

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.

SEPTEMBER 2025

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

We have had an incredible beginning to the school year, and I am grateful to everyone who had a hand in the successful opening of the 2025-2026 school year. I also appreciate those of you who joined us for the blessing of Warrior Stadium and Back-to-School Night.

Keeping with our theme, *"In the One, we are one,"* September is filled with opportunities to grow together as a community. Our Warriors will compete in football, volleyball, swimming, and cross country, and I especially invite you to join us for the Bayou Boogie race hosted by St. Michael. In addition to athletics, all senior students and parents are invited to gather for the "Path Ahead" dinner on September 14, featuring guest speaker Jason Angelette.

Homecoming this year will be especially memorable as we celebrate in Warrior Stadium for the very first time. Festivities will include the Block Party on September 24, the game on September 26, and the dance on September 27. As part of this celebration, we will also honor our very first Warrior Football team from the 1986 season, including alumni players from the classes of 1987, 1988, 1989, and 1990. Please join us for all of the fun in celebrating our past along with our present.

On September 29, we will celebrate our Feast Day Mass with Bishop Duca, honoring St. Michael the Archangel. This special day reminds us of the power of prayer in fighting spiritual warfare, and I encourage you to continue joining together in praying the St. Michael Lent through Hallow as we seek the protection and intercession of our patron.

Alongside these

events, we will begin ACT test preparation and digital citizenship lessons that will help our students grow both in academics and in virtue. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to build the community of St. Michael High School. Go Warriors!

Mr. Jared Cavalier, Principal

UPCOMING DATES AT A GLANCE

- 3: Tuxedos to Geaux orders during all lunches
- 3: Student Council Workshop
- 3: Senior Parent Meeting
- 4: Parent University - Moodle, OneNote, OneDrive
- 6: Peer Ministry Formation Night
- 8: Jason Evert Castity Speaker
- 9: Student Council District Rally
- 9: National College Fair at the River Center
- 9: Mississippi College visiting campus
- 11: Sacrament of Reconciliation for Students
- 11: Letterman Jacket Orders during all lunches
- 12: Homecoming guest contracts due
- 14: Path Ahead dinner for Seniors
- 16: U.S. Navy visiting campus
- 19: U.S. National Guard visiting campus
- 23: LA Tech visiting campus
- 24: Homecoming Block Party
- 25: University of Southern Mississippi visiting campus
- 26: Homecoming Football Game (alumni tailgate)
- 30: University of Louisiana Lafayette visiting campus
- 27: Homecoming Dance
- 29: St. Michael Feast Day Mass

2025-2026 Mass Schedule

Monday, September 29: Feast of St. Michael

Wednesday, October 15: All School Mass

Wednesday, November 19: All School Mass

Monday, December 8: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, January 30: Catholic Schools Week

Wednesday, February 11: Multi-Cultural Mass

Wednesday, March 18: All School Mass - Bishop Duca Celebrant

Friday, April 17: Service Mass

Friday, May 1: Senior Mother's Mass (All School Mass)

Class Patrons/Themes

Each class will have a unique way to celebrate their class with a class Patron and theme associated with the Saint.

- ❖ Freshmen, Class of 2029 - St. Peter | The Rocks (South Louisiana/Fishermen)
- ❖ Sophomores, Class of 2028 - St. Damien of Molokai | Kais (Hawaii)
- ❖ Juniors, Class of 2027 - (soon to be Saint) Pier Giorgio Frassati | The Jocks (athletes)
- ❖ Seniors, Class of 2026 - St. Cecilia | The Rockstars (music and rockstars)

Letterman Jacket Orders

Letterman jacket orders will be taken during all lunch periods on Thursday, September 11, for students who received an academic letter during Fall Awards and for students who lettered in spring sports this past school year. Packets will be available in the office after labor day.

