

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

St. Michael the Archangel High School



MISSION STATEMENT

Formed in Catholic tradition, the mission of St. Michael High School is to foster the spiritual, intellectual, and personal development of young people as committed disciples of Christ.

November 2025

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

As we enter the month of November, gratitude is at the heart of all we do. I am especially thankful for the dedication of our students, parents, faculty, and staff who continue to make St. Michael such an amazing community of faith and excellence.

Our fall athletic seasons are nearing their end, and we wish our Cross Country, Swim, Football, and Volleyball teams the best of luck in postseason play. We are also excited to begin our winter sports, including Basketball, Bowling, Powerlifting, Soccer, and Wrestling. Hoops Mania on November 2 will feature an exciting night of Warrior spirit with an intersquad competition, dunk contest, and a faculty versus student game. We are also proud to announce the creation of our Girls Flag Football team, which will compete in a high school league later this school year. I am grateful for the support of our fans, the commitment of our parents, and the hard work of our student-athletes who represent St. Michael with pride.

Our band recently completed its marching season with an outstanding performance at the Dutchtown Band Festival. Thank you to Dr. Andry, supportive band and dance parents, and the entire band and Warriorettes for the dedication and passion that they put into this marching season.

Open House on October 22 was a tremendous success. We welcomed nearly 1,000 guests, including 375 prospective

students. Thank you to the many students, parents, alumni, and faculty who helped make the evening so memorable. Our senior retreat on October 26 and 27 was also a milestone event, marking our first overnight retreat in many years. It was a powerful experience of faith, bonding, and renewal for everyone involved, including students, alumni, and faculty.

Looking ahead, please see this bulletin for information about our upcoming Coffee with the Counselors events, designed to help parents navigate high school life. We also look forward to our Alumni Golf Tournament on November 3, the Freshman Retreat on November 12, and the Student Talent Show on November 20.

As Thanksgiving approaches, let us take time to reflect on the many blessings in our lives and the strength of our community. While we look forward to the upcoming break, please remember that attendance at school remains important. Unexcused absences may carry consequences, so we ask that families avoid starting vacations early to ensure students remain on track academically.

Thank you for the many ways you continue to build up this community with gratitude, generosity, and faith.

God Bless You and Go Warriors!

Mr. Jared Cavalier, Principal

UPCOMING DATES AT A GLANCE

- 3: Warrior Golf Classic
- 4: Coffee with Freshman Counselor
- 6: Start of Marian Consecration
- 6: Tennis Informational Meeting
- 7: Coffee with Sophomore Counselor
- 8: Born 2 Run
- 10-14: Food Drive
- 12: Freshman Retreat
- 16: Father Son Evening
- 19: All School Mass
- 19: Talent Show
- 24-28: Thanksgiving Holidays



Thanksgiving Holidays

Thanksgiving Holidays are **Monday through Friday, November 24-28**. The SMHS office will be open Monday and Tuesday, November 24-25, 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM. If you need assistance outside of those times, please email Alyson Nass at alnass@smhsbr.org. Classes and regular business hours will resume Monday, December 1.

Marian Consecration

Students are invited to take part in a Marian Consecration **beginning on November 6 and ending on December 8**, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception. There will also be an **optional retreat on November 15** for those taking part. All students are welcome. For more information, stop by Campus Ministry or email Sr. Cecilia at scecilia@smhsbr.org.

Tennis Information

There will be a Tennis informational meeting **November 6 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the St. Sebastian Gym**. Tennis tryouts will be held at Forest Park on Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM and Sunday, December 7 from 3:00 - 4:30 PM.

Born 2 Run

St. Michael will once again have a team of runners supporting the Woman's New Life Center's Born to Run fundraiser on **Saturday, November 8** from 7:30 - 10:30 AM downtown in North Blvd Square. The *Warriors for Life Club* organizes students to come out and support the important ministry of this crisis pregnancy center. Please register online by **November 2**. Registration is onsite after this date. Students may also register on site but must arrive early to do so. Students who register and attend will earn one direct hour of service. When signing up, make sure you put "SMHS Warriors for Life" under the "Team Name" Section. Email hwetzel@smhsbr.org with questions. Visit the following link to sign up: [Born to Run - Baton Rouge Online Registration](#).

Beta Club Food Drive

The Beta Club will be sponsoring a school-wide food drive for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank **November 10-14**. Each homeroom class will be given a box for students to bring non-perishable food items to benefit those in need during the holiday season. The homeroom with the most food will receive a donut party sponsored by the Beta Club.

Coffee with the Counselors

Our Freshman and Sophomore counselors invite parents for a brief presentation about SMHS grade policies, preparing for college and career readiness, graduation requirements, Pre-ACT standardized testing held in the spring, and more.

Be on the lookout for an email in mid-October to RSVP.

Freshman:

Tuesday, November 4, 7:30 AM

Mrs. Taylor Flowers

Sophomore:

Friday, November 7, 7:30 AM

Ms. Chelsea Brown



Celebration of Mass

All school Mass will be held on **Wednesday, November 19 at 8:47 AM in the St. Sebastian Gym**. Our Celebrant will be Bishop Michael Duca. Parents are invited to attend and should check in at the school office prior to the Mass start time. Students must wear their full dress uniform on all Mass days.

