



## **SPECIAL SCHEDULES:**

### **Friday, February 3 and Tuesday, February 7:**

Standardized test preparation/presentations for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 15** – Schoolwide liturgy at 9:50 a.m. Regular dismissal at 2:47.

**Monday, February 20 – Friday, February 25** – Mardi Gras Holiday. No school for students.

**Monday, February 27** – Province Day of Reflection. No school for students. Classes resume on Tuesday, February 28.

### **CHS Calendar**

**2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR:** Attached to the newsletter is the 2023-2024 school calendar indicating important dates for the school year. Please make note of the dates of student orientation, the first day of classes, and holidays so that you can plan your son's schedule accordingly. We ask that parents not extend vacations or schedule other appointments during school days. This includes non-CHS athletic tournaments or events that would prevent your son from attending student orientation or the first days of school. Daily attendance at CHS is critical to the academic success of your son. Please see page 22 of the [2022-2023 Student Handbook](#) for our policies on absences.

**BIMAS-MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING:** Beginning in mid-February, the Counseling Center will conduct a mental health screening of all students. Please see the attached letter for details about the program.

**SENIOR SESSIONS:** During the standardized test prep sessions in the second semester, the majority of seniors attend presentations or activities focused on completing their time at CHS and preparing for the transition to college. See the list below for the content of the Senior Sessions.

- February 3: Transitioning from the sanctuary environment of CHS to college, how to recognize depression, deal with anxiety and stress, and locate resources and supports available on college campuses. Guest speakers are CHS junior counselor Caroline Batsche; Janell Soileau, a psychiatric nurse practitioner at LSU's Mental Health Center serving college age students struggling with emotional and mental issues. Faculty members will also discuss their transition to the college environment.
- February 7: Transitioning to College – Peer pressure and other important decisions. Attorney John McLindon will address the effects of destructive behaviors and potential long-term legal consequences, including alcohol and drug use, as well as the culture within fraternities that can contribute to destructive behaviors. Mrs. Tanya Stuart will discuss substance abuse within the college environment and strategies to help students prevent addiction.
- March 2: Seniors will complete a Senior Exit Survey, learn information about the optional purchase of their laptop, complete a survey for Career Day, vote for the American Legion Award and Jacob Meek'17 Scholarship Recipients.
- March 22: Information on graduation procedures, finish strong comments from administrators, and 2023 Class Picture.

**PSAT PREPARATION CLASSES:** Dates are available for the PSAT/NMSQT Preparation Course for members of the Class of 2025. These six workshops will be offered on March 11 or 12, April 22 or April 23, May 13 or 14, August 26 or 27, September 23 or 24, and October 7 or 8. There are also make-up workshops being offered in July (July 18, 19, 20). The cost of the PSAT/NMSQT course is \$215. A flier is

included in this newsletter with more details about this course, including times.

Please email Mrs. Kessler at [ckessler@catholichigh.org](mailto:ckessler@catholichigh.org) if you have questions about this course.

**PARENT SURVEY:** Thanks for the outstanding response to the Parent Survey that I sent out in the December Principal's Newsletter. The survey is now closed and I will continue to compile the results and include a summary in the March Principal's Newsletter. Rest assured that your feedback is integral to our planning process as we strive to make progress in those areas that parents indicate need improvement.

### **GRANDPARENTS DAY – SUNDAY, MARCH 19:**

Grandparents of CHS students are invited to the 2023 Grandparents' Day celebration on Sunday, March 19th, from 2-4 p.m. in the CHS Gym.

Whether grandson(s) can attend or not, grandparents of current CHS students are invited to join in the afternoon's celebration. Immediately following the assembly, students and their grandparents are welcome to tour campus and to take part in a reception inside the Br. Donnan Berry, S.C. Student Center, hosted by the CHS Mothers' Club. The CHS Photography Club will also be taking pictures in the Valluzzo Student Union. Dress for students is school attire. A parking map including general and handicapped parking will be included in the invitation mailed to all grandparents in February. Contact Mr. Jamie Segar '90 in the CHS Advancement Office for more details at [jsegar@catholichigh.org](mailto:jsegar@catholichigh.org).

**GOLDEN BEAR DONORS:** A Golden Bear is the highest honor a student can receive for his work in academics and extracurricular activities. These awards are made possible through donations by generous sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring a Golden Bear in your name or in memory of a loved one, please contact J.P. Kelly, Advancement Director at [jkelly@catholichigh.org](mailto:jkelly@catholichigh.org).