All Things Homecoming

- ❖ Homecoming Block Party: **Wednesday, September 24**, ALL ARE INVITED. Bring the whole family and get ready for an evening filled with games, delicious food, and tons of fun. You won't want to miss it!
- ❖ Homecoming Football Game: **Friday, September 26** at Warrior Stadium beginning at 7:00 PM. Our homecoming queen will be crowned during half-time.
- ❖ Homecoming Dance: **Saturday, September 27** from 8:00 to 11:00 PM. Students must arrive by 9:00 PM and the doors will re-open at 10:30 PM. All students need to be picked up no later than 11:00 PM. *The theme of the dance will be announced after Labor Day.*

Dress Code: In the past, multiple girls have been turned away due to the dress length being too short. Please be mindful of the length of homecoming dresses. The approved length is four (4) inches above the knee. This includes if the dress has a slit. The shortest part of the dress can be no higher than four (4) inches above the knee. Make sure to review the grooming and full dress code information on pages 41-43 of the handbook.

*Please note: Any student bringing a guest from another school will have to complete a guest contract. Guest contracts have been uploaded to all students' Moodle pages, under Student Council. All contracts are due by **Friday, September 12**.*

- ❖ Tuxedos to Geaux: An email went out to all parents about this service. Tuxedos to Geaux will be on campus on **Wednesday, September 3**, during all lunches to measure our male students who would like to purchase a suit or blazer for homecoming. Tuxedos to Geaux have been assisting our students for many years.

PARENT UNIVERSITY
PLUSPORTALS & SECURLY
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 6:00PM
CAFETERIA
MOODLE, ONENOTE, ONEDRIVE, ETC.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 6:00PM
CAFETERIA
Learn how St. Michael utilizes PlusPortals & Securly, and learn how students use their technology accounts

Campus Ministry Information

- ❖ Want to help with the many retreats and events put on by Campus Ministry? Sign up at [Campus Ministry Parent Help](#).
- ❖ For more information about upcoming events, parents and students are welcome to join the Campus Ministry Group Me at this link: [Group Me Link](#).
- ❖ Purchase a "In the One, we are one" campus ministry shirt for \$10 by clicking [here](#).

Welcome to our new Mercedarian Sisters

We welcome Sr. Cecilia back to campus. We now have Sisters on campus four days a week and welcome Sr. Fidelis and Sr. Joseph Marie. The Mercedarian Sisters are a great blessing to our St. Michael Family! [Meet our Sisters Here](#)

School Pictures

Barberito Photography emailed school picture proofs to parents of students who took school pictures. If you did not receive your email from Barberito, please contact them directly at (504) 455-6818.

End of First Nine Weeks

The end of the first nine weeks grading period is Friday, October 10. Parents can keep up with their child's grades using PlusPortals. If you need help accessing the site, please contact the Registrar. If you have questions or concerns about your child's grades, please contact the appropriate teacher.

Senior Yearbook Picture Reminder

Senior yearbook pictures must be taken by Barclell Studio. The deadline to take senior yearbook pictures is **Friday, October 31**.

Student Council Information

- ❖ Annual Workshop: **Wednesday, September 3, 5:00 to 7:30 PM, Cafeteria** - learn about the year ahead, plans for Homecoming, and learn leadership skills
- ❖ Louisiana Association of Student Councils District Rally: **Tuesday, September 9, 5:00 to 9:00 PM**, hosted by SMHS for student councils from across our city.
- ❖ Decorate halls for homecoming: **Sunday, September 21, 4:30 to 6:30 PM**

Senior Parent Meeting

All senior parents are encouraged to attend the Senior Parent Meeting on **Wednesday, September 3, 8:00 AM** in the cafeteria. Mrs. Rachel Cart will discuss valuable information regarding college applications and receiving the TOPS scholarship. There will be extra parking in the lot in front of the office and to the left of school. There will be additional parking available at the St. Andrews fellowship hall across the street.

Baton Rouge National College Fair

The National Association for College Admissions Counseling Fair will be held on **Tuesday, September 9**, at the Raising Cane's River Center. There is a night session from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. If you and your child would like to attend please register [here](#) and print your barcode to use at the fair. You can view those colleges participating in the fair by going to the NACAC website. There will be presentations on the FAFSA, scholarships, and financial aid.

Colleges Visiting SMHS

There will be admissions representatives from a number of colleges and universities visiting our school to share information with prospective students. Emails and/or announcements will be made alerting students of these opportunities. Seniors may monitor their email, Moodle, and the SMHS Online Calendar for dates and times of upcoming events held at St. Michael.

