Marian Catholic News

November 5, 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

Dear Marian Catholic Parents and Guardians,

On Wednesday, November 11, Marian Catholic will participate in *Immigrant Crosses: Remember Their Names. Honor Their Lives. Defend Their Dignity.*, an initiative supported by our sponsors, the Dominican Sisters of Springfield. More than 100 crosses bearing the names of people who died in immigration custody or during immigration-enforcement actions will be displayed on campus.

The purpose of this program is to remember these individuals as people created in the image and likeness of God and to reflect on our Catholic responsibility to uphold the dignity of every human life. This observance is rooted in our faith and does not endorse a political party or a specific immigration policy. In preparation, students will receive instruction in their Theology class about the U.S. immigration system and relevant Catholic teachings. Through classroom discussion, prayer, and reflection, students will be encouraged to distinguish established moral principles from policy questions on which people of good will may disagree.

Through this experience, we hope to deepen students' understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and strengthen their ability to engage in thoughtful, respectful dialogue, guided by the Dominican pillars of Prayer, Study, Community, and Preaching.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joe Zampillo '89
Principal



Academic Excellence

On Thursday, October 29, at our Academic Excellence Breakfast, forty-four students were recognized for earning and maintaining a Grade Point Average of 4.0 or greater for two consecutive semesters. This is a one-time award given to students in their sophomore, junior, or senior year. If students continue to maintain a 4.0 or greater GPA for all semesters at Marian, they are recognized at our spring Academic Award Breakfast. Congratulations to the students pictured below: Seniors **Alan Bertucci, Trinity Love, Kaydence Norfleet, Jennifer Reidyy-Snead;** Juniors **Sophia Ashom, Edgar Bravo, Kaylee Griffen, Alysse Hayden, Nathaniyl Pindur, Anlan Wu;** Sophomores **Adiella Anele, Magdalena Aretega, Evelyn Ayala, Elizabeth Barlow, Molly Burnett, Sofia Calderon, Addison Dancy, Sanaa Diggs, David Galindo, Darlene Godswill, Zoey Harris, Cormac Henderson, Rasheed Howard, Jordyn Jackson, Aubree Kvasnicka, Margaret Lamb, Ryan Matthews Jr., Kenneth Moore, Christopher Morgan Jr., Kenedi Oden Walters, J'nai Pinkston, Taylor Porter, Clara Raftery, Lydia Raji, Catherine Ruiz, Alondra Sanchez, Karimah Sarumi, Bailee Stewart, James Swift, Chai Tankson, Melissa Thompson, Victoria Valadez, Keith Wakoli,** and **Zhamarius Wooten.**

At A Glance

A Message from Dr. Zampillo

Academic Excellence

Campus Ministry News

Student Life - Dia de Muertos - Generation Green! - Halloween Fun in Visual Arts - Pumpkin Painting! - Teen Takeover HBCU Tour!

Marian Catholic Tuition Policy Reminder

Spartan Gold Raffle

Counseling Junior Parent Night

Cognia Family Survey

Semester Exam Schedule

Upcoming Dates





Campus Ministry News



Kairos Retreats for Juniors and Seniors

Spartan Gold Raffle

A reminder that all sold ticket stubs and money for the Spartan Gold Raffle must be returned to Marian Catholic no later than Friday, November 6th in order to be included in the Grand Prize Drawing on Friday, November 13th!

Ticket stubs and money can be deposited in the secure dop box inside the Main Office. Please make sure the student's name, ID number, and Emmaus teacher's name appears on the outside of the sealed envelope.

The drawing will take place LIVE at 3:00 PM on Marian's Facebook page November 13th. We greatly appreciate your participation in making this year's Spartan Gold Raffle a success! Go Spartans!

MARIAN CATHOLIC

Tuition Assistance for the

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

Kairos offers students time to step away from daily pressures, reflect on their lives, and deepen their faith. Through shared experiences and meaningful conversations, your son or daughter can build stronger friendships, develop greater self-awareness, and find a deeper sense of belonging.

Registration is open for all Kairos retreats. The regular cost for retreat is $285 which includes students room and board at the retreat center for 4 days/3 nights and all retreat materials. **A special discount rate ($260) is available for students who register now and attend either the December Men's or January Women's retreat.** Registration is open for all upcoming Kairos retreats, so now is a great time to choose one! This amount is billed to your son or daughter's FACTS account.

The first Kairos of the school year is a men's retreat, December 1–4, with registration available on a first-come, first-served basis through November 16. Your son or daughter can register for the retreat of their choosing via the link on Schoology or their email (**click here** for the Kairos information sheet). Cost should never prevent a student from participating. If finances are a concern, please contact Miss Grauvogl (sgrauvogl@marianchs.com) so we can help make attendance possible!

Student Life

Dia de Muertos

Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead) is an annual celebration observed in the United States, Mexico, and Latin American countries on November 1st and November 2nd, coinciding with the All Saints Day and All Souls Day in the Catholic Church. It is a time to remember, honor, and celebrate those who came before us. Our Hispanic Student Coalition, moderated by Sra. Lorena Dominguez (World Language), created a beautiful ofrenda to honor the spirits of loved ones who have passed. The students also hosted a concha, pan de muerto, and hot chocolate sale on November 2nd and 3rd in celebration of this meaningful tradition.



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.

Counseling Junior Parent Night
Tuesday, November 17, 2026
7:00 PM - Leadership Center

All parents of current Juniors are invited to join us for this meeting which will focus on the Practice ACT test & Analyze Ed, taking the ACT during the school day, changes to the ACT, general questions about testing, and what juniors can do this year to prepare for senior year.