**UPDATES IN CAMPUS SECURITY:** Over the Christmas holidays, additional fencing was installed around the temporary buildings and across the entrance from near the Brothers Residence and baseball field area to the Fine Arts Courtyard. Both sets of fencing are control-access, meaning students and faculty must use their ID to open the gates. This additional fencing now completely closes off the interior areas of the Fine Arts, main, old union, and gym buildings, as well as the Ryan Jumonville '91 Health and P.E. building, as well as the Centennial Courtyard. I am confident that these additions to

our campus security will further strengthen the safety of our students and faculty. School safety remains a priority and we will continue to review our security for areas of improvement.

**SAFETY DRILLS:** CHS conducted a fire drill on Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Additional safety drills listed below will take place during the second semester as part of our standard safety protocols:

Weather Drill: February 13

Lockdown Drill: March 14

A copy of the School Safety Plan is located in each classroom and all teachers are informed about safety protocols so that the information can be communicated with students.

**SUMMER AT CHS PROGRAM:** Information including dates, times, and fees about our 2023 Summer at CHS courses will soon be available on our [website](#). Registration will be available online beginning this month. Courses include:

**Strength and Speed:** Required for current CHS JV and varsity athletes, and incoming 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade athletes.

**Academics and Enrichment:** 3D Animation\*, ACT Preparation\*, Advanced Placement Boot Camp, Preparation for Algebra I, College Application Boot Camp\*, Preparation for English I, Fun Science\*, International Culinary Camp\*, Jazz Band Camp\*, Lego Camp\*, Middle School Concert Band Camp\*, Middle School Percussion Band Camp\*, New Member Band Camp\*, CHS/SJA Percussion Camp\*, Public Speaking\*, Robotics\*, Service Week, Study Skills\*, Video Production\*.

\*courses open to girls

**Athletic Camps:** Baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, powerlifting, soccer, wrestling.

**MOTHERS' CLUB NEWS:** Time is running out!! Please help the CHS Mothers' Club with the annual car raffle by selling your 10 tickets at \$10 each. This is the Mothers' Club biggest fundraiser, and the winner of the raffle will receive \$25,000 toward the vehicle of their choice at any Price LeBlanc location. The drawing will take place at the CHS Mothers' Club Mother-Son Breakfast on February 12, 2023. The CHS class that sells the most raffle tickets will be treated to Donut Daze!

See the Catholic High School website for details and links for purchasing raffle tickets.

**OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT (from J.P. Kelly '92, Director of Advancement):** We are grateful to all of you who have contributed to the 2022-23 Annual Appeal and would like to encourage those who have not yet participated to do so. The Annual Appeal helps every student and the school needs all our parents to participate at a level that fits in with their family budget. Every donation, regardless of the size, is vitally important to the operation of

CHS. The founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Fr. Andre Coindre, used the following lines when asking for support at the start of the institution: "I am convinced that as soon as you become aware of its existence, your benevolence will be prompt to applaud it, your piety draw you to subscribe, and your charity compel you to contribute." Please see the attached flier for upcoming opportunities to support CHS.

<p><b>August 2023</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	M	T	W	T	F		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31		<p><b>January 2024</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	M	T	W	T	F	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30	31		
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<p><b>Important Dates 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aug. 3-4 Faculty &amp; Staff Prof. Development</li> <li>Aug. 7 - 8 Student Orientation</li> <li>Aug. 9 1st day of school for 8th &amp; 9th grades</li> <li>Aug. 10 1st day of school for all students</li> <li>Sept. 4 Labor Day holiday</li> <li>Sept. 5 Prof. Dev. (no school for students)</li> <li>Oct. 6 End of 1st Quarter</li> <li>Oct. 8 - 9 Senior Retreat</li> <li>Nov. 6 Faculty &amp; Staff Retreat</li> <li>Nov. 20-24 Thanksgiving holidays</li> <li>Dec. 14-19 1st semester examinations</li> <li>Dec. 20 1st semester ends</li> <li>Dec. 20 - Jan.3 Christmas holidays</li> </ul>	<p><b>Important Dates 2024</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jan. 3 Faculty &amp; Staff Development</li> <li>Jan. 4 2nd semester classes begin</li> <li>Jan. 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday</li> <li>Feb. 12-16 Mardi Gras holidays</li> <li>Mar. 15 3rd Quarter Ends</li> <li>Mar. 18 Junior Retreat/9th &amp; 10th grade testing</li> <li>Mar. 19 Sophomore Retreat/11th grade testing</li> <li>Mar. 29-Apr. 5 Easter holidays</li> <li>Apr. 29 Faculty &amp; Staff Retreat</li> <li>May 3 - 8 Senior final examinations</li> <li>May 18 Graduation</li> <li>May 21-24 2nd semester examinations</li> <li>May 24 2nd semester ends</li> <li>May 24 Record Day</li> </ul>																																																												

**Legend:** Circles indicate holidays for students and faculty

Squares indicate holidays for students; professional development for faculty and staff Dates:

# CHS PSAT/NMSQT PREPARATION PROGRAM

As part of our continuing effort to prepare students to succeed on standardized tests, Catholic High will offer a special preparation program for the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). It is through this test that students compete for the honor of being recognized as National Merit Semifinalist or a National Merit Commended Student. This test is also the vehicle through which qualified students earn the opportunity to compete for National Merit Scholarships.