Currently Scheduled Visits:

Acadian Ambulance - Friday, October 3
La Tech - Tuesday, September 23
Mississippi College - Tuesday, September 9
Mississippi State - Thursday, October 30
University of Louisiana Lafayette - Tuesday, September 30
U.S. Navy - Tuesday, September 16
U.S. National Guard - Friday, September 19
University of Southern Mississippi - Thursday, September 25

Permission for College Visits

When a student is planning a college visit or tour day, his/her parent(s) must forward a written request to the SMHS Dean of Students, Mr. Kegan Keller, at least five (5) business days prior to the actual date of the visit. The Excused Absence Form may be found under *Quick Links* on the SMHS website or by clicking [here](#). The student should return to school following the absence

with a letter of verification of attendance provided by the college or university upon request.. Mr. Keller will review the requested information prior to and following the event when considering granting the excused absence. Please refer to the [SMHS Student-Parent Handbook](#) for further details regarding educational absences.

FREE Hallow Prayer App Subscription for Families

All St. Michael Students and Parents receive a free subscription to the Hallow Prayer App. This is an incredible prayer resource for students and adults to grow in prayer and knowledge of the faith. Each family has access to a shared account. Students will log in on their computer and phone, leaving three other logins for family members. All members of the family login the same way:

- ❖ Download the Hallow App
- ❖ Choose "log in with email"
- ❖ Email is student email
- ❖ When prompted choose "sign in with password"
- ❖ Use password: hallowed

Chastity Speaker Jason Evert Coming to the Diocese of Baton Rouge

St. Michael is bringing the dynamic Jason Evert to speak at most of the Catholic high schools in our Diocese on September 8-9.

- ❖ SMHS Student Assembly: St. Michael students will hear Jason speak at an all-school assembly on the **morning of September 8**.
 - Watch live stream of assembly/talk [here](#).
 - We are looking for parents who want to come and pray in the St. Anne Chapel (Adoration) for Jason Evert and our students during the talk on Monday, September 8. Sign up here: [St. Michael the Archangel: Parent Adoration during Purity Talk](#).

Purify - Jason Evert Double Feature Evening

Invite others and join us in the St. Sebastian Gym on the evening of September 8 from 6:00-9:15 pm for the PURIFY event. Parents and students (13 and up) will not want to miss the PURIFY event which will include two live talks by Jason Evert, food, resources for each person, as well as Adoration and Confession. This event is open to families across the Diocese

and is not to be missed! Please share with people that you know. The cost is \$25 a ticket and includes food, talk and free book resources for parents and students (13 and up). SMHS families can use the discount code BRdiscount to purchase tickets for \$15! Get your tickets today before the event sells out! The last time Jason Evert came to St. Michael the students raved about him and parents wanted to hear him as well! This is your opportunity for more! For more information contact Emily Froeba at efroeba@smhsbr.org. Please use the resources below to share the event and to purchase tickets!

- ❖ Facebook Event with ticket link - click [here](#)
- ❖ Event Flier - click [here](#)
- ❖ Ticket Page (use code BRdiscount) - click [here](#)
- ❖ Promo Video for event - click [here](#)

Peer Ministry Formation Night - Ordination Celebration

Join us on **Saturday, September 6 from 5:30 to 10:00 PM** to celebrate the canonization of two new young Saints and get filled! This evening is open to all St. Michael students. There is a \$5.00 fee for the evening that will include a meal, fellowship, fun, and formation! [Formation Night Sign Up](#)

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Students

All students and faculty will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) during a school-wide day of prayer in Theology classes on **Thursday, September 11**. Please pray for our students and the more than 12 priests and 2 bishops who will be present that day.

