

THE KNIGHT TIMES

November 14th, 2025

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Lourdes Lambert

Gratitude in Action

As we step into November, I am reminded of the extraordinary power of gratitude. Research even suggests that practicing gratitude isn't just good for the soul—it can benefit our health, our hearts, and our relationships. Though we may not yet know exactly how long it helps us live, the fact is this: grateful people live more fully, more connected and more joy-filled lives.

What fills me with deep gratitude each day is our community here at Archbishop Alter High School—the way we carry one another in both grief and joy, the way we serve one another without fanfare, and the way we support each other when things are easy and when they're hard. I want to say a heartfelt **thank you** to each of you—students, families, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends—who make that possible.

This month I'd especially like to acknowledge your generosity through recent community-driven efforts:

- Our **sock drive**, where your donations helped keep feet and hearts warm.
- Our **turkey drive**, which will bring nourishment and hope to families in need.
- And our **Week of Giving**, which met our goals and then some—your willingness to invest in our mission shows the strength of this Alter community.

As we look forward to the remainder of the second quarter, here are some meaningful ways we will continue to express gratitude together:

- **Grandparents' Day** on November 25th – a wonderful opportunity to celebrate those who help shape our lives and legacy.
- The **Giving Tree** – beginning November 24th, we invite you to select gift tags and bring in new items to support children and families in our community at Christmas.
- Our beloved **Pajamas for Pajamas Day** – on December 10th, students will be able to wear pajamas in exchange for donating new pajamas for a child in need. It's a simple tradition that carries big meaning.

I invite you to make gratitude more than just a November theme—let it become a way of life here at Alter. Pause to say thank you, not just to those who serve you, but to those you serve. Live it in your words, in your actions, and in your presence. Because when we live gratefully, we reflect something beautiful: the gift we are to one another, and the love we share as a community rooted in faith, pride and spirit.

With gratitude and joy in this season,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lourdes Lambert".

Lourdes Lambert, President



Barbara Groene

Gratitude: Seeing God's Blessings in Everyday Life

As we move through this season of Thanksgiving, it's easy to focus on gratitude for the big things in our lives, our families, friends, and health. But true thankfulness, as our Catholic faith reminds us, is about recognizing God's presence in every moment, even the small and ordinary ones.

Gratitude isn't just about saying "thank you" when life is good. It's about trusting that God is working in our lives even when challenges arise. When we pause to notice the blessings around us, a kind word from a teacher or a classmate, a friend's smile greeting us as we walk into class, a beautiful sunrise on the way to school, we open our hearts to God's grace.

This month let's challenge ourselves as a school community to act out this gratitude. Thank a teacher for their hard work, sit with someone new at lunch and get to know them better, or go to the chapel for a quiet moment to thank God for the gift of faith and learning. Each act of thankfulness brings light into the world and strengthens our connection to one another and to Christ.

May this season remind us that a thankful heart is not just something we express, at Archbishop Alter it is something we live.

Gratefully,
Barbara Groene
Interim Principal/ Dean of Students

ACADEMICS



Jennifer Schlangen

With Gratitude for the Ones Who Teach Us to Grow

As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, November always reminds me to slow down and reflect on what, and who, I am truly grateful for. The month is full of people to look up to, from saints, to veterans, to family and friends. Every year I find that my thoughts keep circling back to one group of people who have quietly shaped so much of who I am, my teachers and mentors.

When I think back, I can still picture the teachers who believed in me long before I believed in myself. The ones who stayed late to help me understand a tough lesson, who noticed when I was struggling, and who encouraged me to keep trying when I wanted to give up. Those small acts of kindness and patience might have seemed ordinary to them, but to me, they made all the difference.

Teachers do so much more than pass on knowledge. They open doors to new ideas, new perspectives, and new versions of ourselves. They show us that learning is not just about grades or tests, but about curiosity, growth, and resilience. And often, they do it with little recognition, balancing countless responsibilities behind the scenes just to make sure their students have what they need to succeed.

In this month of gratitude, take a minute to thank your teachers and mentors for their unwavering support, guidance, patience, and knowledge. Their passion and teaching push our world forward in ways we sometimes forget to appreciate. They challenge us to think deeply, to question, to dream bigger, and in doing so, they shape the world we live in. A simple note of appreciation, a kind word, or even a moment of recognition can mean more than we realize. Gratitude, after all, is not only a reflection of what we value, but also a way of nurturing the very community that helps us grow.

