# THE KNIGHT TIMES

August 9, 2023





# Blessings Abound for the 2023-24 School Year

#### **Lourdes Lambert**

Dear Families:

Happy New Year! I am so excited to welcome you all to the 2023-24 school year. Our 12 month administrative staff has been working tirelessly this summer to make improvements and plan a successful school year filled with experiences centered around our core values of faith, pride and spirit.

As you and your child experience this school year, you will notice that we have several changes we'd like to share with you.

First, we have two staff members taking on different roles for the betterment of our school as a whole.

- · Mrs. Jennifer Schlangen is our new Dean of Academics. Mrs. Schlangen will be focusing on the academic experience at our school and ensuring that every student is reaching his or her potential academically. She will be leading our Academic Council meetings and focusing on curriculum and professional development with our teachers.
- · Mrs. Debbie Portman is our new Director of Technology. As our school continues to grow in the technological experiences we offer to prepare our students for the next level, Mrs. Portman will be overseeing technology as a whole for our students and our teachers. Mrs. Portman's experience with technology coupled with her great faith and passion for education is sure to lead us in the right direction!

We will also be welcoming four new teachers to Alter:

- · Meredith Conner in our Business department.
- · Tricia Egan in our Mathematics department.
- · Cynthia Jecker in our Fine Arts department as our new Dance teacher.
- · Alex Merkel is our new Health and Physical Education teacher.

Finally, as you already know, we have two new partnerships with our school this year:

- · Dynamic Catholic with our Holy Moments Program we will have more information every week in the Alter Update once the school year is underway, and every family will be receiving a Holy Moments book for their personal use as well.
- · Class 101 Dayton with improved offerings in our Taylor College Resource Center. The dates and topics of the Class 101 meetings are included in this Knight Times for your planning purposes. You will also receive reminders and more in depth explanations before each session.

Blessings abound at our school already for this upcoming year. I am looking forward to seeing how the school year unfolds for each and every student and family!

With hope and gratitude,

Lourdes Lambert Principal



### College Planning Partnership with Archbishop Alter High School

#### AUGUST

Aug. 23	Morning mtg with all Seniors (app timeline and Common App)
	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors
	5:30-6:30PM Senior Parent Meeting

## Aug. 30 Open office hours at Library for Seniors

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Sept. 6	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors	
Sept 7/12	Attend/collaborate with Counselors for Yellow Folder Night	
Sept. 11	t. 11 Essay Writing Workshop with Seniors	
Sept. 13	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors	
	7-8PM College Planning Timeline Meeting for 9-11 grade parents	
Sept 20	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors	
Sept 27 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors w/ after school hours		

#### **OCTOBER**

Oct. 4	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors w/ before school hour
Oct. 11	PSAT Day Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors
Oct. 25	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors

#### **NOVEMBER**

Nov. I	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors periods 1-3	
	Periods 6, 7, 8 Afternoon mtg with all Juniors - Career Interest and College List	
Nov. 8	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors and Juniors	
Nov. 15	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors and Juniors	
Nov. 29	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors and Juniors	

#### **DECEMBER**

Dec. 6	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors and Juniors
Dec. 13	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors and Juniors

#### **JANUARY**

Jan 10	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list)
Jan 17	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list)
Jan. 24	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list)
Jan. 31	Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list)
	5:30 PM College Planning - Long View for Parents (9-10)
	7:00 PM College Planning for Junior Parents (11)



#### **FEBRUARY**

- Feb 7 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list/resume)
  Feb. 14 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list/resume)
- Feb. 21 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list/resume)
- Feb. 28 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships) and Juniors (college list/resume)

#### MARCH

- Mar 6 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships/college offers) and Juniors (college list/visits/resume)
- Mar 13 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships/college offers) and Juniors (college list/visits/resume)
- Mar 20 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships/college offers) and Juniors (college list/visits/resume)

SPRING TBD Attend/collaborate with Counselors for College Night

#### **APRIL**

- Apr 3 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships/college offers) and Juniors (college list/visits/resume)
- Apr 10 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Seniors (scholarships/college offers) and Juniors (college list/visits/resume)
- Apr 17 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Juniors (college list/visits/resume) periods 1-5 Periods 6, 7, 8 Afternoon mtg with all Sophomores—Career Interest & College List 7PM Sophomore Parent Meeting
- Apr 24 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Juniors and Sophomores (college list/visits/resume)

#### MAY

- May 1 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Juniors and Sophomores (college list/visits/resume)
- May 8 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Juniors and Sophomores (college list/visits/resume)
- May 15 Open office hours at Taylor Center for Juniors and Sophomores (college list/visits/resume) possibilities.