Path Ahead Dinner for Seniors and Parents

We are excited to invite you to a very special evening celebrating our seniors and the journey we have shared together. Please join us for a Faith-Filled Senior/Parent Dinner on **Sunday, September 14, at 5:00 PM in the St. Sebastian Gymnasium**. This event is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a community, reflect on the blessings of the past years, and pray for the future as our seniors prepare to finish strong. The evening will include a delicious meal, meaningful reflections, and a talk by guest speaker Jason Angelette. We encourage you to attend this event with your senior as it will be a beautiful time to strengthen the bond between family and faith surrounded by those who have supported and nurtured our students along the way. The cost is \$30 per family, and proceeds

benefit Senior Retreat costs. Reserve your spot here: [Register for Path Ahead](#)

If you are an underclassmen parent who would like to help serve at the event - please sign up here: [Path Ahead Help](#)

Elevate Events

Check out these school day activities to help us climb closer to the ONE! You can see the whole menu of events here: [Elevate Events Menu](#)

❖ Monday:

- *Funsies with Nunsies!* - Recess is back EVERY Monday! Join the Mercedarian Sisters at lunch for a new game each week.
- *Coffee House* - Check in on Monday after school in Campus Ministry

❖ Wednesday:

- *Breakfast Club* - Come hang out for fellowship and snacks on Wednesday mornings in Campus Ministry.
- *Worship Wednesday* - EVERY Wednesday. Students are welcome to come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament in our temporary chapel in the St. Anne room of the Multipurpose Building. Our Mercedarian Sisters will also be available for prayer with students.

❖ Thursday:

- *Guy and Girl Groups* - Join in on fun and fellowship in Campus Ministry

❖ Friday:

- *Hot Topics and Snacking with the Saints (once a month)* - time to ask any burning questions you have about the faith in a judgement-free environment. You can also learn more about the lives and adventures of the Saints. Our Chaplains and the Sisters will enlighten us with information.
- *Bible Study* - Come dive into the word with youth-led Bible Study at lunch.

Scholarship Information

Each month, Mrs. Rachel Cart sends an email to senior parents and students with scholarship information. Mrs. Cart also posts available scholarships on Moodle on the Senior Counselor page. Please use these resources for scholarship opportunities.

ACT Scores

When registering for the ACT, a student may request that his/her score report be sent to a college or university. If requesting during the registration process, the first four (4) score reports are FREE and automatically sent once scores are processed. Additional score reports may be requested online for a fee at www.act.org through the student's account. Please make sure you are sending ACT scores to LOSFA using code 1595 to qualify for any TOPS awards.

Transcripts

Since St. Michael participates in the Louisiana Student Transcript System (STS), all transcripts will be sent electronically to the Louisiana Department of Education at the end of the year. All Louisiana public colleges and universities will obtain applicants' transcripts electronically through STS. Private colleges or out-of-state schools will need a transcript sent directly from SMHS. A transcript request form will need to be signed by the student and his/her parent during the year and only the student at the end of the year. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact [Mrs. Rachel Cart](#). For dual enrollment and AP credit students, the college transcript and/or AP credit will need to be requested from the accrediting institution.

Selective Service System

The United States Selective Service System requires all young men to register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday, before or after. There is a 60-day window in order to be in full compliance. In addition, registration information may now be submitted as early as the age of 17 years and 3 months old. In cases of early registration (prior to the 60-day window), Selective Service will keep the information on file and then process it once the young man is within 30 days of reaching his 18th birthday. A card will then be mailed confirming that his registration has been processed. Failure to register is in violation of federal law and could potentially hold up a student's financial aid packet. To register, please go to www.sss.gov.

PSAT Information for Sophomores and Juniors

On **Monday, October 27**, all 11th grade students will sit for the PSAT, the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and the

preparatory version for the SAT. St. Michael will cover the cost for all juniors to take the test. Additional details regarding dismissal times will be communicated at a later date. Due to the PSAT now being offered electronically, students will need to bring their laptop and laptop charger.

Additionally, St. Michael allows 10th grade students to sit for the PSAT. The cost for sophomores is \$20.00. Ms. Chelsea Brown will email sophomore parents a link to register for the PSAT. Interested students must register no later than **Friday, September 12**. SMHS must abide by this deadline to ensure an accurate amount of testing materials.

