

## ASPIRA I

SEPTEMBER 2024



We are thrilled to be celebrating 125 years of St. Michael School, Trusting Our Hearts to Jesus! For the past 125 years, St. Michael School's mission has been to promote faith, scholarship, leadership, and service through traditional values and a deep desire to bring Jesus to our young students. As we enter the 2024-2025 school year, we are dedicated to surrendering our hearts to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

We extend a special welcome to our new and returning families! We are blessed and excited to have you as part of our school community. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's faith formation and academic growth. We are dedicated to forming positive relationships with all our families to help each child succeed. God is good, all the time!

We are also pleased to welcome Father Mark Miley as our new school pastor. Father Mark will spiritually lead us through prayer, inspiration, and love. We are excited to have him as part of our school community and look forward to a year filled with God's love and spiritual growth.

Our faculty and staff started the 2024-2025 school year with two wonderful days of in-service. The first day focused on reviewing school policies and handbooks, while also providing an opportunity to reconnect and share our "Why" as educators. On the second day, we traveled to St. Charles College Retreat Center in Grand Coteau for a spiritual retreat led by Mr. John Listi. We focused on deepening our relationship with God and surrendering to His will, spending the day connecting with each other

and reflecting on how we are called to extend God's love and mercy to others. It was a day filled with inspiration, reflection, and music. We were also treated to lunch by our Saints Parent Club. **Thank you, SPC, for your continued support.** 

St. Michael School is blessed to have St. Anne Chapel as our school chapel. Each morning, students are visited to the chapel to develop a closer relationship with Jesus, strengthen their faith, and create fellowship among the students. Our daily chapel activities include:

- · Mercy Monday: Divine Mercy Chaplet (7:30 AM)
- · Totus Tuesday: Rosary (7:30 AM)
- · Worship Wednesday: Praise and Worship (7:30 AM)
- · Thanksgiving Thursday: Mass followed by all-day Adoration
- · Family Friday: Family/Student Adoration (7:00-7:50 AM)

This chapel is a beautiful place for our school community to gather in faith and start each day with gratitude and prayer.

This is the seventh year of our After the Bell (ATB) extended-day program, which serves our families with students enrolled in our school. The program operates from 3:30 to 6:00 PM on regular school days, offering students the opportunity to complete and receive assistance with homework, as well as engage in fun recreational and social activities. We extend our gratitude to Mrs. Pam Kirsch (Director), Mrs. Priscilla Leonards (Assistant Director), and the ATB staff for their continued dedication and work with this program.





ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY MEET & GREET

Our **Back to School Supply Night** was a great success! Our teachers worked hard to prepare their classrooms, putting their hearts into creating warm and inviting spaces for their students. Our SAINTS cheerleaders welcomed guests onto campus, and our 8th-grade students assisted in the classrooms. It was wonderful to see families on campus as they visited their child's classroom and met their teachers. The students' faces glowed with excitement as they reunited with friends, explored their classrooms, and met their teachers.

St. Michael School celebrated the **Feast of the Assumption of Mary** with a beautiful Mass led by Father Mark Miley and Father Bala. This special Mass honors the Blessed Mother's assumption into Heaven, body and soul, at the end of her earthly life. Father Mark's welcome to the new school year was beautifully complemented by the choir, led by Mrs. Tina Reaux and Mr. Jacob Freyou.

Our annual Back to School Mass was a heartwarming event featuring 8th grade and PK4 buddies. The Mass began with our 8th grade students processing in with their PreK4 buddies, a wonderful tradition that fosters lasting relationships between the older and younger students. Throughout the year, these buddies will participate in fun and meaningful activities that create cherished memories. After Mass, Father Mark and Father Bala blessed the classrooms and school as they visited the students. The 2024-2025 school year is already filled with blessings of God's grace and love.



For the second year, we held a special blessing for our fall sports athletes. During Mass, Father Bala recognized and blessed each of our student-athletes and their equipment for the upcoming season. We wish our football, flag football, volleyball, and cheer teams a great season!

At St. Michael School, we always look to our 8th-grade students as leaders. This year, we wanted to help them prepare spiritually for this important role by organizing an 8th-grade retreat. The retreat, led by Mrs. Liz Holloway, our Religion Director, took place in Roberts Cove, where the students enjoyed a "Vacation with God." Father Mark shared his journey and spoke about the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The students participated in prayer, small group reflections, meditations, and skits. Father Bala offered the Sacrament of Reconciliation and led them in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The day concluded with the students reading "love" letters from their parents, making it a beautiful opportunity for them to grow in faith and strengthen their relationships with God and each other.