#### Summary

- 7 events
- 35+ days with weekly presence at Alter for large group, small group, and one to one advising
- 20-30 hours (estimated) for staff meetings, event and lesson preparation, research, and off-site support

# CAMPUS MINISTRY



# Seasons, Routine, and Prayer

**Heather Dunn** 

I'm admittedly one of those people who doesn't like change. I'd like to think I can be mostly spontaneous and flexible, but I just love a good routine. I'm married to someone who would rearrange furniture weekly and who goes a different way home from Church on a Sunday "for fun" (while I'm asking the question "where are we going?!") so I have had to adapt in many ways in my family life! I do well with seasons and routines even in my prayer life. While I love summertime so much, it certainly has affected my prayer routine.

During the school year, I have a set time that I go into the Chapel during the school day and pray. Each day may look a little different. I always pray for the intentions of our students, staff, and families, but depending on what else I have going on in my life, the prayers look different. Sometimes I just sit in the peace and quiet and soak up God's presence. Sometimes I find myself in such a time of Thanksgiving that my prayer is just a rambling list of gratitude. I've been angry before and brought my frustrations to the Lord, too. Most often, I find myself asking God to guide me and help me to do whatever it is that he has called me to do. So, while the prayers I pray and even my mood and emotions look different, it's still prayer and I still have the routine of coming into the Chapel to pray each day. The best part is I don't really stress or think too hard about how or what I'm going to pray. I just show up and it's like my heart knows the routine, too.

During the summer, I have fallen out of my routine of my prayer time in the Chapel. Though my summertime hours are different, I literally walk through the Chapel every day I'm at work to get to my office, but I never fully established my summer routine of prayer. As we're approaching the beginning of the school year and everything is ramping up, I find that brings with it some of what I'd like to call "August Anxiety." As my planner and days are filled with to-dos and meetings, it's easy to feel like you are spinning and needing something to grab onto to ground yourself. I realized as I walked into the Chapel this week, I had not fully given myself a routine of prayer this summer and it has left me feeling frazzled.

Maybe your summer was amazing, and you did a much better job of scheduling your prayer life than I, but if not, I hope you look at the beginning of the school year as an opportunity to begin again. The great thing about God is whether or not we carved out time to spend with God this summer, God was there. God's love for us is not dependent on whether we recognized God or even said "hi" often.

At a youth conference years ago, a speaker said, "Prayer doesn't help our relationship with God, it IS our relationship with God." May we squelch the "August Anxieties" with our new school routine and carve away some time in our day each day to talk to God and to listen, too. And as always, the Chapel doors are open all the time for prayer; I invite you into our beautiful Chapel to build on your relationship with God this school year!

# **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

## Captain Sam Sapita '13 USAFA '17

Instructor of Management at the Air Force Academy

A message of gratitude and inspiration:

I owe a lot to both Alter High School and the Air Force Academy as both institutions have positively contributed to my personal and professional life. When reflecting on what impacted me the most in my time at USAFA, the answer is clear: my management professors & instructors. As soon as I declared this as my major and began these classes, I knew this was my 'home' at USAFA. These individuals not only inspired in me a passion for business, but they also best modeled what officership in the Air Force should look like. They created a unique learning environment of mentorship & learning that was cadet- first, fun, supportive, yet professional and challenging. This experience was formidable for me; it inspired in me a goal to return to USAFA one day in the same position so I could pay it forward. It's been a tremendous blessing to have been able to see this goal come to fruition and serve in this role over the last 2 years. I hope I've been able to at least make a small impact in the lives of the cadets I've had in class.

But what inspires me most now in this second tour at USAFA is to see the young men and women in the USAFA Catholic Cadet community who prioritize their faith above all. My largest regret in life is not prioritizing my Catholic faith during these years and I have realized that no amount of professional or personal success will compare to my relationship with the Lord. I pray that the Alter community continues to strive for this to be the ultimate goal as we develop young men and women who are ready to serve in all aspects of society as Christians first.



God Bless the Alter Family! Sam Sapita





# Sgt. Kevin Lannon '80 Honored for Ultimate Sacrifice

Class of 1980 Alter alum, Army Ranger **Sgt. Kevin Lannon**, will be remembered for his ultimate sacrifice. He was killed in action in 1983 during Operation Urgent Fury. On September 1, at a dedication ceremony, a section of St. Route 48 will be named in his honor. The portion of St. Route 48 from E. David Rd. to Rahn Rd. will be dedicated and named for Sgt. Lannon. State and Kettering officials including Representative Andrea White and Mayor Peggy Lehner will present at the ceremony being held at David's Church beginning at 2:00 p.m. Another section of the roadway will honor fallen Fairmont alum Sgt. Cameron Thomas.