This November, as we gather around tables of thanksgiving, I just want to say thank you to our teachers at Alter. Thank you for taking the time to care, to listen, and to believe in someone's potential. Thank you for choosing to nurture minds and hearts, even when the days are long and the rewards seem small. Know that your work matters. It echoes far beyond the classroom walls and lives on in every student you have ever inspired.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Jennifer Schlangen
Assistant Principal of Academics

GUIDANCE



Lauren McAbee



Shannon Brown

Seniors:

An unbelievable 90% of the senior class has turned in their yellow folders to date. Way to go, seniors! Please be aware of the upcoming yellow folder deadline:

Requests to be submitted before Christmas break must be received in the guidance office by Friday, November 14.

At any time, if you have any questions or concerns regarding this often-stressful process, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the counselors. Class 101 is also a great place for students to go for college application and scholarship help. Please make sure to stop by the Taylor Center and take full advantage of this valuable resource!

As for scholarships, please know that all opportunities of which Guidance is aware are readily available to view on Naviance. A list of those scholarships can be found under the "Scholarships & Money" section under the "Colleges" tab in Naviance. New scholarships will be added often, particularly as we approach the New Year.

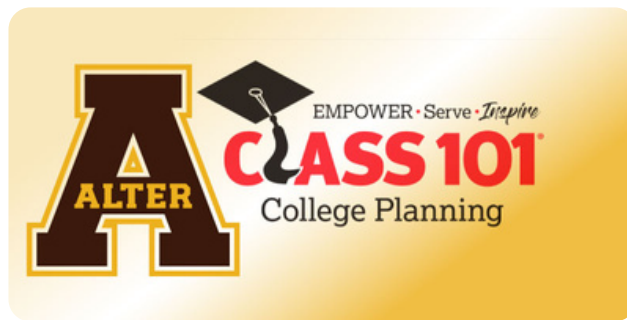
An integral part of college financing is the completion and filing of the Federal Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA). Please be aware that filing the FAFSA is free, and you should never pay a fee to apply. Going to <https://studentaid.gov/> will enable you to complete and submit the FAFSA online. Colleges have various deadlines for submission, so be aware of those dates pertaining to your student's school(s). If you are having difficulty in completing a part of the FAFSA or have any questions, your student's potential college is the best resource as they are experts in all things financial aid.

Juniors:

Next week, we will be visiting your Theology class with Class 101 to introduce you to Naviance Student and all the wonderful resources it provides. Class 101 will also do an activity to help define your future major/career area, as well as build your college list. We look forward to meeting with you!

All Students:

As always, if a student is experiencing academic challenges in the classroom, contacting the teacher directly to find help is the best way to find resolution. Parents and students are always welcome to talk with the counselors about any concerns here at Alter by calling or emailing the Guidance office.

**SENIORS: Portals, STARS, FAFSA, and more!**

Seniors, remember that the college application process continues even after you “hit submit”! Seniors should check email daily for messages from their colleges/universities. They should interact with the links and information in those emails to show demonstrated interest.

PORTALS

Most colleges will provide login information for application dashboards. The applicant portal includes the status of your application (this is where you learn if anything is missing). It also might include honors or scholarship program applications, housing information, invitations to events, and contact information for your admissions counselor.

STARS

Some colleges will request a self-reported transcript or a similar report of courses and grades in addition to the transcript supplied by the student’s high school. Read more about STARS on our blog here:

<https://www.class101.com/daytonohsouth/2025/09/24/what-is-stars/>

FAFSA

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is a required form at all colleges and universities in order to be considered for any “need” based financial aid such as grants, work-study, and student loans. The 2026-2027 FAFSA is now open. Please note that many scholarship applications—including the Dayton Foundation—require the FAFSA. Even if your family will not qualify for need-based aid, we encourage you to complete the FAFSA.

CSS PROFILE

Some colleges also require a form called the CSS Profile. The CSS Profile can be found on the College Board website (<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org>). It requires a registration fee as well as an additional fee per school. The college applicant portal will indicate if the CSS Profile is required as well as any deadlines. Read more about the 2026-2027 FAFSA and CSS Profile on our blog here:

<https://www.class101.com/daytonohsouth/2025/10/14/css-profile-fafsa-what-families-should-know/>

Class of 2027: It’s go time, Juniors!

Now is the ideal time for juniors to work ahead! Class 101 will visit every junior theology class with the counselors the week of November 17. At Alter, Class 101 works with juniors to research colleges and prepare their resume.

