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Pius matthias academy

AboutAdmissionsUniversity ExperienceFaithStudent LifeAthleticsThe Arts CollectiveThe Arts Collective at PMA aims to enrich students intellectually, emotionally, and culturally through exposure to and participation in visual and performance-based arts. Visual ArtsPerforming ArtsHadestownSupportAlumniParentsGet involved! As our partners in education, we encourage all Warrior Parents to get involved with the community! Here you will find opportunities to join us in prayer, volunteer at campus events, and spend precious time with your child and fellow parents. Parent UniversityWarrior Gear & Merch(opens in new window/tab) Boys Baseball Scott Sovern, Head Boys' Baseball Coach | Email: ssovern@piusmatthias.org Boys Basketball Donte Archie, Head Coach & Assistant Athletic Director | Email: darchie@piusmatthias.org Stephen Johnson, Associate Head Coach Eric Jimenez, Assistant Coach | Email: ejimenez@piusmatthias.org Girls Basketball Sinnamon Monroy, Head Coach | Email: cmonroy@piusmatthias.org Co-Ed Cross Country Alicia Ross, Head Coach | Email: aross@piusmatthias.org Jose Barba, Assistant Coach | Email: jbarba@piusmatthias.org Sophia Lugo, Assistant Coach | Email: slugo@piusmatthias.org Football Devah Thomas, Head Coach & Offensive Coordinator | Email: dthomas@piusmatthias.org LeonShay Fields, Assistant Head Coach & JV Head Coach | Email: lfields@piusmatthias.org Joel Darien, Assistant Coach (Defensive Backs) Greg Moore, Assistant Coach (Receivers) Lamont Bush, Assistant Coach (Running Backs) Jamarde Cobb, Assistant Coach (Defensive Line) Myron Ashley, Assistant Coach (Quarterbacks) Michael Wood, Assistant Coach (Offensive Line) Alonzo King, Assistant Coach (Defensive Line) Terrance King, Assistant Coach (JV Def Coordinator) Chaz Sanders, Assistant Coach (Strength Coach & Video Coordinator) | Email: csanders@piusmatthias.org Dennis Ford, Assistant Coach (Defensive Line) Russell Shaw, Assistant Coach (Special Offensive Consultant) | Email: rshaw@piusmatthias.org Boys Soccer Enrique Ortega, Head Coach | Email: eortega@piusmatthias.org Girls Soccer Ariel Guzman-Avila, Head Coach | Email: aguzmanavila@piusmatthias.org Samantha Valdez, Assistant Coach Jacob Tostado, Assistant Coach & JV Head Coach Girls' Softball Antonio Salazar, Interim Head Coach | asalazar@piusmatthias.org Co-Ed Track & Field Alicia Ross, Head Coach | Email: aross@piusmatthias.org Sophia Lugo, Assistant Coach | Email: slugo@piusmatthias.org Girls' Volleyball Ariel Guzman-Avila, Head Coach | Email: aguzmanavila@piusmatthias.org Christopher Guzman, Associate Head Coach Boys' Volleyball German Diaz, Assistant Coach | Email: gdiaz@piusmatthias.org 2025 Finalsite - all rights reserved Powered By Finalsite Privacy Statement Thank you for your interest in supporting PMA Athletics. By purchasing a banner to advertise at our facilities, you can spread the word about your business with our Warrior Fans while giving back to our students. For online banner purchases, please fill out the form below. If you are more comfortable placing your order using a check, you can download a pdf version of that same form at the bottom of this page and mail it to PMA. Further instructions to follow. Go Warriors! Skip to content Home » Schools » St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy The mission of St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy is to provide a challenging Catholic college preparatory education in a supportive learning community that will positively affect the lives of teenagers, and provide opportunities for all students to grow in faith, learn without limits, and live with a purpose. I am Ms. Morales and I am thrilled that you are considering PMA as your next home in your educational journey. Selecting the right high school is a monumental decision that significantly shapes the trajectory of a student's future. At St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy (PMA), we acknowledge the weight of this choice and strive to partner closely with families, ensuring a seamless and enriching transition. My priority is to guide our families through this journey and provide a seamless transition as you discover your home at PMA! Our commitment extends beyond mere education; at PMA, we envision each student's growth and learning not just during their high school years but throughout their life journey. We foster an environment where obstacles are overcome, and students are empowered to recognize their significance within our school community. Through seizing opportunities as both students and leaders, our graduates emerge as empowered citizens, ready to make a positive impact on their communities and the world. Consider exploring the distinctive Onward Scholars Program, a hallmark of PMA. This unique initiative offers 75% tuition assistance over four years, coupled with personal mentoring and a myriad of opportunities for personal, academic, and leadership development. We eagerly anticipate embarking on this transformative journey with you and welcoming prospective Warriors to our community. Should you have any questions or concerns, I am here to assist you every step of the way. Join us at PMA, where the pursuit of excellence knows no bounds. Go Warriors! Ms. Gabriela MoralesDean of Admissions & Marketing Want to learn more about PMA? Read our Admissions Booklet here: Admissions Booklet. Private school in Downey, California, United States St. Pius X - St. Matthias AcademyAddress7851 