

Our Lady of Hope Society



Hope Ball Debutantes and Gentlemen

During their junior or senior year of high school, members of the Our Lady of Hope Society may be nominated for presentation to the bishop as a debutante or gentlemen at the Catholic Charities Hope Ball. Debs and Gents must be students of high character, faith, and service who exemplify the tenants of Catholicism as demonstration to the community. Hope Ball also celebrates intergenerational faith by offering as escorts their fathers or grandfathers and mothers or grandmothers. Nominations may come from any person in our community.

Nomination

The nomination period is open during the fall and ends November 1. Debutante and Gentlemen are notified the first week of December by Knights of Columbus Honor Guard. Preparations for presentation start in January and involve a weekly commitment until the Hope Ball in the Spring. Preparations will include etiquette training, dance lessons, society history and a continued emphasis on living a life of charity and service.

Fundraising

Debutante and Gentlemen presentation fees range from \$1500-2500 and must be paid in full by March 1st. This fee accounts for the clothing and education required for Hope Ball as well as a donation to Catholic Charities to serve and to lift those in need to the dignity of self-reliance. Debs and Gents may seek sponsorship from their parish, school, Knights of Columbus, or the catholic community if necessary. Please reach out to Jody Breuer at Catholic Charities for fee or sponsorship questions.



NOMINATE NOW

Our Lady of Hope Society



FAQs

Q: Who can join?

A: Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors can join Our Lady of Hope Society Service Social nights. Once they complete 20 hours service hours at Catholic Charities they will receive a service award.

Q: Who can be presented at the Hope Ball?

A: Junior and Senior members of Our Lady of Hope Society who have completed 20 hours of service projects with Catholic Charities are eligible to be presented at Hope Ball.

Q: What is Hope Ball?

A: Hope Ball is the annual fundraising event for Catholic Charities. It is an evening dedicated to broadcasting the mission of Catholic Charities and honoring students living out their Catholic faith. We celebrate intergenerationally as people of goodwill through dinner and dancing.

Q: Who can be nominated as a Debutante or Gentlemen of Hope Ball?

A: Students must adhere to Catholic social teachings, be committed to acts of charity, and have exemplary character as evidenced by being a student in good standing and community involvement.

Q: Do I need to be Catholic?

A: Yes, to be presented to the Bishop at the Hope Ball the student must be catholic.

Q: What is the selection process for Debutantes and Gentlemen?

A: Once the student is nominated, the Hope Ball committee chooses candidates. Parents are contacted to ensure they support their student's Hope Ball presentation requirements.

Q: How do I nominate someone?

A: On this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBPfDVo-Dop-6hVTt6u41yMrwiPA7E7Unu6Cy3kyE8h9FUA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Q: What are the time obligations?

A: The Debs and Gents will participate in group dance lessons on 6 Wednesday & Sunday practices from Mar 9- Mar 22. They will also have 2 lessons the week of Hope Ball Mar 22-29.

Q: Are parents expected to attend any activities?

A: Parents of Debutantes and Gentlemen will be invited to several events during Hope Ball Season: a Christmas party December 10th, Dress reveal for debutantes, Ball Eve Rehearsal Mar 28, and Mass with Bishop Johnston before Hope Ball on March 29th.

Q: What will Debutantes and Gentlemen wear?

A: All Debutantes will wear the same gown. All Gentlemen will wear the same tuxedo. Debutantes will

receive instruction to visit CC Tailor for their fitting. (13139 State Line Road, Kansas City, MO 64145, phone 816.942.3490) Gentlemen will be fitted by Men's Wearhouse for their tux. All tuxedo's must be picked up by the person wearing the tuxedo due to specific measurement verification.

Q: Hope Ball Schedule

A: Though exact times may vary, please be advised that Debutantes and Gentlemen will need to be on-site at the Sheraton at Crown Center from 3:00-9:00 March 29, 2025

- Pictures with Parents
- Mass with Bishop Johnston
- Hope Ball
 - Catholic Charities Mission & Vision
 - Debutantes and Gentlemen presented to Bishop Johnston
 - Dinner
 - Debs and Gents Waltz, Father/Daughter Dance. Mother/Son Dance.
 - Open Dancing

Q: What is the attire for all guests at Hope Ball?

A: Tuxedos for gentlemen and floor length gowns for ladies.

Q: Is there an age eligibility to attend Hope Ball?

A: Attendees must be at least 16 years of age (Junior in High School.)

Q: What are the financial obligations?

A: The participation fee for Debutantes is \$2,500.00 and for Gentlemen is \$1,250.00. To secure debutante or gentlemen presentation, the first half of the payment is due January 15. Balance is due on or before March 1, 2025. Sponsorship opportunities may be available through your local parishes or Knights of Columbus. While we do not want cost to be a hindrance, families should be comfortable that Hope Ball is a fundraising event and Catholic Charities relies upon these funds to carry forth our mission to serve and to lift those in need to the dignity of self-reliance. Payments may be made by credit card, Venmo, or check. Checks payable to Catholic Charities, attention Liz Stellhorn, 8001 Longview Road, Kansas City, MO 64134.

Q: What does the fee cover?

A: The fee covers:

- Gown, gloves, and jewelry or tuxedo rental
- Two Hope Ball tickets for parents/grandparents
- Dance and etiquette lessons
- \$500 Donation to Catholic Charities
- Hope Ball Memento

The fee does not cover the cost of alterations, if they are necessary.

Q: How will I know if I've been selected as a Debutante or Gentleman?

A: The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus will coordinate a hand delivered invitation to your student at your home December 16-17

Q: What are ticket prices for Hope Ball and how do I purchase?

A: \$250 per person or \$2,500 per table of 10 guests at Hope Ball website www.catholiccharitiesball.org

If you have additional questions, please contact:

Michael J. Nolte 913-522-7610 or Jody Breuer 309-335-9922

Our Lady of Hope Society



Mission:

Inspiring Catholic high school students to live a life of service and charity while building a compassionate community that supports those in need and encourages a life of faith.

Vision:

Encouraging young Catholics to become leaders who serve others and strengthen their communities. (Service)

A community of high school students who lead with faith and compassion in securing resources for those in need. (Charity)