



### **OCTOBER SPECIAL SCHEDULES:**

**Tuesday, October 3:** Mentoring Schedule. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m.

**Friday, October 6:** Standardized Test Prep Schedule. Dismissal at 2:47 p.m.

**Sunday, October 8:** Senior Retreat begins.

**Monday, October 9:** Senior Retreat. (No school for 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades)

**Tuesday, October 10:** Standardized testing for all students in grades 8, 9 and 10. No school for students in grade 11 and grade 12. See details below.

**Tuesday, October 17:** Standardized testing – ACT for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and PSAT for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students and select 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. No school for remaining 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> students. See details below.

**Thursday, October 19:** Faculty meeting. Dismissal at 1:27 p.m.

To view the full calendar, please click here:

[\*\*CHS Calendar\*\*](#)

### **PARENTS OF JUNIORS: IMMUNIZATION REMINDER:**

The State Department of Health and Hospitals states that all students 16 years of age and in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade are required by state law to show proof of having received a second dose of the MCV4 (Meningococcal) vaccine. If your son has already received this vaccine, please send an updated record as soon as possible. If he has not received the vaccine, please schedule an appointment and send the updated record as soon as he has the vaccine.

Until the 2019-2020 school year, the meningococcal booster was a recommended vaccine. Therefore, your son may have already received it; you can check with his doctor. If he has received the vaccine, a copy of the record can be scanned and emailed to [sash@catholichigh.org](mailto:sash@catholichigh.org) or dropped off by your son to the main office. Please note that a photographed or printed copy from MyChart does not fulfill the state requirement.

If you have any questions, please email Sally Ash at [sash@catholichigh.org](mailto:sash@catholichigh.org).

### **STANDARDIZED TESTING DAYS AND SCHEDULES:**

Our fall standardized testing days are Tuesday, October 10 and Tuesday, October 17. We view standardized testing as one more opportunity to partner with you in your son's education. These tests are very important for your son and very important for our school as they provide valuable information about your son's academic progress.

Each of your son's teachers receives the results of his tests and uses these scores to determine what skills he needs to be prepared for college. In addition, this information is used to better individualize instruction during our standardized test prep sessions in the spring. Please encourage him to take these tests seriously. Results of these tests will be given to you later in the school year through your son.

During testing days, regular classes are not held, and students are dismissed once testing has concluded in their classroom. Testing details and schedules follow below.

Breakfast will be available in the Brother Donnan Berry, S.C. Student Center beginning at 7:00 a.m. Sandwiches and other grab-n-go items will also be

available during the breaks and immediately after testing concludes.

**8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> Grades:** On Tuesday, October 10, all students in grades 8 and 9 will take the PSAT 8/9, and all 10<sup>th</sup> graders will take the pre-ACT 10 test.

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students do not attend school on Monday, October 9, and Tuesday, October 17, with the exception of those students participating in the PSAT.

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:** On October 17, all students in 11<sup>th</sup> grade will take the PSAT/NMSQT, which is used to determine National Merit and National Achievement Semifinalists. A select group of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify will also take the PSAT.

11<sup>th</sup> grade students do not attend school on Monday, October 9, and Tuesday, October 10.

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:** On Tuesday, October 17, students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade (who have not opted out) will take the ACT.

12<sup>th</sup> grade students are on retreat on Monday, October 9, and do not have school on Tuesday, October 10.

Emails to students with information specific to their particular test will be sent in the next few days by Mrs. Lizzi Canady, testing coordinator. Please refer to that email for detailed information on testing procedures and locations for your son. Please contact Mrs. Canady if you have any questions.