Create a top ten list of colleges/universities and plan college visits

- Junior year is the time to refine the college list while researching possible majors. Class 101 will also help Alter juniors prepare for visits by talking through their college “fit factors.”
- Create a resume of all activities (for college-bound and career-bound students)
- When juniors visit the Taylor Center, Class 101 can provide a resume template and guidance to start on this important task.

Online College Visit with Butler University: November 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Class 101 will host a special online college admissions program with Butler University on Monday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. We hope many of our students will join us online for this event. Register here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/8h3JK2lcTbmAzQQvfPPYw#/registration>

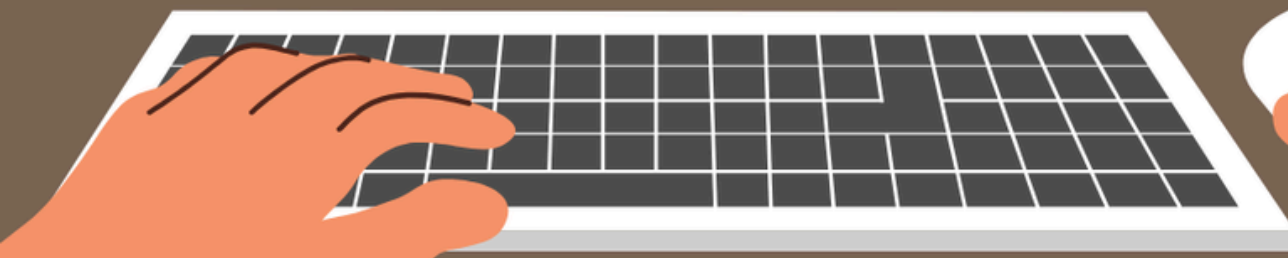
Class 101 continues to be available in the Taylor Center (Room 208) to all Alter students on Wednesday, Thursdays, and Fridays through the first week of December. No appointment is necessary.

ALTER HIGH SCHOOL

TODAY!

APPLICATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 14

- ADMISSIONS for the Class of 2030
- SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID
for Current Students and
our Newest Knights!



GIVE THANKS GIVE ALTER

Thank you for your support of the 2025 Week of Giving. This campaign benefits The ALTER Fund which supports priority needs throughout the year. It fills the gap between tuition and the cost to educate our students. We had an exciting week at the school in celebration. We are happy to report that we raised over \$94,000 in 5 days! If you made a Week of Giving contribution, thank you! Please know that we are grateful for all our Alter families do to support our school. If you would like to make a gift now, click [HERE](#).





Did you know?

You can make a \$1,500 gift to Alter without an out-of-pocket expense.

If you are an Ohio resident with an Ohio income tax liability, you can earn a **DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR INCOME TAX CREDIT** for gifts made to a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO).

How does it work?

1. Determine your Ohio tax liability from last year by checking your Ohio 1040 IT, line 8c to estimate this year's liability.
2. Make a gift online or via check to the Catholic Education Foundation (CEF), a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) and **designate Alter** to receive your gift. Make a gift up to \$750 per individual/ \$1,500 married filing jointly. **Married couples are required to make separate gifts.** Only make a gift up to your tax liability or the \$750 individual / \$1,500 married, maximum.
3. Claim the **CEF-SGO tax credit** on your Ohio tax income return. You will receive a receipt for your gift to the CEF-SGO that can be sent with your tax return.

The result of your gift to the CEF-SGO and dollar-for-dollar tax credit is **NET ZERO** to you, but a huge gain for Alter! Gifts to the CEF-SGO are awarded as financial aid to Alter families and free up operational funds to be used on other priority needs.

Learn more or make a gift: [OHIO TAX CREDIT](#)

To speak with someone directly, contact Alter Advancement, 937-434-2059



**Department of
Taxation**

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Class of 2005 Reunion

The Class of 2005 gathered on November 1st for their 20th class reunion at the Dayton Beer Company – Owned by Brewmaster and '05 Alter Grad Peter Hilgeman. The group enjoyed reconnecting and sharing stories of their days within the halls of Alter High School. It was clear that even after all these years, the bonds formed at Alter are strong. Go Knights!



Future Alter Knights in the Making!

Lifelong friends since their days at Alter, Mark Butler and Carl Braunschweiger both graduated from Alter in the Class of 2012. Aside from being best friends from high school, each of them both have one year old daughters. Recently, the two of them got their daughters Ellie Butler and Lucy Braunschweiger together both dressed in “Future Knight” onesies. This is an adorable and beautiful testament to the enduring friendships forged within the halls of Alter High School. We will be looking forward to seeing Ellie and Lucy walking these halls one day!