On Tuesday, October 6, all juniors took a practice ACT. Based on the student's performance on this practice ACT, Analyze Ed will provide each junior with an individualized report on what areas to focus on to prepare for the School Day ACT that all juniors will take on Tuesday, March 9, 2027. Details about Analyze Ed will be presented at this meeting, and academic counselors will talk about testing in

Generation Green!

Over the past several years, our Generation Green ecology club has collected plastic bottle caps with the goal of having enough donated to have them recycled to make a bench for our campus. Every week members of Generation Green, moderated by Mr. Ben Zerante '02 (Science), would hand wash and bleach every acceptable bottle cap. When enough caps were collected, Mr. Zerante delivered them to the company in Michigan so that our bench could be manufactured.

Thank you to all of the students, staff, alumni, and Marian families who kept plastic bottle caps out of landfills and contributed to this earth conscious project! Last week, the project finally came to fruition with the bench being installed near the theatre Circle Drive! Now students have a place to wait for rides that is totally made out of recycled bottle caps! #EarthDayEveryDay



Halloween Fun in Visual Arts!

Students in Ms. Torres's art class had the chance to use their new pinch pot building skills and make a ceramic ghost with the intention of giving it to a staff or family membe along with a nice hand written note. Here are a couple of examples of the little ghosts they were able to "Boo!" their favorite people with!

general, the changes to the ACT, and what juniors and families may do in the second semester to get ready for senior year. We hope to see many parents at this meeting!



Cognia Family Survey

The link to participate in the Cognia Family Survey will close on Monday, November 9th. This survey was developed by the Cognia Learning Community and 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, and help us 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. We value the voices of you and your students in ensuring we are meeting their needs to the best of our ability. **We kindly request that, when you have a moment, you complete an accompanying family survey, which can be accessed via this link.** Thank you for participating!



November 25: No School

November 26: *Happy Thanksgiving!*

November 27: No School



Clubs & Activities Pumpkin Painting!

Several student clubs and organizations got into the Halloween spirit by painting pumpkins for Halloween and they were displayed in front of the Main Office for all to enjoy!





Semester Exams

Even though semester exams are not until the middle of December, we want to remind families to review Marian's policy for Final Examinations. Please take a few minutes to review the policy on pages 12 & 13 of our **policy handbook**.

The Semester Exam schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 15: Period 1 and Period 2
Wednesday, December 16: Period 3 and Period 4
Thursday, December 17: Period 5 or Period 6 and Period 7
Friday, December 18: Period 8 and Make Ups

More information and reminders will be forthcoming as we get closer to December.



Upcoming Events

November 7: *Eisenhower Early Bird Speech Tournament*

November 10: #4MarianCatholic2026



Teen Takeover HBCU Tour!

The Marian Catholic High School Black Student Union is excited to announce their upcoming Teen Takeover HBCU College Tour, March 23-27, 2027.

We're taking students on an unforgettable educational journey to explore the rich history, academic excellence, culture, and opportunities offered by Historically Black Colleges and Universities! Our College Tour Stops: Florida A&M University (FAMU) (Tallahassee, FL); Spelman College (Atlanta, GA); Morehouse College (Atlanta, GA); Morris Brown College (Atlanta, GA); Clark Atlanta University (pending confirmation).

The trip is limited to 48 students! Provisional Student Rates: Double Occupancy (2 students per room): $795; Quad Occupancy (4 students per room): $625. Packages are expected to include round-trip charter transportation, two hotel nights, select meals, snacks, and tour-related expenses. We understand that educational experiences are an investment! Families will have an opportunity to participate in fundraising through Zeffy to help offset eligible tour expenses.

November 11: School in Session! Immigrant Crosses at Marian Catholic; *Veterans Day;*

November 12: Early Release Schedule; *Band leaves for Bands of America Grand Nationals*

November 13: Mid-Quarter; Spartan Gold Raffle Grand Prize Drawing 3:00 pm Facebook Live!; *Marching Band at Bands of America Grand Nationals - Indianapolis, IN*

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

November 17: College Junior Parent Night 7:00 p.m. Leadership Center

November 19: Early Release Schedule

November 21: Thornton Turkey Speech Tournament

November 22: Open House for Prospective Families 1:00-3:00 p.m.

November 25: No School

November 26: Thanksgiving Day; No School

November 27: No School

December 1: *Men's Kairos Retreat*

December 2: *Men's Kairos Retreat*

December 3: Early Release Schedule; *Men's Kairos Retreat*

Parents & Students: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! We are gathering student interest and room-occupancy preferences to finalize accommodations and pricing. If your student is interested in participating, please complete our **HBCU Tour Interest & Participation Form.** All rates are provisional and subject to final confirmation. We will share additional registration and initial payment details soon. Let's give our students an opportunity to see themselves on college campuses, explore new possibilities, and envision their futures!



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.

December 4: *Men's Kairos Retreat; Hanukkah begins at sundown*

December 5: Entrance Exam for the Class of 2031; *D230 Speech Tournament*

December 8: Liturgy Schedule for Feast of the Immaculate Conception

December 10: *Winter Choir Concert 6:30 p.m. Holiday Band Concert 7:00 p.m.*

December 11: *Student Council Christmas Food & Gift Drive Distribution*

December 12: *Noel in the OL Speech Tournament*

December 14: End of Second Quarter

December 15: Semester Exams: Periods 1 & 2

December 16: Semester Exams: Periods 3 & 4

December 17: Semester Exams: Periods 5/6 & 7

December 18: Semester Exams: Period 8

December 21, 2026 - January 4, 2027 - Christmas Break

January 4: Faculty In-Service Day

January 5: Classes Resume!