**All Grades: Regular classes are not held during the above testing days (October 10 and 17).**

### Daily Standardized Testing Schedule

#### Standard Schedule

#### PSAT 8/9 – Tuesday, October 10

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-9:36	Reading and Writing Section
9:36-9:46	Break
9:46-10:56	Math Section

#### Pre-ACT 10 – Tuesday, October 10

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-9:00	English Section

9:00-9:40	Math Section
9:40-9:55	Break
9:55-10:25	Reading Section
10:25-10:55	Science Section

#### PSAT – Tuesday, October 17

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-9:36	Reading and Writing Section
9:36-9:46	Break
9:46-10:56	Math Section

#### ACT – Tuesday, October 17

8:00-8:20	Administrative Tasks
8:20-9:05	English Section
9:05-10:05	Math Section
10:05-10:20	Break
10:20-10:55	Reading Section
10:55-11:30	Science Section

### Accommodations Schedule

#### PSAT 8/9 – Tuesday, October 10

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-10:06	Reading and Writing Section
10:06-10:16	Break
10:16-12:01	Math Section

#### Pre-ACT 10 – Tuesday, October 10

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-9:15	English Section
9:15-10:15	Math Section
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:15	Reading Section
11:15-12:00	Science Section

#### PSAT – Tuesday, October 17

8:00-8:30	Administrative Tasks
8:30-10:06	Reading and Writing Section
10:06-10:16	Break
10:16-12:01	Math Section

#### ACT – Tuesday, October 17

8:00-8:20	Administrative Tasks
8:20-9:28	English Section
9:28-10:58	Math Section
10:58-11:13	Break
11:13-12:06	Reading Section
12:06-12:59	Science Section

**Please note:** Students must be in classrooms and seated by 8 a.m. on October 10 and 17, or they will be considered tardy. It is critically important that students are on time so that testing can begin promptly. Traffic at this time of day is heavier than normal, so please plan for additional travel time. There will be no drive through carpool on testing days. For parents who will pick up their students, please park in a parking spot in the Westmoreland

Lot and wait for students to be dismissed. Your son will walk out to his ride in Westmoreland.

All students will be dismissed early on October 10 and 17. The dismissal times listed in the above schedules are estimates as each room might be on a slightly different schedule. Students will be dismissed from their classrooms as soon as testing concludes.

**FIRST QUARTER GRADES:** Final first quarter report cards will be in the E-Locker section of PlusPortals by **October 17**. Please consult page 43 and 44 of the [2023-2024 Student Handbook](#) for an explanation of grading policies and the importance of first quarter grades.

If you have not activated your PlusPortals account, please do so with the information previously sent to you via email. If you cannot locate that activation information, or if you are otherwise unable to login to PlusPortals, please contact Stephanie Potter at [spotter@catholichigh.org](mailto:spotter@catholichigh.org) for assistance.

**BIG READ INFORMATION:** Each year, Catholic High School chooses a book to be read by all members of the CHS community. The selection is made by faculty members of one content area, is incorporated into class and school activities, and highlights themes relevant to our community and applicable to the lives of students and faculty members.

This year's Big Read, selected by the Religion Department, is *Becoming Who You Are: Insights on the True Self from Thomas Merton and Other Saints* by Fr. James Martin, S.J. The reading schedule and primary assessment information will be communicated to students in their religion classes. Seniors who don't have a religion course will still be expected to read the book and will have a Moodle page through which they will be able to process the readings. Reading assignments will begin on October 12 and continue through the second quarter. Please see the flier below for more information about the Big Read.

Students will receive a copy of the book the week of October 12. The cost of the book is \$10.00 and will be deducted from each student's myCHS account on October 15. Please ensure funds are available on your son's school account.

**NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS:** Congratulations to Cole Alberty, Jackson Bardwell, Alexander Brown, Thomas Cagle, Thomas Crawford, Ethan Crochet, Luke Dawson, Evan Dayries, William de Souza, Oliver Hamilton, Christopher Kennedy, Caleb Lott, Isaac Miller, Seth Schmeeckle, John Graham Sellers, Hunter

Ullrich, and Jackson Whitlow, who have been named National Merit Semifinalists. These young men took the PSAT/NMSQT last October and performed exceptionally well. As semifinalists, they are eligible to compete for a variety of scholarships from colleges and universities as well as from corporations that subsidize the National Merit Program.