Friday Morning Mass in the Chapel

We will celebrate an optional morning Mass every Friday in November at 6:40 AM in the St. Anne Chapel. All students and parents are invited to attend. Dress uniform is not required for Mass in the Chapel.



MIDTERM EXAM SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 16: 1st & 8th hours
Wednesday, December 17: 2nd & 4th hours
Thursday, December 18: 3rd & 5th hours
Friday, December 19: 7th & 6th hours

Freshman Retreat

The Freshman Retreat is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 12**. The theme, *Becoming a Warrior for Christ*, will allow students to dive deeply into their faith and become a greater part of our Warrior family. The retreat is scheduled to take place from 8:00 AM–2:30 PM at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Prairieville. Parents will be responsible to drop off and pick up students at St. John. There will be one shuttle bus to and from St. Michael that students may request. More information on transportation and permission slips was sent home through freshman theology classes on October 30 and via email to parents. Please pray as we prepare a fun and meaningful day for our students.

- Information and Permission Form Link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11tGb7ww6kTJVMm8Y5ZkY-yF98rOzrq4R/view?usp=sharing> - DUE NOVEMBER 5
- Bus Transportation sign up (limited space):
<https://forms.gle/wa5GtzKvSM9Cp7Bc6> - CLOSES NOVEMBER 5

Parenting in the Digital Age Talk

All parents are welcome to join us at St. John the Evangelist on **Wednesday, November 12 from 8:00 - 8:45 AM** for an informative talk/discussion with our Principal, Mr. Jared Cavalier, on "Parenting in the Digital Age." This is part of Freshman Retreat, but parents of all grade levels are welcome.

SMHS Talent Show

The SMHS Student Council will host the Warrior Talent Show on **Wednesday, November 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM** in the St. Sebastian Gym. All are invited; you do not want to miss the talent that our school has to offer. Tickets are \$8.00 and can be purchased [here](#).

An Evening for
Fathers & Sons
Sunday, Nov 16
6:00pm
St. Sebastian Gym
\$20 per person
Open to St. Michael students
and Fathers/Grandfathers
Dinner, Inspirational Speaker,
& Adoration/Confession
Register and pay online at
tinyurl.com/FatherSon25

No Shave/Sweatpants Week

No Shave/Sweatpants Week is **December 1-5**. Students may purchase a pass to participate for \$10.00 through a link that will be open **November 17-21**. The pass allows students to not shave and to wear sweatpants for that week.

COLLEGE INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

College Applications

Now is the time to apply for next fall. Some schools have priority deadlines for scholarship consideration.

Filing the FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) portal opened October 1. This is for loans, grants, and work study. It is also the application for TOPS, if your student qualifies. Deadline is July 1, 2026

Application Information

LSU - Priority date for undergraduate, scholarship programs (<https://www.commonapp.org/>), and honors college (<https://lsu.edu/honors/student-info/ohc-admissions.php>) is December 15. Please apply as early as possible.

SLU - Priority date for full consideration is January 15. Please apply as early as possible. (<https://www.southeastern.edu/apply/freshmen/index.html>)

Baylor University - Just opened their free application period. There is no date on how long it will be free so apply as soon as possible if you are interested in Baylor.

College Visits

Seniors will be granted one college visit with administrative approval. The Excused Absence Form can be found on the SMHS website and must be sent to Mr. Kegan Keller (kkeller@smhsbr.org) at least 5 days prior to the date of the visit. When the student returns, he/she must provide a letter of verification of attendance from the college or university.

College Acceptance Letters

Please send copies of all college acceptance and scholarship letters to Mrs. Rachel Cart, even if the student does not plan on attending a particular school. We will only publish this information if we have been informed in writing by parents or students.

ACT Scores and Test Dates

Students may request that his/her scores be sent to a college or university. The first four (4) score reports are FREE and automatically sent if requested during the registration process. ACT dates for seniors to qualify for TOPS: December 13, February 14, and April 11.

Service Hours Deadline

Friday, December 5 is the first deadline for Service Hours. Half of the total required hours are due for each student. If a student misses the **December 5** deadline, his/her second quarter Religion grade drops one point per day late, up to one letter grade. If students still have not completed this service hour requirement, they will not be allowed to take their midterm exams in any of their classes. See the SMHS Student/Parent Handbook for details.

Holly Volleyball

Make plans to join us in the Multipurpose Building on Friday, December 12 for this year's Holly Volleyball. This is an all-time favorite event. Games begin after school and go until the last team competes. All students and parents are invited to attend.



Christmas Band Concert

Save the date for St. Michael Annual Christmas Band Concert on **Sunday, December 7 at 2:00 PM**. This is your chance to see our Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Concert Band perform.



Visit Sword and Shield Coffee at two local Christmas markets this holiday season.



