam 12 noon – Dismissal

Tuesday, December 20th: 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – Seventh Period Exam 10:05 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Break 10:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Eighth Period Exam 12 noon - Dismissal

It is completely expected that students may be nervous and overwhelmed during the time leading up to semester exams. Please remember that we are here to help, and are always willing to speak to students personally about the best way for them to prepare and ease their nerves. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve your family during Advent and every season! May God continue to bestow His many blessings upon you during the coming weeks.

With hope and gratitude,

Lourdes Lambert Principal

REMINDERS

School Office Hours:

7:30 a.m.- 3:45 p.m.

Spirit Shop Hours

Wednesdays:

10:45 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

3:05 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Café Menu

Please Click Here to Review the Menu for Next Week.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 8TH GRADERS

For questions, please contact: admissions@alterhs.org 937-434-4434

KNIGHT OF CELEBRATION: February 23, 2022

CLASS OF 2027 SCHEDULING NIGHT: March 2, 2023

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION: March 30, 2023 & April 20, 2023

Our Shadow Days are currently full, but we are accepting students to be added to our waiting list.

Please email admissions@alterhs.org or call 937-428-5394 to be added!

CAMPUS MINISTRY



Finding Thanksgiving at Mass

Heather Dunn

Each November, Danny and our three boys fill the kitchen wall with cut out paper leaves that say "I am grateful for..." Each night, we write on a leaf that which we are thankful for and why we are thankful for it. You have to share the "why" so you can't get away without a good reason! Oftentimes, the sentiments scribbled on those leaves are the freshest things on our mind that day. Perhaps it's about a coworker who helped us or a friend who cheered us up at lunch. By the end of November, we have a beautifully decorated wall that even the kids admire.

It's a practice we try to continue throughout the year, but without those little leaves, it doesn't have the same intensity. Of course, the leaves aren't necessary, but they provide the intentionality and the physical reminder that helps us with the activity of naming gratitude.

Did you know the word Eucharist means "thanksgiving?" I think about the number of times I go to Mass and receive the Eucharist without enough intentional presence and gratitude. Sometimes I'm distracted by my kids or the simple "to do" list running through my head. It can be difficult to purposefully place myself in a space to practice gratitude. Yet, when we go to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, the physical bread and wine transformed into Jesus transforms me.

We've celebrated five all school Masses and three Friday morning Chapel Masses. How blessed we are to celebrate the Eucharist in Thanksgiving as part of our culture here at Alter High School. To take time out of our day and thank Jesus for the gift of himself in the Eucharist is truly a gift itself. I pray we each continue to practice gratitude for the opportunity to worship together each month!

In Christ,

Heather Dunn
Director of Campus Ministry

DID YOU KNOW?

New Stadium Turf

An exciting update is taking place in the stadium this month as the original turf installed circa 2012 is being replaced! Careful management of Alter's finances and many years of generous donor gifts to the Alter Annual Fund made this new turf possible. Expected completion, weather permitting, will be January 2023. Thank you for continuing to support our school through the Annual Fund.







Nourish The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a tradition initiated by the Class of 1988 at Alter which began during the 1987 Advent. Through this activity students, faculty and staff, and families are given the opportunity to share with those who are less fortunate in the local community. By sharing our love and joy, so many children and families can experience the love and generosity of the people around them.

The Giving Tree ceremony is held the Monday after the first Sunday of Advent – November 28 this year. We join together for a prayer service and students can choose an "ornament" from the tree that contains a suggested gift (toy or clothing) for a child (ages 1-10). The gifts are collected at school and placed under the Giving Tree throughout the coming weeks. We welcome anyone in our wonderfully giving Alter Community to choose an ornament and donate a gift.

Before students leave for Christmas Break, Key Club members and moderator Mr. Norm Rich distribute the gifts to local agencies to support in their holiday gift-giving ministry.

This year we also have several gift tags for items needed by Hannah's Treasure Chest for families in need. These include items such as Kroger gift cards, pots and pans, blankets, cleaning supplies, laundry supplies, paper towels/toilet paper/tissues, and clothing in junior and adult sizes.

Gift Deadline: Thursday, December 15. *Please note: If donating gift cards for Hannah's Treasure Chest, please place the gift card in an envelope and bring it directly to the Main Office rather than placing it under the tree.