We would also like to congratulate Edward (Tre') Austin, Gordon Crawford, Luke Funes, Blanchard LaGarde, Van Mayall, Joseph Mensman, Cole Mogharrebi, Adler Rice, and William Stafford for achieving National Merit Commended Student status.

Finally, these students received National Hispanic Recognition based on their PSAT and/or AP Scores: Cesar Rico, Jack Chustz, William de Souza, David Latil, Fernando Cardona, Adler Rice, Aiden Acosta, Luke Wimberley, Luke Funes, and Isaac Miller.

We are extremely proud of these young men, and we are grateful to their parents and the faculty members who have so positively influenced their academic achievement.

#### **NEWEST MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME:**

The CHS Board of Directors has selected Gene Tullier as this year's inductee into the Catholic High School Hall of Fame. Mr. Tullier's tenure as President of CHS concluded this past school year after 17 years of service to CHS and 45 years of service to the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Under his leadership, Mr. Tullier led the school through much-needed facility expansions, increased real estate holdings to serve as sources of non-tuition income, increased opportunities for enrollment for all students, and raised salaries for faculty and staff so that the school can attract and retain superior educators. His commitment to maintaining affordable tuition for working families was always a priority. In addition, he has co-authored several pedagogical documents. Mr. Tullier is particularly deserving of this recognition and his induction will be celebrated at our Founders and Hall of Fame Banquet on December 7th. Congratulations to Gene on this tremendous honor.

**GRADUATION INFORMATION:** Senior parents, look for an email this week from Tracy Ducote, events coordinator, with details about ordering graduation announcements and a form collecting information needed to plan the CHS Class of 2024's graduation ceremony. Please complete the form by November 3. The information will be used to create the graduation day seating chart, order diplomas, and provide other helpful data for our office. If you anticipate any problems meeting the deadline,

please contact Ms. Ducote immediately at [tducote@catholichigh.org](mailto:tducote@catholichigh.org). Late changes are difficult and not guaranteed.

**FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS:** Healthvac will provide our students the opportunity to receive their flu vaccine this season. Vaccines will be given during the lunch periods on Wednesday, October 18. The vaccine costs \$30 and is offered as an injection only. A questionnaire form and vaccine information sheet are at the end of this newsletter. If you are interested in your son receiving the vaccine, please complete and sign the consent form. All students, including those 18 and older, must bring their signed consent forms with them. Payments can be made via cash or checks made out to Healthvac.

**UPCOMING ADMISSIONS EVENTS:** We invite all families interested in considering Catholic High School for their middle school son to take advantage of the numerous opportunities to learn more about CHS and the holistic educational experience we provide. If you know of a family considering CHS, please invite them to participate in any or all of these admissions events.

### **Admissions Criteria**

Typically, the students offered admission to CHS for the 2023-2024 School Year:

- had a good discipline record
- had academic grades of As, Bs, and/or Cs
- had a good attendance record

### **October - November 2023 - Fall Day Tours by**

**Appointment:** Day Tours provide families with the opportunity to see what a typical day at Catholic High School looks like. In addition to a general tour and overview, parents and their sons are encouraged to ask questions about any aspect of CHS while on the tour.

Day Tours are intended for small groups, so **registration for a Day Tour is limited**. Families interested in attending a Day Tour can click [here](#) to **make a reservation**. A Day Tour lasts about an hour and a half.

**Band and Bruinette Night – October 20, 2023:** This event is open to all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders and provides the unique opportunity to perform with the CHS/SJA Band at a football game. We hope all those who attend will experience the spirit of these two well-established high schools and their traditions. See the [admissions section](#) of the CHS website for more information, and click [here](#) to register.

**Open House, November 9, 2023:** Join us for Catholic High School's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House on Thursday, November 9, 2023. Young men in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades and their parents are invited to tour the campus, meet CHS faculty and students, and experience firsthand what makes CHS so special.