Gardendale StreetDowney, (Los Angeles County), California 90242United StatesCoordinates33°55'9"N 118°9'36"W﻿ / ﻿33.91917°N 118.16000°W﻿﻿ / 33.91917; -118.16000InformationTypePrivate, CoeducationalReligious affiliation(s)Roman CatholicPatron saint(s)St. Pius X and St. MatthiasEstablished2013OversightArchdiocese of Los AngelesSuperintendentPaul EscalaPresidentDr. Christian De LarkinPrincipalClaudia RodarteGrades9-12Enrollment520Average class size23Student to teacher ratio15:1Color(s)Crimson Red and Grey Athletics conferenceCIF Southern SectionDel Rey LeagueNicknameWarriorsAccreditationWestern Association of Schools and Colleges[1]NewspaperThe Warrior PrideTuition\$10850Websitewww.piusmatthias.org St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy is a coeducational private, Catholic high school for grades 9–12 located in Downey, California. It is operated by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Western Catholic Educational Association St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy was born from two great traditions of Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles: Pius X High School (1953-1998) and St. Matthias High School (1963-2013). In the year 1953, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles launched Pius X High School which served a co-ed population from the southeast area of Los Angeles County. The campus was home to Pius X High School from 1953 until the Archdiocese of Los Angeles announced a school realignment transforming the co-ed Pius X High School into a consolidation with the all-girls St. Matthias High School, eventually phasing out the Pius X program over a three-year period. About 80% of St. Matthias' all-girls student body of 300 transferred to Pius X campus. This resulted in a larger all-girl Catholic high school located on the sprawling 15-acre Pius X campus which became known as St. Matthias High School for Girls. Further information: Pius X High School (Downey, California) Pius X High School (Pius X) was a co-educational, private, four-year (grade levels 9–12) high school. Named for Pope Pius X, it was founded in 1954.[2] The present campus of St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy on Gardendale Street is Pius X's campus. Fr. James W. Keefe was named principal in 1967, and the following year, instituted a concept of modern teaching, the Model School Project. Pius employed an educational model called "non-gradedness," which placed a student in a class where his or her present achievement was the deciding factor. Emphasis was put on progress and learning by the individual. The plan was discontinued after Keefe left in 1975.[3] Declining enrollment from the 1980s onward placed financial pressure on the Archdiocese's high schools, prompting Pius X to begin fundraisers and to form a new alumni association in 1986.[6] A 25 percent drop in enrollment in 1992 prompted drastic cost-cutting, including the firing of two coaches and the elimination of many sports.[5] A school was first established at Stafford Avenue and Belgrade Street in Huntington Park in 1926, to serve as the parochial school of the parish of St. Matthias, where Msgr. Patrick Shear was pastor.[6] It was leveled in the 1933 Long Beach earthquake and rebuilt, then converted to St. Matthias High School in 1960.[6] It was staffed by the Sisters of Notre Dame.[7] St. Matthias High School was recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the United States Department of Education in May 2002 and was accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Western Catholic Education Association. St. Matthias had a well-regarded fine-arts department, producing highly acclaimed productions in theater, music and art. Actress Sabrina Le Beauf was a 1976 graduate.[6] In early 1995, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles announced a school realignment that would make the Pius X campus co-institutional with the all-girl St. Matthias High School.[6] The Pius X program was to be phased out over a three-year period, leaving the institution an all-girls school. The merger plan was met with opposition from students, parents, teachers and civic leaders alike. Pius X students staged a walkout in February 1995 to protest the decision to make the school single-sex, and students, parents and teachers from St. Matthias staged their own protest against the closure of the Huntington Park campus.[6] The plan proceeded, but the school continued to operate under capacity. In 2011, the St. Matthias Advisory Board and the Archdiocese asked Loyola Marymount University's Center for Catholic Education to conduct a detailed study on options for St. Matthias. The Center for Catholic Education study looked at how the school was achieving their Catholic education mission. It was decided to convert the facility back to a co-ed school, and the name St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy was chosen to honor the traditions of both institutions. St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy or PMA as it is known among the community, serves a co-ed population of approximately 400 students from diverse economic and cultural backgrounds. It recently announced plans to begin work on the first phase of the PMA Campus Master plan that was completed in the Spring 2017. St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy competes with other southeastern Los Angeles County Catholic schools in the Del Rey League, in the CIF Southern Section. As of 2022, they field teams in cheerleading, cross