Knights of the Round Table Podcast

If you haven't already, be sure to check out the Knights of the Round Table Podcast! Hosted by Alter Alum and Director of Communications, Conor Ryan '16, this podcast dives into all things Alter. Conor engages in meaningful conversations with students, alumni, and community members so join us and listen to find out what makes Alter so special to so many!

[Click Here to Listen.](#)



ALTER CLASS OF 2020 REUNION



REUNITE,
RELIVE,
RECONNECT!

FREE
ENTRY

NOV. 26TH
7-9 PM



HARRIGAN'S TAVERN
4070 MARSHALL ROAD
KETTERING, OH 45429

COME FOR THE MEMORIES, STAY FOR THE FUN!

RSVP TO LAUREN SCHIMPF 937-572-8642

ALTER ALUMNI:

Have you joined our exclusive

Alumni Fire?

WHAT IS IT?

The ultimate platform for fostering connections among our valued alumni community! Here, you can easily reconnect with fellow graduates, explore new career opportunities tailored to your field, and stay informed about the latest news and events at Alter. Whether you're looking to network, seek advice, or simply catch up, Alumni Fire is your go-to resource for maintaining and enriching your professional and personal relationships. Join us today and ignite the potential within our alumni network!



[Click here to join AlumniFire Today!](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Alter Students Compete In Southwest Western Ohio Chess Tournament

The following students proudly represented Alter in the Southwest Western Ohio Chess Tournament: **Keith Butler, Jackson Smith, Nathan Keltos, Max McCall, Ben Egan, Xavier Mabarak, Nicholas Skinn.** These students competed against Miami Valley School and the Dayton Regional STEM School. We would also like to congratulate Jackson Smith for a 4th place finish in the tournament as well as Max McCall who received the Sportsmanship Award! Great job and Go Knights!



University of Dayton's Dr. Becky Gonter-Dray Speaks to STEM Students

For our most recent STEM Talk on November 4th, University of Dayton's Dr. Becky Gonter-Dray excited Alter students with so many career options within the Dietitian and Nutrition field. This profession uses science-based knowledge to help all ages to have the correct amount of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, vitamins, minerals and water to improve their health. Dr. Gonter-Dray explained the many specialties within the profession that Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) can work in so many areas as the food and nutrition expert. Besides the obvious Healthcare (Mom and Baby, Elderly), there are careers in Community and Public Health (SNAP, WIC); Education & Research (teaching future dietitians at UD); Business & Industry (ex. Kraft Foods, 'Target needs a new line of gluten free food and weight loss pharmaceuticals); Government (lobbyists and policy makers); Sports Nutrition (popular); and Private Practice (gardening and cooking classes). Thank you, Dr. Gonter-Dray, for showing all the options within the scope of Dietetics and Nutrition; and for highlighting the amazing program that UD has for those interested in this field.



THE ARTS

Marching Knights Head to Grand Nationals

And here we are, Bands of America Grand Nationals Week.

Our last week On this front porch...

We will soak it up, continue to improve, continue to shine, and continue to be "the biggest little band in the land". This is a week full of emotions, and rightly so. We love this show, we love each other like a family, and we LOVE our SENIORS. This "Grand Nats" we will show the marching band world our front porch. We will invite them into our show to experience what we see day in and day out, Joy and Excellence. It's been a pleasure havin' y'all round the porch.



Castle Players Update

This year has been quite a thrill for The Castle Players! They kicked off the season with a beautiful and touching production of HADESTOWN, performing to sold-out crowds and earning well-deserved praise for their incredible talent and dedication. Now, the company is hard at work rehearsing for their winter play, THE CANTERVILLE GHOST — a classic comedy you won't want to miss!

Tickets for THE CANTERVILLE GHOST go on sale Monday, November 17 at 8:00 a.m. at alterhs.booktix.com. Mark your calendars and join us for an evening of laughter and charm! And don't forget about the student exclusive preview performance on Wednesday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. !

But that's not all — auditions for the spring musical, SEUSSICAL, are just around the corner! Auditions will be held on Friday, December 12. Sign up today and be part of the magic! [Click Here](#).

Stay connected with The Castle Players on social media for behind-the-scenes updates, performance highlights, and announcements:

Facebook: Alter High School's Castle Players

Instagram: [@altercastleplayers](https://www.instagram.com/altercastleplayers)

For the most up-to-date information, visit www.alterhs.org/theatre.

