



1938 - 1942



1942 - 1943



1943 - 1968



1968 - 1986



1986 - 2009

The College Seal 1938-2009

The Marian College seal, included on most official publications of the college (notably, the college catalog), originated in 1938. After consulting with faculty, Sisters Gertrude Marie Zieroff and Sister Mary Jane Peine combined efforts to create the first seal.

The seal's design reflects the religious faith of the college's founders, the Sisters of St. Francis. The central "M" proclaims Mary's central position in the founding ideals. The Latin words "Sedes Sapientiae" (Seat of Wisdom) refer to the wisdom from which all truth flows and which reaches its culmination in Christ, the Wisdom of God. The cross and shield are both symbols of Christian faith, reminiscent of St. Francis, who regarded himself as herald (or knight) of Christ, the Great King.

There has been one notable exception to the use of the basic design of M, cross, and shield in the official publications. In 1942-1943, for undetermined reasons, an entirely different design was used for an "interim catalog." Use of the original seal, but minus the date 1937 (no record exists as to why the date was dropped), was resumed during the following year. This seal without a date remained the official one until 1968, when the date, 1851, appeared on the seal. 1851 is the founding date of the Sisters of St. Francis, whose initial ministry of education gave rise to the teacher training classes, 2-year normal college, and junior college that became, in 1936, Marian College in Oldenburg and then, in 1937, in Indianapolis. This change was authorized by Marian's newly inaugurated first lay president, Dominic Guzzetta and approved by the Board of Trustees in March 1968.

Although the basic design of the seal has not changed, the design of the central letter "M" was modified in the mid-1980s to what was regarded as a more contemporary format. The first official use of the new "M" was in the college catalog for 1987-1989.



...and use a new seal.