Mrs. Christy Kessler will be the workshop presenter. The workshop will include six sessions:

<b>PSAT Workshop 2023</b>			
Workshop # 1	Saturday, March 11 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, March 12 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 2	Saturday, April 22 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, April 23 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 3	Saturday, May 13 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, May 14 1 pm to 4 pm
MAKEUP SESSIONS	Workshop #1 Makeup Tuesday, July 18 9 am to noon	Workshop #2 Makeup Wednesday, July 19 9 am to noon	Workshop #3 Thursday, July 20 9 am to noon
Workshop # 4	Saturday, August 26 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, August 27 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 5	Saturday, September 23 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, September 24 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 6 MOCK EXAM	Saturday, October 7 9 am to 12:30 pm	or	Sunday, October 8 1 pm to 4:30 pm

All sessions will be held in Room 171 at CHS. The \$215 course fee includes all course materials.

Any current sophomore may take this course. Registration is available online at [mychs.catholichigh.org](http://mychs.catholichigh.org) or you may bring the form below to the Main Office with the course fee of \$215 by Friday, March 18

For more information, please email Mrs. Kessler at [ckessler@catholichigh.org](mailto:ckessler@catholichigh.org).

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**PSAT/NMSQT PREPARATION PROGRAM**

Registration is available online at [mychs.catholichigh.org](http://mychs.catholichigh.org) or you can detach and return this portion to the Main Office with a check for \$215 made payable to "Catholic High School".

Please register \_\_\_\_\_ (student name)

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)



# CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

*A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894*

Dear Parents,

Catholic High School has taken a number of steps over the last three years to enhance the personal attention we give to our students, especially as it relates to the safety and well-being of our school community. These steps include, but are not limited to, increased campus safety efforts such as perimeter fencing and gates with controlled access, additional security cameras, and ID's with card readers. In addition, students have access to the STOP!T app to report concerning behavior. We have increased our school counseling staff so that every student has access to a grade-level counselor, as well as two counselors specifically dedicated to the college admissions process.

During the second semester, the Counseling Center will once again oversee all students taking an electronic risk assessment survey called the BIMAS-2. The assessment identifies strengths and concerning behavior, social and academic functioning, emotional affect, and cognitive/attention abilities. The goal of giving this survey is to better know our students and then identify their behavioral health needs so that our counselors can more thoroughly address a student's individual concerns. The BIMAS-2 was created by a team of psychologists, is research based, and is serving over 500,000 students across the country. In order to encourage the most honest answers from our students, the results of this assessment will be confidential, with only our school counselors having access to the results. The administration, including the principal, will not be notified of the results, except in the case of an emergency. Likewise, parents will be notified only if their son's results indicate a high risk of concerning behavior. This assessment takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and will be administered by first period teachers according to the following schedule:

February 6 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> grade
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> grade
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> grade
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> grade

In their document, *Partners in Mission*, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart state that the school environment "is best described by the term 'sanctuary,' a place where students sense the compassion which motivates those who care for them, where they feel safe to become the best person God created them to be, and where they are known, valued, and treasured." These efforts will help us know our students more fully so that Catholic High can continue to provide an environment that comes closer to becoming the sanctuary that we strive to be every day. Thank you for entrusting your son to us and for partnering with us as together we guide the students of Catholic High School through these formative years.

Please feel free to contact your son's counselor if you have questions concerning the BIMAS-2. If for any reason you do not want your son to participate in this survey, please email me directly at [lharvey@catholichigh.org](mailto:lharvey@catholichigh.org).