ALTER ALTER CASTLE PLAYERS PROUDLY PRESENT

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

Adapted by
TIM KELLY
from the Oscar Wilde story

Director **MEGAN WEAN SEARS**

December 4th-6th @7:00
December 7th @2:00
2025

Adults \$12 / Students/Military/Seniors \$10
Buy tickets: alterhs.booktix.com
Box office: 937.660.8976
Get a suite for \$250 per performance, includes 8 seats, food, and drinks. Contact megan.sears@alterhs.org if interested.

For up to date Castle Players information, visit alterhs.org/theatre

Alter High School's Castle Players | @altercastleplayers | Alter Castle Players

"The Canterville Ghost (Kelly)" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Seussical™

AUDITIONS
DECEMBER 12
IN THE THEATER

SIGN UP HERE!

WHAT TO PREPARE/BRING

FOR DANCE AUDITIONS - come with clothes you can move in.
You do not need to prepare a dance.

FOR VOCAL AUDITIONS - (dress for an audition - no school uniforms)
Please prepare a 32 bar (approx. 1-min) selection from one of the following.

1. A song in the style of the show that best showcases your vocal range and storytelling ability.
OR
2. Any piece by the composer and lyricists Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens.
OR
3. The pre-selected selections from the show we have provided from the show for you. (Located in Seton Hall- Room 404)

"You cannot sing a cappella. You must have marked PIANO sheet music prepared and IN A BINDER. An accompanist will be provided."

SHOW DATES
MARCH 6,7,8,12,13,14,15

SPORTS REPORTS

Fall Sports Highlights

All of our fall sports had successful seasons, and represented Alter in an exceptional manner on the field of competition. Special congratulations to our seniors for their leadership and efforts during the fall sports' season. Some of the outstanding performances this fall were:

Women's Sports

Girls' Golf

- Qualified for Districts as a team

Girls' Cross Country

- Finished 3rd at the GCL Meet
- Regional qualifiers: Girls' Varsity Team- Veronica Johnston, Nora Blakeley, Cora Simpson, Kenzie Dodge, Juliana Montoya, Maddie Zimmer, Sarah Kenyon, Brie Klatte, Cam Crotty

Girls' Soccer

- District Runners-Up
- Miami Valley District D4 Private Coach of the Year – Andy Vollmar
- Miami Valley District D4 Private Assistant Coach of the Year – Lauren Miller
- D4 All-Ohio- Alison Link

Girls' Tennis

- MVTCA Assistant Coach of the Year - Megan Kreusch
- MVTCA Academic Recognition and OTCA Gold Ball—Megan Brandt
- MVTCA Academic Recognition and OTCA Silver Ball — Lauren Bigby, Marin Carpenter, Liz Doorley, Serena Paul

Men's Sports

Boys' Cross Country

- Finished 3rd at the GCL Meet
- Regional qualifiers: Bennett Rau, Matthew Orlando
- State qualifier: Matthew Orlando

Football

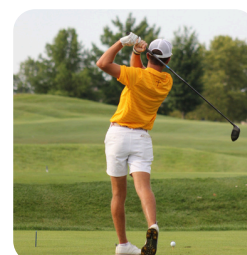
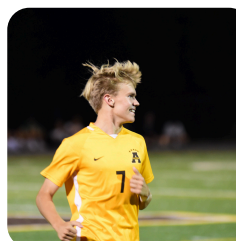
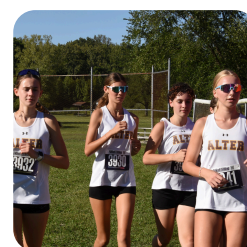
- GCL Co-Champions
- Qualified for the State Football Playoffs for the 25th straight season
- GCL Defensive Player of the Year – Nolan Ogburn
- GCL Offensive Player of the Year – Drew Cripps

Boys' Soccer

- District Runners-Up
- GCL Co-Coach of the Year/Miami Valley District D4 Coach of the Year – Thomas Howell
- D4 All-Ohio/GCL Player of the Year/Miami Valley District D4 Player of the Year– Mason Miller

Boys' Golf

- GCL Champions
- District Champions
- 4-PEAT State Champions
- State Individual Runner-up – Andrew Gochenour
- GCL Player of the Year/Southwest District Player of the Year – Matthew Kreusch
- GCL Co-Coach of the year, Southwest District Division II Coach of the Year – Alex Schuster



Chris Hart '80 Nominated for NFHS Girls' Coach of the Year

The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association has nominated Christina Hart as the Ohio Girls Nominee for the National Federation of High Schools Girls Coach of the Year. Coach Hart is an alumn of Alter High School from the Class of 1980 and serves as the Athletic Director and Girls' Basketball coach. Coach Hart spent seven years as the head women's basketball coach at the College of Wooster where she recorded a record of 104-73 and won two North Coast Athletic Conference Championships. Coach Hart has been head coach of the Alter Knights girls basketball program for 32 years and has achieved five state championships, ten regional championships, seventeen district championships, and eleven GCL championships. Her overall record at Alter is 571-209. Congratulations Coach Hart on this amazing accomplishment!