Library News

The SMHS Library's Moodle Page has a long list of contests and scholarships, listed by application due date. Want to spend a day in the medical field? Apply for the OLOL Healthcare Day to explore nursing, Dash into Dentistry, a Day with the Doctors, etc. Some opportunities require a 2.5 GPA or higher. Also available are Shell Oil, Amazon Future Engineers, Trade Skills, FranU, Athletic, Art, Writing, Photography, and even the Department of Defense. Parents, look through this extensive list and encourage your child to apply.



You are invited to join the numerous donors who help advance our mission by making a personal and meaningful gift to the Fund for St. Michael. The fund for St. Michael is made up of annual gifts from parents, alumni, and friends to support the advancement of our school through our annual giving appeal. These unrestricted funds are placed in the school's operating budget and have an immediate impact on student life. Currently, 66% of our faculty and staff have contributed this year. The generosity from our community continues to provide the faith-filled environment our families value so deeply. If you haven't donated and would like to, please click [here](#). Please contact Teri LaRose at tlarose@smhsbr.org if you have any questions about the Annual Fund.



Sponsorships

The advancement office offers numerous avenues for corporate sponsorships. Please click [here](#) to discover how your business can invest in the mission of St. Michael High School. Feel free to contact Haleigh Gautreaux at hgautreaux@smhsbr.org with questions about sponsorships.

Scholarships

Scholarships, funds, and endowments are created to provide financial support to St. Michael High School. Through an agreement between a benefactor and the school, these restricted funds are used for numerous expenses such as tuition assistance to families in need and campus improvements. Thanks to our donors, these means of monetary supplements help carry out the mission and vision of St. Michael High School.

It is through the continuous generosity of SMHS supporters that our scholarships, funds, and endowments continue to grow. The amount required to fully endow a scholarship or fund is \$40,000. Once endowed, only the earned interest income is used, not the corpus. This allows the scholarships to perpetually grant financial support to St. Michael High School.

To learn more about our current scholarships, funds, or endowments, [CLICK HERE](#). If you wish to establish an avenue for financial assistance, please contact SMHS President Ryan Empson at (225) 753-9782 ext. 42 or rempson@smhsbr.org.

Distinguished Graduate Nominations

Each fall, St. Michael High School asks for nominations of a distinguished graduate who will be honored by the Diocese at a special dinner in January. The nominees should possess a commitment to service in school, church and community. Click the link below to nominate a Warrior today!

<https://www.smhsbr.org/alumni/distinguished-graduate.cfm>

iGiveCatholic

This year, iGiveCatholic will be hosted on **December 2**. All throughout the day, we will be asking Warrior Nation to donate at <https://mtyc.co/e9uz9f> to help achieve our goal of \$12,000. The student body decided they would like to use the money to begin transforming our Cafeteria into a Union-style environment. With these funds, soft seating options will be purchased and installed to provide a comfortable area for our students to eat and gather with friends.



HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

Thank you!

*Amy Bertucci, the chair of
Open House, for all your
hard work!!! We appreciate
you!*

A red poster for Trivia Night. At the top left is a yellow megaphone icon with the words 'TRIVIA NIGHT' in yellow. At the top right is a yellow 'QUIZ' in a blue-outlined bubble. In the center is a large white 'M' with a cross and a sword. Below it, in small white text, is 'HOME & SCHOOL PRESENTS'. The main title 'TRIVIA NIGHT' is in large, bold, white letters. Below that, in smaller white text, is 'Don't miss our Trivia Night full of fun and great prizes! Make plans now with friends and family to have fun.' At the bottom left is a calendar icon with the date '7 Feb, 2025'. At the bottom right is a location pin icon with the text 'St. Sebastian Gym'. There are also several lightbulb icons with question marks scattered around the poster.

SAVE THE DATE

TRIVIA NIGHT

HOME & SCHOOL PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Don't miss our Trivia Night full of fun and great prizes!
Make plans now with friends and family to have fun.

7 Feb, 2025 **St. Sebastian Gym**

IT'S ALMOST

Pie Time



Every year we provide Thanksgiving Pies to our teachers!!!

Sign Up : <https://tinyurl.com/3p2p89dw>



Warrior Club Memberships for the 2025-2026 school year are still available for purchase. Head over to www.smhswarriorclub.com to purchase.



Athletic Season Passes are available for purchase with Warrior Club Membership ONLY. These passes allow access to all regular season home athletic events.



The Fall Warrior Club Membership meeting was held on Monday, October 6. These meetings are open to all. We would love to get your thoughts, ideas, and opinions of upcoming fundraising events to benefit our student athletes and spirit groups. Make plans to attend our next meeting tentatively scheduled for March 2026.



We are thankful to have been able to sell Warrior swag at this year's successful open house. There was a great crowd, and we truly appreciate everyone who stopped by the trailer to support our programs. The enthusiasm and school spirit were evident, and the proceeds will help enhance opportunities for our student athletes and spirit groups.



Warrior gear is available year-round online at our [website](#). Your order will be available for pick up within 2 weeks at the front office during school hours.



Be on the lookout for restocked sweatshirts and new items in time for Christmas.