Grandparents' Mass

Grandparents are very special members of our Alter family. Their legacy of faith and love enriches the lives of our students, and it is truly an honor to celebrate them each year.

On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, we were honored to be able to do just that. We welcomed over 250 grandparents who joined their grandchildren for a short commemorative photo-op and then proceeded to celebrate Mass at St. Charles. We thank you for the opportunity to get to know you and the role you play in the lives of your grandchildren, our students.

Key Club Turkey Drive/ Dare to Care Canned Food Collection

Alter participated in its annual Turkey
Drive in November – a tradition that goes
back over 50 years. Key Club Moderator
Mr. Norm Rich indicated that \$4,700 was
raised to purchase approximately 200
turkeys for those in need. The turkeys were
delivered by Key Club members to three
area pantries - Catholic Social Services, St.
Paul Methodist, and St. Mary's Catholic
Church. Through the efforts of the Dare to
Care group along with the entire school,
many canned goods were able to be
provided along with the turkeys. Each
faculty/staff and student was asked to
donate three canned goods.

Mr. Rich said, "I would really like to thank the entire Alter community for being so generous every year. This community is amazing!"





Knight of Gratitude Recognizes Special Donors



Alter High School Principal Lourdes Lambert welcomed Knights Council donors to the annual Knight of Gratitude reception held at the Conservatory of the Arts on November 10. We were able to honor and thank those who gave so generously to the Annual Fund in the last year. Attendees were also able to see their generous gifts "in action." Three Knights Council Scholarship recipients gave their personal remarks of thanks and gratitude to the audience after the reception. These students all expressed a similar sentiment about the people they have met as freshmen entering a new school; they felt welcomed with a sense of faith and pride in becoming an Alter Knight. The Knight of Gratitude is exclusive to those individuals who support Alter annually with a gift of \$1,000 or more.

Thank you to our 2022-2023 Multi-Media Sponsors!





THE ARTS

Castles Players Update

THE ANXIETY PROJECT

Please join us on the Father Edward Haskamp Stage in the Suttman Theatre for the Winter Musical, THE ANXIETY PROJECT. The 2nd Castle Players production of the 2022-2023 Theatre Season!

To purchase tickets, visit: <u>alterhs.booktix.com</u> Production dates – December 8, 9, 10, 11

THE ANXIETY PROJECT is a new musical that explores true stories of contemporary suffering, loss, struggle, alienation, friendship, brokenness, love, hate, and everything that comes with anxiety and depression disorders and other mental illnesses. The show combats the last great stigma and gives voice to the people who live it – using the actual words of those for whom this disease is a large part of their lives. At once poignant and touching, this new musical explores the effects of mental illness on our collective minds – and how ignoring it leaves ripples in our social existence.

THE ALTER CASTLE PLAYERS

THE ANXIETY

PROJECT

DECEMBER 8, 9, 10, 11

| Image: Comparison of the comp

ATTENTION STUDENTS: PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE HAVING A STUDENT EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW PERFORMANCE ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7. ALL ALTER STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. TICKETS ARE \$10 FOR THIS PERFORMANCE DATE ONLY. (ACTIVITY PASSES WILL BE HONORED) DRESS IN YOUR COMFY PAJAMAS AND ENJOY FREE DONUTS AND HOT COCOA!

STUDENTS: Alter Activity Passes give you one free ticket to one performance of each show in our 2022-2023 season (excluding Alter's Got Talent). To redeem your free ticket, go to <u>alterhs.booktix.com</u> and at checkout enter your specific promo code – please refer to the email from Mrs. Sears for your code.

If you choose NOT to get your ticket online, you will still have the opportunity to get your ticket at the door the day of the performance. (45 minutes prior) OR during our box office hours. Stop by with your friends after school to pick your seats together! Box office hours (box office located in The Conservatory) will be held on Tuesday, December 6 from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

(Artwork by Sarah Rose Portman—headshots by BLINK OF AN EYE PHOTOGRAPHY)

SPRING MUSICAL, SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Auditions for the spring musical will be held on Friday, December 16 at 12:30 p.m.

Callbacks for the spring musical will be held on Tuesday, December 20 from 12:30 p.m.-?

More information including audition requirements coming soon!