Alter's band will participate in the ceremony as they play the Star-Spangled Banner and will combine with Fairmont's band to pay tribute to both soldiers.

The public is invited to attend.

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

## **Professional Development**

In June, Alter staff attended the annual Partners in Mission Catholic Schools Conference hosted to learn and share best practices among Catholic school leadership, admissions, development, and communications personnel. This was an immersive conference to help Catholic schools around the country elevate their school's enrollment and advancement functions. Everyone who attended came away with greater knowledge and confidence to execute new ideas.



## **Alter Student Entrepreneur**

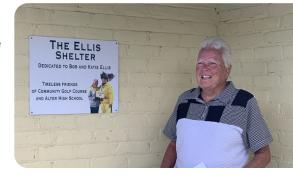


Senior Ryder Siedling started a new vehicle wrap business, *Next Door Signs* and one of his customers was Alter. He completed the new wraps on Alter's vans which now sport fresh signage! Learn more about his business at

https://www.nextdoorsigns.com/

# Alter Community Gives to Community!

The Alter Girls' basketball and golf teams teamed up with the Community Golf Course to renovate the shelter at hole #6 in honor and memory of Katie Ellis '66 and the late Bob "Wiz" Ellis. Although coaches Jim Cole and Chris Hart helped direct the effort to recognize Katie and Wiz's volunteer dedication benefiting the Community Golf Course in Kettering, the girls did all the work!







## Strategic Planning Prepares Freshman

Debbie Portman, Director of Technology, and her team work throughout the summer preparing all incoming freshman and transfer students with technology training so that each student is competent and ready to use their computer on the first day of school. Learning at Alter begins day one and because of our commitment to this effort, students are ready. Getting all the freshman trained and equipped is important but there is a bonus to that summer commitment. "It is always a pleasure to see the freshman arrive excited, yet nervous, to receive their computers. Instructing them in small groups allows us the opportunity to meet them before the crush of school. We look forward to working with them over the next few years and watching them develop into mature young men and women."





### **National Girl Scout Convention**





Alter senior Sophia Shenk and Clare Newman who is the daughter of teacher Rachel Newman served as delegates at the National Girl Scout Convention in Orlando. Only seven girls from GSWO which serves Girl Scouts from Toledo to Cincinnati were selected to serve as delegates and/or alternates at this year's convention.

In preparation for the convention, the girls completed extensive parliamentary procedure training to review and vote on Girl Scout constitutional issues while at the National Council Sessions in July.

Sophia and Clare are both Ambassador Scouts and are currently working on their Gold Awards, the highest honor given to any Girl Scout.

## **ALTERFEST & ALUMNI**



A great way to help Alter is to sign up for a volunteer shift during AlterFest weekend.

If you did not already receive an email about volunteering, contact Laura Eiken at Laura.Eiken @alterhs.org

We can't wait to see you at the Fest.

## SEPTEMBER 1 - 3

Friday 6 - midnight Saturday & Sunday noon to midnight



We Thank You for Your Support! You're Invited to the Alumni Lounge!

We love to have ALUMNI back to visit our Alumni Lounge on Friday night inside the Arts Wing. Register NOW! **CLICK HERE** 

It's about Community!

Did you know that ALL of Alter's faculty and staff and EVERY student volunteers their time every year?



Classes of

1978, 1983, 1998, 2003 & 2013

-Reunited!-





**DON'T FORGET** TO REVP !!!!



Click your graduation year to RSVP: <u>1978, 1983, 1998, 2003, 2013</u>

# THE ARTS

## **Castle Players Fall Performance**

#### THE SPITFIRE GRILL

The Castle Players have begun rehearsals for their upcoming fall musical, THE SPITFIRE GRILL. Check out the cast/crew list by <u>CLICKING HERE</u> and mark your calendars! We look forward to bringing you back in the theater!

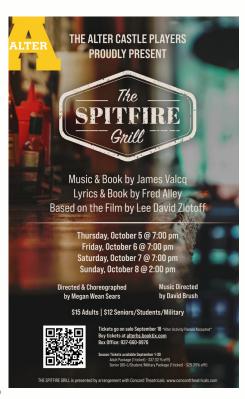
\*\* WHAT IS SPITFIRE ABOUT? Based on the hit 1996 film, THE SPITFIRE GRILL is a heartwarming and inspirational musical tale of redemption, perseverance and family. Set in a small Wisconsin town, the show features a gorgeous, soulful score.