Sincerely,  
Lisa Harvey  
Principal



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
 OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT  
 THE STANDARD IS **EXCELLENCE**

Friends,

We are grateful to all of you who have contributed to the 2022-23 Annual Appeal and would like to encourage those who have not yet participated to do so. The Annual Appeal helps every student and the school needs all of our parents to participate at a level conducive to their family budget. The founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Fr. Andre Coindre, used the following lines when asking for support at the start of the institution: "I am convinced that as soon as you become aware of its existence, your benevolence will be prompt to applaud it, your piety draw you to subscribe, and your charity compel you to contribute." The opportunity to support is below:

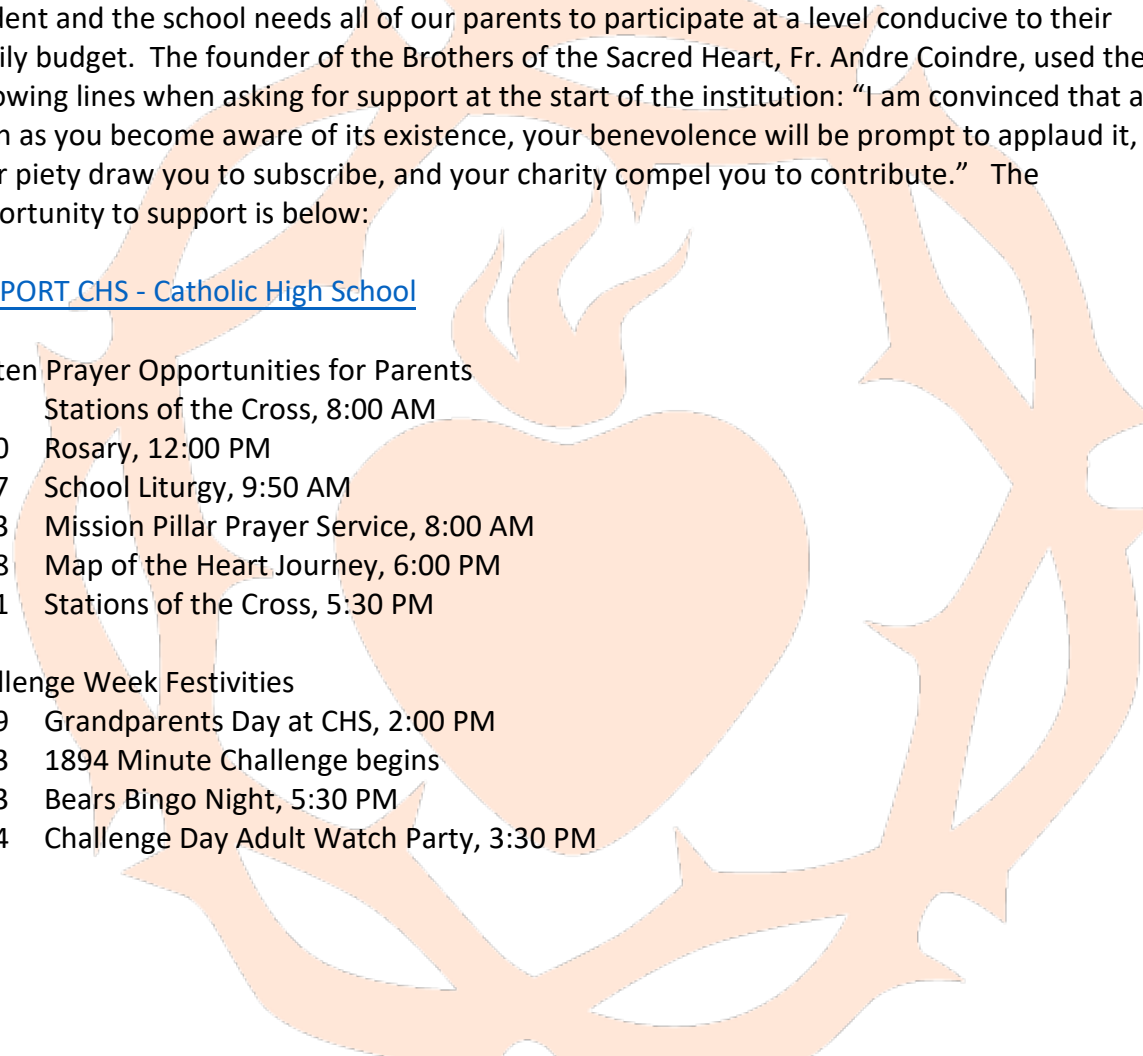
[SUPPORT CHS - Catholic High School](#)

Lenten Prayer Opportunities for Parents

- 3/3 Stations of the Cross, 8:00 AM
- 3/10 Rosary, 12:00 PM
- 3/17 School Liturgy, 9:50 AM
- 3/23 Mission Pillar Prayer Service, 8:00 AM
- 3/28 Map of the Heart Journey, 6:00 PM
- 3/31 Stations of the Cross, 5:30 PM

Challenge Week Festivities

- 3/19 Grandparents Day at CHS, 2:00 PM
- 3/23 1894 Minute Challenge begins
- 3/23 Bears Bingo Night, 5:30 PM
- 3/24 Challenge Day Adult Watch Party, 3:30 PM



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