country, volleyball, football, soccer, basketball, track & field, baseball, and softball. ^ WASC-ACS. "WASC-Accrediting Commission for Schools". Retrieved June 5, 2009. ^ "School History: The First Ten Years", St. Pius X / St. Matthias Academy Alumni Information Site ^ "The Model Schools Project: 1969-1975", St. Pius X / St. Matthias Academy Alumni Information Site ^ "Schools Not Overly Blessed With Money", Los Angeles Times, October 23, 1986, retrieved November 19, 2015 ^ Paterno, Susan (July 30, 1992), "Pius X Principal Cuts Minor Sports to Save Money", Los Angeles Times, retrieved November 19, 2015 ^ a b c d Lavin, Enrique (April 9, 1995), "Merger of Schools Off to Rocky Start", Los Angeles Times, retrieved September 19, 2015 ^ Dellinger, R.W. (August 14, 2013), "St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy dedicated", Angelus, retrieved November 19, 2015 ^ "Archdiocese Plans to Consolidate 4 High Schools", Los Angeles Times, March 18, 1995, retrieved November 19, 2015 School Web site Alumni Web site Retrieved from "Ladies in Sports Clinic - Empower, Educate, Elevate!" Join us on Saturday, October 26th, for an exciting, empowering event where we tackle the gender gap in sports! Dive deep into important topics like: ★ Accessibility to sports facilities ★ Social stigmas facing female athletes ★ Pay equity & media representation ★ The power of sports in leadership development Hear from professional women in sports and business leaders, and get ready to create an action plan to elevate girls' participation in your community! When: Saturday, October 26th | Time: 3 PM - 6 PM Where: PMA | Cost: \$20 per person (Free for PMA girls!) Don't miss this chance to be part of the change. Registration is available below! In the pursuit of academic distinction implied by our name, St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy (PMA) is committed to delivering a level of education that transcends ordinary standards. Functioning as an academy, our vision transcends conventional boundaries; we aspire to provide a Catholic University experience tailored for teenagers. At PMA, our mission is clear: guide each student towards discovering their purpose, where their unique talents intersect with the world's needs. This journey unfolds within an educational ecosystem designed to foster self-awareness, community significance, and the courage to embrace opportunities for growth and leadership. Our distinctive approach results in the cultivation of empowered, faith-inspired individuals who become valuable contributors not only to their local communities but to the world at large. PMA is synonymous with visionary leadership, impassioned educators, resilient and optimistic students, supportive families, and an actively engaged community. We provide unwavering support to students in every facet of their lives, be it academic pursuits, extracurricular engagements, athletics, or, fundamentally, their spiritual growth. PMA Warriors, as our students are affectionately known, graduate embodying the principles of Pride, Virtue, and Purpose. Our success stories echo in the halls of renowned institutions like Stanford, Cornell, USC, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Brown, Boston College, and beyond. PMA students thrive in a college-ready environment, enriched by unique opportunities such as the Early College Program and Dual Enrollment in collaboration with Gerritos College. The Onward Scholars Program further elevates our commitment by providing mentorship, scholarships, and comprehensive college readiness initiatives. At PMA, we unlock the potential for excellence, fostering a community where every student discovers their purpose and confidently strides towards a future defined by Pride, Virtue, and Purpose. Mrs. Melissa Turcios Rodriguez is proud to serve as the Onward Scholars Program Director at her alma mater. She is passionate about guiding students to access higher education to become engaged community leaders. As a first-generation graduate, she hopes to empower students through mentorship and community. She is excited to introduce students to the myriad of opportunities available and assist them in making informed decisions about their college and career path.Mrs. Turcios Rodriguez was awarded the Posse Foundation Scholarship and received her B.A. from Dickinson College. She then pursued mentoring youth as a Language and Culture Ambassador in Madrid, Spain. A Los Angeles native, she returned home to receive her Master's in Education from Pepperdine University. Mrs. Turcios Rodriguez learned about navigating the college application process through her time as an Admission Counselor at Loyola Marymount University. Together, through Onward Scholars, Ms. Turcios is confident students will find their passions and purpose. AboutAdmissionsUniversity ExperienceFaithStudent LifeAthleticsThe Arts CollectiveThe Arts Collective at PMA aims to enrich students intellectually, emotionally, and culturally through exposure to and participation in visual and performance-based arts. Visual ArtsPerforming ArtsHadestownSupportAlumniParentsGet involved! As our partners in education, we encourage all Warrior Parents to get involved with the community! Here you will find opportunities to join us in prayer, volunteer at campus events, and spend precious time with your child and fellow parents. Parent UniversityWarrior Gear & Merch(opens in new window/tab) Welcome to PMA Campus Ministry! At PMA, our Catholic high school ethos emphasizes the