A feisty parolee follows her dreams, based on a page from an old travel book to a small town in Wisconsin and finds a place for herself working at Hannah's Spitfire Grill. The Grill is for sale, but there are no takers for the only eatery in the depressed town, so newcomer Percy convinces Hannah to raffle it off. Entry fees are one hundred dollars and the best essay on why you want the Grill wins. Soon, mail arrives by the wheelbarrow and things really start cookin' at the Spitfire Grill

- The musical itself is entirely about forgiveness, the long lasting effect of trauma and loss on several characters, and how healing is possible and even inevitable. Percy finds a new life in a small Wisconsin town where she finds for the first time friends and family who lift her up and provide her with a future she never had or dreamed possible.
- The musical also deals with Veteran PTSD as a major character suffers from PTSD after a short stint serving and then deserting in Vietnam. Percy - who herself understands life after trauma - reaches out to someone else in similar situations. Helping others in trauma is how we heal our own trauma.

**WHY THIS SHOW?** We feel the show speaks so directly to what we are called to do - to forgive and heal - and find a new way forward after difficult and life-changing circumstances - and even one's own mistakes. There is always salvation available for those who seek it. No one is a lost cause. Community is vital to how we discover who we are.

\*\*\*Don't forget to follow The Castle Players on Facebook- Alter High School's Castle Players AND Instagram- altercastleplayers for up to date information!\*





## **Marching Knights**

#### 2023 Schedule

Date	Marching Band 1	Marching Band 2
8/14-8/18	Miamisburg	Carlisle
8/21 - 8/25	Centerville	Alter
8/28-9/1	Fairborn	Xenia
9/4 - 9/8	No Competition This Week	No Competition This Week
9/11 - 9/15	Lebanon	Waynesville
9/18 - 9/22	Bellbrook	Valleyview
9/25 - 9/29	Northeastern	Brookville
10/2 - 10/6	Kenton Ridge	Chaminade Julienne
10/9-10/13	Tipp City	Tecumseh
10/16 - 10/20	West Carrollton	Kettering

#### Goodwill Drive to Victory - Alter Band vs. Centerville Band

#### **August 22-24:**

Goodwill attendants will be assigned to work the trailers at Alter. Attendant's hours will be Monday 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. They will be responsible for customer service, donation receipts and securing the trailer each night. Attendants will also be able to answer questions on items we cannot accept for safety reasons.

#### **What Can You Donate**

Clothing, Shoes, Medical Equipment, Computers, Electronics, Toys, Household Items, Housewares, Jewelry, Books, Furniture, Small working Appliances, Cars, Trucks, Boats, etc.

## **ATHLETICS**

# Catch a Double Header! Girls' & Boys' Soccer vs. Centerville

Friday, August 11, our girls' and boys' soccer teams face off against Centerville in a double header! The boys' team will kick the night off first with their game against Centerville starting at 6:15 p.m. with the girls' game starting immediately afer at 8:00 p.m. You will not want to miss this competitive and exciting night! Please be reminded that tickets are 100% digital. Cash will not be accepted at the gate. Below are the links to the 2 soccer events. The varsity games are \$8 tickets and the JVA games are \$6 tickets. 1 ticket gets you into both games that day but a varsity ticket will not work on Saturday for JVA games.

For JVA Tickets: Click Here

For Varsity Tickets: Click Here





## **3 Great Fan Pass Options**

Fan passes for 2023-2024 Athletic games and events are available! Click the link below for details and purchase your fan pass today!

## **CLICK HERE**

## AlterKnights.tv



**Alter vs. Fairmont Podcast** 

Join us outside Roush Stadium on August 17 @ 4:30 p.m. for the pregame podcast! We will talk about the upcoming game and the tradition of this rivalry, what the GCL is looking like in football this year and make predictions for the game. We will bring on past players as guests to talk about what this rivalry means to them and the community!



ALTER HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS SOCCER
STATE CHAMPIONS
1987 - 1988 - 1998



We're celebrating three State Championship Teams on their 36th, 35th & 25th anniversaries!



# CHEER ON OUR JV & VARSITY BOYS AS THEY FACE FAIRMONT

August 26 at noon and 2 PM at the Alter stadium.

After the game, join fellow alums and current team

members for dinner.

# **GO TO OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS and to RSVP**

AlterHS.org/soccerchamps

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



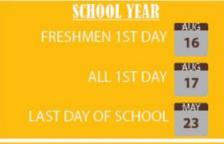
# Castle Players Mumsters and Mumkins Sale!

