Marian Catholic News

October 22, 2026

Noticias Marian Catholic

MISSION OF MARIAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Marian Catholic High School, rooted in the Dominican tradition, inspires students through prayer, study, community, and preaching to grow in faith, achieve academic excellence, and become compassionate, courageous leaders committed to Christian Service.

A Message from Dr. Zampillo

Hello parents and guardians,

I hope that your students had a chance to relax and refresh over fall break and are getting back into the rigors of school life. First quarter report cards were mailed home today, so be sure to take some time to discuss with your child their progress so they can remain focused to finish the semester strong!

As we move into the second quarter, our theatre department is presenting three performances this weekend of *These Shining Lives*, a poignant story of women who fought for justice and whose bravery changed American labor history – please consider joining us for one of these performances! Next Wednesday we will be following our Half-Day Schedule so that our juniors can gather for their class retreat in the afternoon to explore different ways to pray. And we are also past the mid-point of our Spartan Gold Raffle, with only two collection days left before the grand prize drawing in mid-November!

This week during their Emmaus class, our students are participating in the Cognia Learning Community's survey. We not only value our students voice, but yours as well. If you have not yet had a chance to complete the accompanying Family Survey, we kindly request that you take a few moments to participate. You can access the survey below -thank you for taking the time to do so!

I hope that everyone is able to take some time to enjoy the wonderful autumn weather we are having!

Sincerely,
Dr. Joe Zampillo '89
Principal



Cognia Parent Survey

This week, during EMMAUS, your child will be asked to complete a survey that will help us gather data on our progress in the area of student engagement in the classroom and student life around school. The survey we are using was developed by the Cognia Learning Community, a professional learning organization that grants Marian Catholic accreditation every five years. The data gathered from this survey will help Marian Catholic's administration, faculty and staff determine how we are doing in meeting the needs of our students as well as any adjustments that need to be made as a school community. The administration, faculty, and staff of Marian Catholic High School value student voice in ensuring we are meeting their needs to the best of our ability, which is another reason we are administering this survey.

Thank you to the parents who have already completed the Family Survey, as we value your voice as well. **We kindly request that, when you have a moment, if you have not already done so, complete the accompanying family survey, which can be accessed via this link**. This survey was also developed by the Cognia Learning Community. The information we gather from the family survey will help us assess how we are doing in forming the critical partnerships with parents and guardians that are necessary for facilitating student learning and growth. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the family survey.

Feel free to reach out anytime if you have any questions regarding either the student or family survey.

At A Glance

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Marian Catholic Tuition Policy Reminder

Tuition Assistance for 2027-2028 School Year

The tuition assistance application for the 2027-2028 school year is now open! Every family is encouraged to complete the FACTS application to ensure full consideration for available support. Using the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment platform will give families convenient online access, along with tools to complete and track both tuition assistance applications and payment plans.

Please **click here** for the link to access the application. **The deadline for current Marian families to apply for tuition assistance is November 20, 2026.**

Please follow these simple steps to enroll in a payment plan and apply for financial aid:

1. If you have an existing FACTS user name and password, select "Sign In." If you are a new FACTS user please select "Create username and password" to begin.
2. Then click on the Set Up a Payment Plan link or Start Application for Financial Aid.
3. Select the appropriate school year (2027-2028)
4. Complete the steps as prompted.
5. For technical issues using the FACTS tax form integration tool or submitting your applications, please contact FACTS at: 866-315-9262 or visit FACTS Help and Support.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Sue Brown in the Admissions Office at: sbrown@marianchs.com.

Student Life



Morning Student Drop Off Procedure

Half-Day Schedule Reminder

Spartan Gold Raffle

Athletic Boosters BINGO Night!

Standard Time Returns on November 1st!

Upcoming Dates



Morning Student Drop Off Procedure

Parents are kindly reminded that when dropping off your students in the morning, you should do so only on the Joe Orr Road side of campus at the Gym/Theater Circle Drive (Door 14) or by the Spartan Shop (Door 20). **Students should not be dropped off on the Ashland Avenue side of campus (Main Office) prior to 8:00 a.m.**

During the week of October 26th, our security officers will be stationed at the Main Office entrance on Ashland Avenue to redirect traffic to the Joe Orr Road side of campus for student drop off. Please **click here** for a brief video about our student drop off and pick up procedures. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in following the directions of our security team!