The Marching Knights



The Alter Marching Knights were named Bands of America Grand National Class A Champions on Saturday, November 12, at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis. The competition show was titled "Overjoyed" and featured the music of Grammy Award winning artist, Stevie Wonder.

The Marching Knights competed against 26 bands in their Class A division and is comprised of only 36 students in grades 7-12. They also won two additional awards for Outstanding Music Performance and Outstanding General Effect. Earlier this season, they earned their ninth Mid States Band Association Championship and are six-time Bands of America Grand National Semi Finalists.

The 2022 Marching Knights are under the leadership of Director of Bands, Todd Tucker. Staff includes Andrew Seivert, Sarah Hoffman, Ben Pentecost, Zach Albert, Whitney Brewer, Lauren Tucker, and Wayne Markworth. They are proudly supported by the Alter High School Administration, the Alter Athletic Department, and the Alter Music Association, comprised of current and former parents, families, and alumni of the Marching Knights.

2022 Season Achievements

Bands Of America

Northwest Ohio Regional Championships

- 1st Place Class A
- · Outstanding Music
- Outstanding Visual
- Outstanding General Effect
- Regional Finalist

Bands Of America

East Tennessee Regional Championships

- 1st Place Class A
- Outstanding Music
- Outstanding Visual
- Outstanding General Effect
- Regional Finalist

Mid States Band Association Centerville Invitational

- 1st Place Class A
- Outstanding Music
- Outstanding Visual
- Outstanding General Effect
- Outstanding Percussion
- Outstanding Color Guard

Mid States Band Association, Class A Championships

- 1st Place Class A, Prelims
- Outstanding Music
- Outstanding Visual
- Outstanding General Effect
- Grand Champion, Finals

Bands Of America Grand National Championships

- 1st Place Class A, Prelims
- Semifinalist
- Outstanding Music, Class A
- Outstanding General Effect, Class A
- Grand National Semifinalist
- Grand National Champion, Class A







ATHLETICS



Alter Athletes Commit to Play at the Collegiate Level

Alter High School was proud to celebrate seven student-athletes signing their National Letter of Intent to pursue their sport at the college level next year.

Principal Lourdes Lambert began by praying with special intention for our athletes, "We pray for them and with them; for their safety, protection and for their futures."

Athletic Director Chris Hart talked about how thrilled she, and the whole Alter community, is for these student athletes and remarked, "Did you know that only 7% of high school athletes have the opportunity to play at the college level? Alter currently has 6% of our senior class celebrating today and we expect more to commit throughout the year. This is an outstanding accomplishment for our student-athletes, coaches, teammates, and parents."

Congratulations and best wishes for a bright and exciting athletic career next year!

Barrett Callejo Courtney Getter AB Hacker Kylie Krynzel Sofia Quinones Anthony Ruffolo Ava Tenhundfeld Virginia Military Institute Anderson University Marietta College Marshall University Thomas More University Cedarville University Xavier University Soccer Swimming Volleyball Soccer Lacrosse Basketball Swimming

Hockey

Over the last two weekends the Knights played 6 games, 1 home and 5 away at Miami Oxford's Goggin Arena. The Knights won 2, including their season home opener against Toledo Whitmer 4-3, on a goal scored by Captain Liam Reilly 22 seconds into overtime! They also won their 4th DiPaolo tournament game Thanksgiving weekend against Miami, who they'd lost to in game 1. Additional goals over the 6 games were scored by Alternate Captains Mahoney (2) and Rider (3), Reilly (1) and Freshmen Schulz (2) and Phillips (1). Assists were made by Lance (1) Linden (2) Freshman A. J. Mahoney (1) D. Mahoney (2) Rider (3) and Schulz (1). Senior goalie Grant Russell was in the net all games, and took a total of 233 shots for 211 saves! Come cheer on the Knights December 4th against Beavercreek, where they'll celebrate teachers pre-game starting at 2:15 p.m. Go Knights!



Boys' Basketball

The Alter boys' Basketball Team got the season off to a great start with an impressive 59-to-52 win over Columbus Olentangy Liberty at the Ohio Valley Hoops Classic showcase tournament in Mason this past Saturday. Next game up for the Knights is this weekend in the first home game of the season against GCL opponent Hamilton Badin on Friday night (Dec 2). The Freshman game starts at 4:30 p.m.; the JV starts at 6:00 p.m.; and the Varsity game tips off at 7:30 p.m. You can tune into the game at alterknights.tv

Please come out and cheer on the Knights!