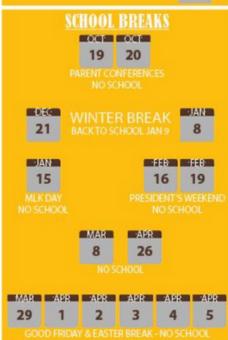
It's almost time for the Alter Castle Players annual Mumkins & Mumsters fundraiser!

Mark your calendars for August 16 when our shopping site will open, and you can purchase beautiful Fall mums in adorable mumkin/mumster pots, or stock up on your mum refills if you already purchased the pots last year.

\*Approximately \$5 of every purchase will support the Alter Castle Players!\*









### ARCHBISHOP ALTER HIGH SCHOOL 2023-2024 CALENDAR

#### August

10/11: New Teacher Orientation

14: Teacher Workday

15: Teacher Workday

16: Freshman First Day

17: First Day All students

17: All School Mass

17: Fairmont Game

19: Freshman Social Backyard Party

23: Underclass Pictures followed by Senior

23: Meet the Teacher Night 6:30-8:30pm

#### September

1: First Friday Mass

1-3: AlterFest

4: Labor Day - No School

13: ALTER: All Access Admissions Event - Faith

and Spirit

14: All School Mass

15: Homecoming Game 16: Homecoming Dance

19-22: Kairos 117

24-25: Junior Retreat

29: Scholarship Breakfast

#### October

5-8: Fall Musical (The Conservatory)

6: First Friday Mass

6: End of the First Quarter

11: PSAT (No School Freshmen, Sophomores &

12: ALTER: All Access Admissions Event - Arts and Athletics

14: Turnabout and Freshman Social Bowling

17: All School Mass 18: Pre-ACT (No School Freshmen, Juniors &

Seniors)

18: Knight of Gratitude

19: No School, Parent Conferences (11-7)

20: No School

#### November

1: All School Mass

2: All Souls Prayer Service

3: First Friday Mass

4: Band State Competition

9: ALTER: All Access Admissions Event - Academics

and Admissions

10/11: Band Grand Nationals - Indianapolis

12/13: Junior Retreat

14-17: Kairos - 118

18: High School Placement Test

20: Grandparents Day and All School Mass

22-24: Thanksgiving Break - No School

27: Giving Tree Assembly

#### December

1: Deadline for Class of 2028

Application, Financial Aid, Scholarships

1: First Friday Mass

7-10: Winter Play (The Conservatory)

8: All School Mass

12: Advent Reconciliation

13: Band Christmas Concert

15: Exams 1 and 2 - noon dismissal

18: Exams 3 and 4 - noon dismissal

19: Exams 5 and 6 - noon dismissal 20: Exams 7 and 8 - noon dismissal

21: Exam Make Up Day, teacher work day

21- Jan 8: Christmas Break - No School

#### January

8: Teacher Work Day

9: First Day for Students (Tuesday)

9: All School Mass

15: Martin Luther King Day - No School

20: Freshman Social Dodgeball

23-26: Kairos 119

27: Lip Sync Battle (The Conservatory)

28-29: Junior Retreat

29: Catholic Schools Week begins

30: All School Mass

31: Area Catholic Schools Week Mass

#### February

1-2: Catholic Schools Week continues

2: 1st Friday Mass

6/7: IOWA - Freshmen

9: Winter Pep Rally

12-15: Alter Week of Giving

13: Alter Love Telethon

14: Ash Wednesday Mass

16: No School

19: No School - Presidents Day

22: Knight of Celebration - Class of 2028

23: Knight Out Event

28: Sophomore Retreat

#### March

1: First Friday Mass

5: Lent Reconciliation Services

6: Class of 2028 Scheduling 4-7pm

7: End of 3rd Quarter

8: No School

8-10: Spring Musical - The Conservatory

12: All School Mass

14-17: Spring Musical - The Conservatory

19-22: Kairos 120

23-27: Senior Trip

28: Holy Thursday Prayer Service

29: Good Friday - No School

1-5: Easter Break

17: All School Mass

24: Band Jazz Concert

25: Freshman Retreat

26: No School

#### May

3: Sophomore Surprise

3: First Friday Mass

4: Prom & Freshmen Formal

7: All School Mass

6-10: AP Testing

10: Tentative PM Assembly Pep Rally

13-17: AP Testing

16: Graduation Practice for Seniors after exam

17: Senior Awards Assembly - 8:30am Gym

17: Baccalaureate Mass and Dinner 6:00pm

18: Graduation - Trent Arena - 9:30am

20: Exams 8 and 7 - Noon Dismissal

21: Exams 6 and 5 - Noon Dismissal

22: Exams 4 and 3 - Noon Dismissal

23: Exams 2 and 1 - Noon Dismissal

**End of Semester** 

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.