Marian Catholic Theatre Presents: *These Shining Lives*

Based on the true story of the women who worked for the Radium Dial Company in Ottawa, Illinois, the play follows Catherine Donohue and her coworkers as they discover that the glowing paint that made their jobs so desirable is slowly poisoning them. Faced with a powerful corporation determined to silence them, the women find the courage to fight for justice--for themselves, their families, and generations of workers to come.

Beautiful, heartbreaking, and ultimately inspiring, *These Shining Lives* celebrates friendship, resilience, and the extraordinary impact of ordinary women who refused to disappear quietly. Join us for a moving evening of theatre and help us honor the women whose bravery changed American labor history!

Showtimes: Click here to purchase your tickets now!
Friday, October 23 @ 7 PM
Saturday, October 24 @ 7 PM
Sunday, October 25 @ 2 PM



September Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who were named Student of the Month by their teachers for the month of September! Each student received a Student of the Month certificate. Congratulations to: **Nicolas Anderson** - Business & Computer Science; **Zoey Harris, Trinity Love, McK'la Murray, Angelica Ramirez, Stephanie Solomon, Camryn Staley, Trinity Stephens-**English; **Ava Diaz, Sanaa Diggs, Jennifer Reidy-Snead, Zoryn Stephens, Zoe Stuckey-**Fine Arts; **Ayomide Adesina, Jordyn Hodges, Madison Josvai, Vesta Radziute, Sylvester Ramirez, Josiah Thompson, Alan Wu-**Mathematics; **Isaiah Klyce, Katelyn McMillan-**Physical Education; **Aaron Brooks, Tori Cates, David Galindo, Valentina Garcia, Onyinyechi Ikenyi, Zhamarius Wooten-**Science; **Ayomide Adesina, McKenzi Anderson, Daniel Curran, Onyinyechi Ikenyi, Sylvester Ramriez-**Social Studies;**Brody Berg, Donovan Dancy, Jimena Galvan, Margaret Lamb, Zoe Stuckey, Morganne Townsend, Zhamarius Wooten-**Theology; **Serenity Baldwin, David Galindo, Sienna Livingston, Javier Osornio, Natalia Watson-**World Language.





Half-Day Schedule Reminder Wednesday, October 28

We will be following our Half Day Schedule on Wednesday, October 28th for our Junior Class Retreat. Freshmen, sophomores, and seniors will be dismissed at 11:45 a.m., and juniors will be dismissed at 2:20 p.m.

There is no lunch service (juniors will be provided lunch) and no after school supervision this day so please make sure you make arrangements for your student to be picked up promptly at the appropriate time. Thank you!



Spartan Gold Raffle!

There are only two collection days left for the Spartan Gold Raffle: Tuesday, October 27nd & Tuesday, November 3rd!

Money and ticket stubs are collected in Emmaus class, and if students forget to bring their tickets in they can deposit them in the Spartan Gold Raffle drop box in the Main Office. Please make sure the student's name, ID number, and Emmaus teacher's name is clearly printed on the outside of the envelope containing the sold ticket stubs and money. **Remember - turn those sold ticket stubs in if you want to be entered in the Grand Prize Drawing on Friday, November 13th!**

Junior Class Retreat

Our junior class is looking forward to their class retreat on the afternoon of **Wednesday, October 28th!** The focus of their retreat is Prayer, and juniors are signing up for three sessions to experience different ways to pray.

A few of the sessions, led by faculty and staff, include **Praying with Poetry** (students read and react to poetry with God at its center and will have an opportunity to create their own prayers using poetry), **Labyrinth** (an ancient tool for walking prayer and meditation); **Guided Meditation** (learn to quiet the mind and be open to God's voice in a prayerful process); **Glorifying God Through Athletics** (learn how to praise and give glory to God through athletic participation and competition); **Lectio Divina** (prayerful reading of scriptural passages multiple times to meditate on what God's word is speaking to us).

We hope our juniors have a prayerful and reflective experience as they open themselves to experiencing God in their lives in unique ways!



Students who sell more than the required ten (10) tickets will be entered in a weekly drawing for a $25 Amazon gift card! And the student who sells the winning ticket will receive one semester of paid Marian Catholic tuition!

Thank you for your support of this year's Spartan Gold Raffle!