This year, we continue to grow our school community through our House System. The theme for this year, "Top Gun," emphasizes the dedication, sacrifice, and hard work required to live as Catholics, striving to bring God's love to others. The mission of the House System is to build a strong community, foster cross-grade relationships, and create unforgettable memories while living out our faith. Students will earn positive points for their academic and behavioral achievements.

The St. Michael Cheerleaders hosted the St. Michael School Little Saints Cheer Camp, where the day was filled with campers learning chants, cheers, and a dance. Our cheerleaders made the day even more fun by including games and spirit competitions. The cheer campers will also participate in the first Saints Pep Rally alongside our cheerleaders.





BACK TO SCHOOL MASS WITH 8TH GRADE AND THEIR PRE-K 4 BUDDIES

The St. Michael School Football Team also hosted the St. Michael Little Saints Football Camp, where young football campers learned techniques and skills, running through various drills to improve their agility, speed, and overall skills. The football players and coaches had just as much fun as the campers. Go Saints Football!



St. Michael School presented the 2023-2024 School yearbook. It was dedicated to our incredible classroom aides. Congratulations to Mrs. Ashley, Mrs. Kara, Mrs. Donna, Mrs. Stephanie, Mrs. Dina, and Mrs. Simone (not pictured).

We thank them for their hard work, dedication and love for their students and St. Michael School. They are always willing to go above and beyond to serve others.

Thank you to everyone for a great start to the 2024-2025 school year. Our faculty and staff are looking forward to continuing 125 years of traditions at St. Michael School. They are dedicated to providing our students with an academic education filled with Love, Faith, Joy, and Compassion. May God continue to bless our St. Michael families, faculty, staff, and students as we continue to give Him glory and praise throughout this school year.

God is Good! Your Servant in Christ! Terri Hebert, St. Michael Principal











ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL STUDENTS AND FACULTY STARTING OFF SCHOOL STRONG

S

MICHA

E

CATHOLIC

SCHOO

\$82,237.00

The 2024 Annual Fund was a success thanks to your incredible support. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our St. Michael School supporters for your generous gifts. Your contributions have made St. Michael School the state-of-the-art Catholic institution it is today and will continue to be in the future. The Annual Fund plays a crucial role in ensuring that St. Michael School's curriculum, technology, and faculty remain top-notch for our students.

As we look ahead to 2025, we hope to grow our Annual Fund even further and continue making strides with the help of our parents, students, alumni, community, and all our supporters. You can contribute to the Annual Fund or make a Memorial Donation in honor of a loved one at any time by contacting Holly Broussard at 783-1410 or by visiting www.stmike.net and selecting Annual Giving.

The 2023-2024 Annual Report, which will include a list of our donors and memorials, will be mailed out soon. **Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity toward St. Michael School.** 



## Special EVENTS

Visit www.stmike.net for more events & news!

We have several exciting upcoming events that we would like to invite our St. Michael families and friends to attend:

Saints Pep Rally/Game – Tuesday, Sept. 10th at 12:15 in the gym. Our Saints Cheerleaders will put on their first Pep Rally of the season and cheer on our Saints Football team. Saints vs Rayne Catholic at home at 6:00PM GO SAINTS! GO BIG BLUE!

Saints Night at Notre Dame Game – Friday, Sept. 13th at 7:00PM All students are invited to attend the Notre Dame Pios Football Game at Gardner Memorial Stadium! Students have free admission into the game by wearing any St. Michael Shirt! GO PIOS! GO SAINTS!

Beta Club Induction – Tuesday, Sept. 17th, at 2:00 in the gym

**Constitution Day – Friday, Sept. 20th at 8:45** in the gym. Our PK3-5th grade students will celebrate by performing their songs and skits. Family and friends are invited to attend.

Feast of the St. Michael the Archangel School Mass and Picnic – Friday, Sept. 27th. Mass will begin at 10:00 in the gym and followed by a picnic with our St. Michael families. PK3-8th grade students will attend and family and friends are invited to attend and bring a picnic lunch. Students' lunches will be provided by the cafeteria.

Saints Pep Rally/Game – Tuesday, Oct. 1st at 12:15 in the gym. Saints vs Vermilion Catholic at home at 7:15PM GO SAINTS!





ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RELIGION, RACE, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.