Mid-KNIGHT Madness!

The Joe Petrocelli Gymnasium was 'rockin' on November 19 when the Alter Boys' Basketball Team hosted the first ever Mid-*KNIGHT* Madness! Cheerleaders and Lancerettes joined the effort to excite the crowd of fans including special guests; South Dayton Knights and Dayton CYO players and their families.

The spotlight was on our Alter Varsity players until retired Coach Joe Petrocelli took the mic. Fans were treated to a special performance by the Lancerettes and rallied to the Gold vs. Brown player scrimmage. Those in the bleachers took home special sports and fan goodies tossed by the cheerleaders.

Mid-KNIGHT Madness might be the beginning of a great new tradition! Special thanks to Rick Ruffalo and many volunteers who worked so hard to put this event together for the Alter community. GO KNIGHTS!





Knights Athletics Calendar

Interested in coming to one of our Athletic Events? Please Click Here to review our Winter Sports Athletic Calendar.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pajama Day Christmas Giving Project

At Christmastime, Alter's Dare to Care club, comprised of approximately 50 students, collects pajamas to donate to local kids in need. Club moderator and Theology teacher Ms. Linda Dintaman expressed how simple a thing like pajamas can help bring comfort and joy to children. This special event not only helps kids, but inspires students, faculty, and staff at Alter. On Friday, December 9, students are encouraged to donate a new set of children's pajamas. In return, students may wear pajamas to school that day. All donations go to the nonprofit, Hannah's Treasure Chest. Founded in 2001, Hannah's Treasure Chest enriches the lives of children in need by providing care packages of clothes, shoes, books, safety equipment and hygiene items through a network of more than 70 partners throughout southwest Ohio. Click **HERE** for details about this year's PJ Day.

Try Hockey for Free

It's NEVER too late to learn! The Academy Hockey Club is proud to announce another FREE Never Too Late to Learn (NTLTL) program to help increase participation rates and diversity for this great sport we all love! NTLTL is designed for middle-school and high-school players with O (zero) to less than two (2) years of experience playing, promoting skills development and fun, and led by highly experienced Academy Coaches (John Kwik, Mark Dinkins, and Dan Morgan).

When & Where:

Sundays, 6:30-7:20 p.m., from now through February 12, at South Metro Sports in Centerville. Academy also has used gear, skates, sticks, etc. you can borrow for the program — so when we say **FREE**, we mean it. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Angie Mahoney, Alter HS team hockey manager, at mahoney1021@yahoo.com





ALTER HIGH SCHOOL DIAMOND JUBILEE ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD

March 31, 2023

Carillon Park - Eichelberger Room

Alter High School's 60th Diamond Jubilee will raise funds to renovate the locker rooms and improve our athletic facilities.

Dear Alter Community,

This past September marked Alter High School's Diamond Jubilee!

Sixty years ago, Alter High School welcomed our very first class of students. Those students laid the foundations of what has become a uniquely special community with a tradition of excellence that continues to thrive today. The torch to excel academically, connect spiritually, evolve artistically, and dominate athletically has been passed on for six generations. That is certainly something to celebrate!

We hope you will join us on Friday, March 31, 2023 at Carillon Park's Eichelberger Pavilion for a special evening filled with celebrations of our community and a focus on the investment in the future of Alter High School. The funds raised will be used specifically for improvements to athletic facilities, with an immediate priority of renovating multiple locker rooms used by all of our students. After 60 years of blood, sweat, and tears, you can imagine the improvement needed!

A lot has changed since we opened those doors 60 years ago, but one thing that has remained the same is the amazing generosity of our Alter community. We hope you will consider becoming one of Alter's Diamond Jubilee Sponsors. Please click below to see the list of various sponsorship opportunities. Through your gift, you will not only share in helping us to improve the athletic facilities for our Alter Knights, but you will also be a part of this momentous celebration.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact us directly.