The Marian Catholic Athletic Booster Club is excited to invite you to our next **BINGO Night!** Mark your calendars for **Friday, October 30th**, and join us for a frightfully fun evening filled with prizes, treats, and school spirit, all while supporting Marian Catholic Girls Basketball.

Bring your favorite snacks and beverages (costumes are optional but highly encouraged!) and join friends and family for a night of laughter, friendly competition, and cash prizes. Leadership Center doors open at 6:30pm and games begin at 7:00pm. **This is a 21+ event.**

Tables are disappearing faster than candy on Halloween, so **click here** get your Bingo cards, and reserve your spot today for early bird pricing!



Caring for Our Planet

This week, The Morton Arboretum who has partnered with Marian Catholic since 2023, visited our campus to help plant a dozen new trees around campus! A line of eleven Oak trees were planted near our athletic fields (Joe Orr Road side of campus), with students taking an active role in planting and caring for them. The twelfth tree, an Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry, was planted in front of the school on Ashland Avenue in memory of Fr. William O'Mara, our long-time school chaplain. These new trees help to highlight how the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Illinois, actively care for the environment through their participation in the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform, and their environmental efforts centered on carbon reduction, land protection, sustainable food choices, and fighting plastic pollution. Thank you to The Morton Arboretum, faculty, staff, and students for helping to beautify our campus!

Marching Band



Standard Time Returns Sunday, November 1st!

Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, October 31st!



Upcoming Events

October 23: ***These Shining Lives 7:00 PM;***

Marching Band at Bands of America Super Regionals St. Louis, MO

October 24: ***These Shining Lives 7:00 PM;***

Marching Band at Bands of America Super Regionals St. Louis, MO

October 25: ***These Shining Lives 2:00 PM***

October 27: Spartan Gold Raffle Collection Day

Congratulations to our Marching Spartans who at last weekend's Illinois State Marching Band Championships, were awarded Best Visual and Best General Effect to place second in Class 3A. The band is now hard at work preparing for their trip to the Bands of America Grand Nationals competition in Indianapolis next month!



Fencing Team

The Fencing Team roster is still open for students who are interested in learning a new sport! Interested students can see Coach Jones in the Library to schedule a Tryout. Our first competition is October 31st!



Marian Catholic Tuition Policy Reminder

Thank you to all of our families who are in full participation with the FACTS system and are current with their tuition payments. As a reminder, during the school year, if any family misses three payments or is not in full participation with the FACTS system, the student will be disenrolled from Marian Catholic High School. This means that the student will not be allowed in class nor will they be able to participate in any extracurricular activities. If a family is behind in tuition payments or not in full participation with FACTS, and they are receiving a scholarship or tuition assistance, in addition to the late payment fee any scholarship and/or tuition assistance they are receiving will be reduced by 1/10th for each monthly payment that is missed. This means that the amount owed to Marian Catholic will increase. Please make sure your FACTS account is set up and your tuition payments are current. **Please note there is a 3.05% credit/debit card transaction fee. An alternate payment method such as ACH, is available at no additional cost.** If you need assistance, please contact Mrs. Harrison, our business manager, at: mharrison@marianchs.com so she may assist you.

October 28: Half-Day Schedule; Junior Class Retreat

October 29: ***Academic Award Breakfast 7:30 AM Leadership Center***

October 31: *H-F Novice Speech Classic;* **Happy Halloween!**

November 1: Standard Time Returns

November 3: Spartan Gold Raffle Collection Day; *Election Day*

November 7: *Eisenhower Early Bird Speech Tournament ILMEA District 1 Festival*

November 10: 4Marian Catholic 2026

November 11: School in Session! *Veterans Day*

November 12: Early Release Schedule; *Bands of America Grand Nationals Indianapolis, IN*

November 13: Mid-Quarter; Spartan Gold Raffle Grand Prize Drawing; *Bands of America Grand Nationals Indianapolis, IN*

November 14: Marian Catholic Speech Classic; Bands of America Grand Nationals Indianapolis, IN

November 16: Marian Catholic Parents Club Meeting 7:00 PM Leadership Center

November 19: Early Release Schedule

November 21: *Thornton Turkey Speech Tournament*

November 22: Open House for Prospective Families 1:00-3:00 PM

November 25: No School

November 26: Happy Thanksgiving! No School

November 27: No School

December 5: Entrance Exam for the Class of 2031; *District 230 Speech Tournament*

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