



*Christine (above right) attended the Open House with her daughter, Bella Manley, a sixth-grader at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School in Apex (center). They are pictured with Christine's sister JoAnne Grafinger, (above left) whose sons Michael '20 and Joey '23 attend Gibbons.*

**Q:** What did you hope to gain from attending Open House?

**A:** Christine: I wanted to get a better feel and understanding of the atmosphere at Gibbons. The Open House was the first opportunity I've had to really hear from teachers and to see the relationship between the staff and students.

**A:** Bella: I'm nervous about everything being new, so I wanted to see more of the school and people.

**Q:** What did you learn about Cardinal Gibbons?

**A:** Christine: As a parent, it was so enlightening to see the excitement and close-knit environment at Gibbons. It was such a welcoming and accepting feeling!

**A:** Bella: I can't believe all the clubs they have; it looks like fun.

**Q:** What was your favorite part of Open House and why?

**A:** Christine: I really enjoyed the set up in the gym! Seeing the students so welcoming and passionate about such an array of different clubs, there is truly a place for everyone!

**A:** Bella: Besides the snacks, the clubs and getting your own laptop was really cool.

**Q:** How did you feel when you left Open House?

**A:** Christine: Attending open house gave me validation about all the positive energy I see when people talk about their kids attending Cardinal Gibbons. Just walking through the school and seeing the students and staff with smiles on their faces and excitement in their voices delivers the message of warmth and an accepting school atmosphere.

**Bella:** More excited about going to Cardinal Gibbons!