Boys' Golf Invited to Ohio Statehouse

The boys' golf team was invited to the Ohio Statehouse this past week by representative Andrea White to be honored for winning their 4th consecutive state title. The team got a tour of the statehouse and got to have lunch with Rep. White and her staff before getting recognized and receiving a special proclamation in front of the House session. Congratulations boys!



REMINDERS

School Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday:
7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please direct all
questions to the Main
Office at 937-434-4434

Café Menu

Please click here to
view the menu for
this coming week.

Spirit Shop Hours

The Spirit Shop will be
open Wednesday's from
10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Thank you!

ARCHBISHOP ALTER HIGH SCHOOL

2025-2026 CALENDAR

AUGUST

7-8: New Teacher Orientation
11-12: Teacher Work Day
13: Freshman First Day
14: First Day- All Students
15: All School Mass
16: Freshman Social- Backyard Party
19: Meet the Teacher Night
20: Picture Day (9th, 10th & 11th)
21: Pep Rally
21: Fairmont Football Game
29-31 Alter Fest

SEPTEMBER

1: Labor Day- No School
8: Alter Fest Day Off- No School
10: All School Mass
14-15: Junior Retreat
16-19: Kairos
19: Scholarship Breakfast
20: Turnabout and Bowling with Friends
25-28: Fall Production

OCTOBER

2: Hall of Fame Banquet
3: End of First Quarter
3: Homecoming Game
4: Homecoming Dance
6: First Day of 2nd Quarter
7: Admissions Event- Arts/Athletics
8: PSAT- No School for 9th/10th/12th
15: PSAT- No School for 9th/11th/12th
16: Parent Conferences
17: No School
22: All School Mass

NOVEMBER

2-3: Junior Retreat
3-7: Week of Giving
6: Admissions Event- Academics
11-14: Kairos
14: Application Deadline- C/O 2030
15: Band Grand Nationals
24: Giving Tree Ceremony
25: Grandparents Day Mass
26-28: Thanksgiving- No School

DECEMBER

4-7: Winter Production
8: All School Mass
11: Exams 1 and 2- Noon Dismissal
12: Exams 3 and 4- Noon Dismissal
15: Exams 5 and 6- Noon Dismissal
16: Exams 7 and 8- Noon Dismissal
17: Exam Makeup Day- Teacher Work Day
18-Jan.5: Christmas Break- No School

JANUARY

5: Teacher Work Day
6: First Day of 2nd Semester
11-12: Junior Retreat
19: MLK Day- No School
20-23: Kairos
24: Freshman Social- Dodgeball
25-26: Junior Retreat
25-30: Catholic Schools Week
27: All School Mass
30: Pep Rally

FEBRUARY

3-4: IOWA Testing
7: Father Daughter Dance
10: Sophomore Retreat
13: No School
16: Presidents Day- No School
18: Ash Wednesday- All School Mass
19: Knight of Celebration- Class of 2030
24: ACT- No School for 9th/10th/12th Grades
27: Knight Out Event
28: Mother Son Shindig

MARCH

5: End of 3rd Quarter
6: No School
6-8: Spring Production
9: No School
10: First Day of 4th Quarter
12-15: Spring Production
17-20: Kairos
25: All School Mass
28-31: Senior Trip

APRIL

3-12: Easter Break- No School
15: All School Mass
23: Freshman Retreat Day
29: Band Concert
30: Pep Rally

MAY

1: Sophomore Surprise
2: Prom
2: Freshman Semi-Formal
7: All School Mass
18: Exams 8 and 7- Noon Dismissal
19: Exams 6 and 5- Noon Dismissal
20: Exams 4 and 3- Noon Dismissal
21: Exams 2 and 1- Noon Dismissal
21: End of Semester
22: Senior Awards
22: Baccalaureate
23: Graduation- Class of 2026

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