Go Knights! With sincere gratitude,

Shannon Firsdon '86 Holtgreive Jubilee Sponsorshisp Chair 937-477-6134

sholtgreive@yahoo.com

Ligardio

Liz Cerar '94 Anderson Jubilee Sponsorshisp Chair 937-478-6398

lizanderson1975@gmail.com

Ellifmen

Ellen Sand '91 Miller Jubilee Sponsorshisp Chair 513-519-8586 ema715@me.com



PRESENTING SPONSOR - \$50,000 (EVENT SPONSOR)



BLACK DIAMOND SPONSOR - \$25,000 (BAR SPONSOR)



WHITE DIAMOND SPONSOR - \$20,000 (BAND SPONSOR)

PLATINUM SPONSOR - \$15,000



GOLD SPONSOR - \$10,000



SILVER SPONSOR - \$5,000

TICKETS TO THE EVENT WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON!

Alter School Calendar









2022-2023

11/12: New Teacher Orientation

15: Teacher Workday

16: Teacher Workday

17: Freshman First Day (1/2 retreat & 1/2 school info)

18: First Day All Students

18: Fairmont Football Game

24: Meet the Teacher Night

2-4: AlterFest

5: Labor Day - No School

12: AlterFest - Day Off

14: All School Mass

16: Homecoming Game

17: Homecoming Dance

20-23: Kairos

24: Open House

24: Band BOA Toledo

25-26: Junior Retreat

28: Underclass Pictures & Senior Panoramic

30: 60th Anniversary of Alter's Opening Dedication

OCTOBER

1: Turnabout

6-9: Fall Play

7: End of the First Quarter

11: All School Mass 12: PSAT/ACRE

14-16: Band to Tennessee

18: Open House

20: No School, Parent Conferences -

11am-7pm

21: No School

28: Scholarship Breakfast

NOVEMBER

1: All School Mass

2: Prayer Service

3: Open House

10: Knights of Gratitude 10-12: Band @ BOA Nationals

15-18: Kairos

19: High School Placement Test

22: Grandparents Day /

All School Mass

23-25: Thanksgiving Break - No School

28: Giving Tree Assembly

DECEMBER

1: Application, Financial Aid, Scholarship Deadline

8: All School Mass

8-11: Winter Musical

13: Band Concert

15: Exams 1 and 2 - Noon Dismissal

16: Exams 3 and 4 - Noon Dismissal

19: Exams 5 and 6 - Noon Dismissal 20: Exams 7 and 8 - Noon Dismissal

21: Teacher Work Day /

Exam Make-Up Day 22- Jan 4: Christmas Break - No School

JANUARY

4: Teacher Work Day

5: First Day of Second Semester (Thursday)

6: All School Mass

8-9: Junior Retreat

16: Martin Luther King Day -

No School

24-27: Kairos

29-30: Junior Retreat

Jan 30-Feb 3: Catholic Schools Week

Jan 30-Feb 3: Catholic School Week

3: Winter Pep Rally

4: Alter's Got Talent

7-8: IOWA Testing

13-16: Week of Giving

17-20: Presidents Day Weekend -No School

22: Ash Wednesday Mass

25: Mother-Son Shindig

28: Sophomore Retreat

MARCH

4: Father-Daughter Dance

9: End of 3rd Quarter

10-13: No School

15: All School Mass

16-19: Spring Musical 21-24: Kairos

23-26: Spring Musical

28: ACT Juniors Only in Attendance

31: 60th Diamond Jubilee

1-5: Senior Trip

6: Holy Thursday – Prayer Service 7: Good Friday – No School –

Easter Break

10-14: Easter Break - No School

19: All School Mass 21: Hall of Fame Assembly

& Induction

25: Freshman Retreat

26: Band Concert

3: Band Concert

4: Pep Rally / Student Council Elections

5: Sophomore Surprise

6: Prom / Freshman Formal

9: All School Mass

11-12: 2-Hour Delay / Academic Awards

19: Senior Awards Assembly - Gym

19: Baccalaureate Mass and Dinner 20: Graduation, Trent Arena - 9:30am

22: Exams 8 and 7 - Noon Dismissal

23: Exams 6 and 5 - Noon Dismissal

24: Exams 4 and 3 - Noon Dismissal

25: Exams 2 and 1 - Noon Dismissal 25: End of Semester

26: Teacher Work Day