cultivation of virtue guided by faith and morals. This unique approach enables students to deepen their faith through both knowledge and experiential learning. Throughout their time at PMA, students will actively engage in their faith through Theology courses, Mass, Adoration, Christian Service, Retreats, and Campus Ministry. Each year, students will participate in Christian service opportunities either on or off campus. Students also have the ability to join Campus Ministry to develop and enhance their own spiritual journey. Student leaders will lead retreats and share transformative ways we can develop our relationship with God. Student life at St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy (PMA) is vibrant and multifaceted, offering students numerous opportunities to engage, lead, and grow both personally and academically. Student life at PMA is dynamic and enriching, providing students with numerous opportunities to grow in faith, excel academically, and build meaningful connections with their peers. The supportive environment at PMA ensures that students are well-prepared for future success in all areas of their lives. Associated Student Body (ASB) The Associated Student Body (ASB) is the highest level of student leadership at St. Pius X - St. Matthias Academy (PMA), developing strength in student leaders through school wide opportunities. Each grade level is represented through the students that are elected by the class itself. Through various training and meetings throughout the year, students learn how to communicate, work with others and time management. Students organize and participate in a variety of events that build community and pride within the school. This organization plays a crucial role in fostering school spirit and ensuring that student voices are heard and acted upon. Clubs and Activities PMA offers a wide array of student clubs catering to diverse interests. These clubs provide students with opportunities to pursue their passions, develop new skills, and form lasting friendships. Whether students are interested in the arts, sciences, or community service, there is a club for everyone. Special Events The school hosts numerous events throughout the year, including rallies, dances, and celebrations. These events are designed to build community, celebrate achievements, and create lasting memories for students. Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. At St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy (PMA), we are proud to offer a robust athletics program that promotes physical fitness, teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship. Our student-athletes excel in various sports, competing at high levels while maintaining academic excellence and embodying the Catholic values integral to our school's mission. Athletic Programs PMA offers a wide range of sports, ensuring that every student can find a place to shine. Our athletic programs include: Basketball (Boys and Girls) Soccer (Boys and Girls) Baseball Softball Track and Field Cross Country Volleyball (Boys and Girls) Cheerleading E-Sports Each sport is coached by experienced professionals who are dedicated to developing the skills and character of our student-athletes. Our coaches emphasize the importance of hard work, integrity, and respect both on and off the field. League Participation St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy is a proud member of the Santa Fe League. This league is part of the CIF Southern Section, which governs high school athletics in the region. Competing in the Santa Fe League allows our athletes to challenge themselves against other high-performing schools, fostering a competitive spirit and camaraderie among the students. Achievements Our athletics program has a history of success, with numerous league titles and playoff appearances. Highlights include: Boys Basketball: Our team reached the CIF Open Division State playoff and is currently ranked among the top 10 high school teams in California. Girls Volleyball: Consistent playoff appearances and league championships. Track and Field: Multiple individual athletes have qualified for CIF championships. Facilities PMA boasts state-of-the-art athletic facilities, including: Smet Stadium: A premier venue for football, soccer, and track and field events. Warrior Gymnasium: Home to our basketball and volleyball teams, equipped with modern amenities to support athlete training and development. Weight Room: Recently renovated, our weight room provides the necessary equipment for strength and conditioning. Support and Community The success of our athletics program is supported by the strong involvement of our community. From parents to alumni, the PMA family plays a crucial role in fostering a positive environment for our student-athletes. Fundraising events, such as the annual Warrior Cup Golf Tournament, provide essential resources that enhance our programs and facilities. Join PMA Athletics Becoming a PMA student-athlete means joining a tradition of excellence and a community that values growth, dedication, and sportsmanship. We encourage prospective students to explore our athletics offerings and become part of a dynamic program that balances academic achievement with athletic success. For more information about our athletics program or to learn how you can support Warrior Athletics, explore our Athletics page or contact our Athletic Director, James Covell (jcovell@piusmatthias.org). We look forward to seeing you at our next game or event!