Hope Youth Fest

Join hundreds of other youth on **Saturday, October 11** at Our Lady of Hope for Youth Fest. It will be a day of fun, music, prayer and outdoor fun led by our very own Deacon Michael Parker. This is an all day event into the evening. The cost is \$50 and includes food, transportation, admission and an event shirt. For more information and to sign up, check out the event flier and permission form [here](#). **Register by September 26.**

Freshmen Pen Pal Program

The freshmen will be earning “direct” service hours by writing letters to nursing home residents in the greater Baton Rouge area. More information about these letters and possibilities of visits will be given to students in their Theology classes and emailed to parents.

Service - Serve Like Christ Program

This is a reminder that all information on the St. Michael Service Program can be found on the SMHS website under *Campus Ministry*. There are many organizations that are reaching out to us for volunteers so please encourage your child to check this link regularly: [Upcoming and Ongoing Service Opportunities](#). These are not the only places students can serve but a great place to start and meet the needs of our community.

Warriors for Life Week

Mark your calendars for a week-long celebration of Human Life and Dignity from **October 6 -10**. More information about the annual March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington, DC (January 19-24) will be available during this week.



The poster features the St. Michael's logo at the top left. To its right, the text "SWORD Program" is displayed, with "SWORD" in large black letters and "Program" in a red script font. Below this, the main title "SAVE YOUR LABELS" is written in large, bold letters, with "SAVE YOUR" in white and "LABELS" in red. Underneath the title is the subtitle "LABEL DRIVE FUNDRAISER" in black. The poster includes two logos: a green "Community COFFEE" logo with "EST. 1919" and "FAMILY OWNED" text, and a red "cash for schools" logo with a hand icon and the tagline "Serving Our Children". To the right of these logos is a black oval with the text "WHAT WE NEED?". Below this oval, text reads: "BRING US YOUR COMMUNITY COFFEE LABELS AND OUR SWORD STUDENTS WILL SORT AND MAIL THEM. LABELS = MONEY FOR SMHS". A red box contains the text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT". At the bottom right, it says "FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL DONNA AT DGAINEY@SMHSBR.ORG".

ADVANCEMENT NEWS & IMPORTANT EVENTS



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. Your tax-deductible donation allows us to invest in teacher pay, provide qualified families with tuition assistance, strengthen faith formation, and financially support our extracurricular activities and programs. Your gift to the fund essentially improves the overall student experience. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about our fund and how you can help us attain our goal of **\$150,000** for the 2025-26 school year.

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.

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 President Ryan Empson at (225) 753-9782 ext. 42 or rempson@smhsbr.org.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION





We hope you will consider joining the Warrior Club for the 2025 -26 school year.

Details can be found on our

website by clicking the link below. You must be a member to purchase the annual Warrior Club Athletic Passes, which provide entrance to all regular season home athletic events.

[25-26 Warrior Club Membership \(2025-2026\) | St. Michael High School Warrior Club](#)

SMHS Open House

Save the date and spread the word for the upcoming SMHS Open House, **October 22, 2025**. Look for our table in the commons area and stop by to purchase items or inquire about becoming a Warrior Club Member!

Athletic Program Campaign

Our Athletic Program Campaign will be ending on **Tuesday, September 2**. Please consider showcasing your company, student athlete, or simply supporting the Warriors. A new digital website will be used this year so you will be able to view your ad before submitting for a final print. Your contributions are appreciated! Be on the lookout for the Athletic Program debut at every Friday Night Home Football Game. [Athletic Ad Campaign](#)

Warrior Gear

It's never too early to get your spirit gear ready for the next school year. Shop online at www.smhswarriorclub.com anytime and your order may be picked up from the front office during school hours. New items to be advertised this year include beaded purse straps, bedazzled shirts, clear purse items, and new alumni and grandparent shirts.

Friday Night Lights

Each home game, the Warrior Club will have their trailer opened for convenience of purchasing warrior gear as you enter the stadium. We will open one hour before kickoff. Stop by and check out our new inventory that arrives weekly!

GO WARRIORS!

St. Michael Prayer

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle;
be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the divine power of God, cast into hell, Satan
and all evil spirits, who roam about the world seeking the ruin of
souls. Amen

Alma Mater

All hail to you, St. Michael High,

The black and gray and red.

Our glory and our honor

To thee do we pledge.

Years will pass and roads divide;

Memories remain.

St. Michael, we proudly pledge

Our honor, our love, and fame.