### **MOTHERS' CLUB NEWS from (Anna Stuckey,**

**President):** October will be a busy month for the CHS Mothers' Club! We will be providing treats for the students, hosting a reception following Senior Retreat, and celebrating our appreciation for the faculty and staff!

We have kicked off our annual car raffle! Please share the link to your social media – <https://mychs.catholichigh.org/Raffle>.

The Mothers' Club Auction will be held in conjunction with the Alumni Taste Fair on January 14, 2024. Watch for announcements via social media. If you or someone you know would like to donate an auction item, please contact Lauren Coco ([laurencoco@yahoo.com](mailto:laurencoco@yahoo.com)). Donations may be a physical item, vacation accommodations, hunting trip, etc.

Each of these events offer opportunities to support our students, to enhance their high school experience, and to meet the parents of other students. It is never too late to get involved and have fun in the process!

Learn more about the CHS Mothers' Club and join today by clicking [here](#) or contacting Anna Stuckey ([stuckeyame@gmail.com](mailto:stuckeyame@gmail.com)).

**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN:** It is the policy of CHS to incorporate Integrated Pest Management (IPM) procedures to control pests (animals, plants or microorganisms) which pose significant problems to people, property and the environment. These pesticides may also pose problems to people. In compliance with Section 3389 of Act 237, CHS maintains a registry of students who are hypersensitive to pesticides. If your son has this sort of sensitivity, please send a written verification by a licensed physician and your written statement regarding his condition so we may attend to his needs. A copy of our IPM plan is on file with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and is available in our Main Office.

**ASBESTOS UPDATE:** CHS has an updated management plan for removal, repair, or encapsulation of asbestos material found in any area of our facility. Our plan will be completed in a timely manner and will be evaluated and kept current with ongoing operations, maintenance

programs, response actions, periodic surveillance, re-inspections, and training. A copy of our plan is available for reading in our Main Office during office hours.

Each year, Catholic High School chooses a book to be read by all members of the CHS community. The selection is made by faculty members of one content area, is incorporated into class and school activities, and highlights themes relevant to our community and applicable to the lives of students and faculty members.

**This year's Big Read is *Becoming who You are: Insights on the True Self from Thomas Merton and Other Saints* by the Rev. James Martin, S.J.** The reading schedule and primary assessment information will be communicated to students in their Religion course. Reading assignments will begin on October 12th and continue through the second quarter.

"Who am I?" "What are my gifts?" "What I'm called to do with my life?" "Am I enough?" Faculty members recognize the reality that high school students are at a critical point in their development where they begin to start grappling with some of the great existential questions of humanity in a way and to a degree they never needed to before they began adolescence. How our young men come to understand the answers to these questions will profoundly impact the focus and direction of their lives. But in a world of ever-present and ever-advancing technology, conflicting media messages, and constant forced comparisons, our society has developed into a culture of distraction, stimulation, and narcissism that makes it difficult to hear the "still small voice" of God above the noise of the world. "Becoming Who You Are" draws on centuries-old wisdom from the Catholic mystical tradition, revealed through the somewhat modern examples of Thomas Merton and Henri Nouwen, to demonstrate how each of us can find answers to those critical questions. By journeying to discover and embrace our truest selves, we are able not only to discover our calling and purpose in life but also to develop an even deeper connection the God who loved us into existence. Guiding young people in their journey toward a relationship with their loving creator and the fulfillment of their God-given potential has been at the heart of the charism of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart since their founding by Fr. Coindre. In selecting this book, we endeavor to walk with and support our students, just as the Brothers have done for the more than 200 years since their founding, as they embark on their journey toward becoming the men God has created them to be.

Students will receive a copy of the book the week of October 12<sup>th</sup>. **The cost of the book is \$10.00 and will be deducted from each student's myCHS account on October 15.** Please ensure funds are available on your son's school account.

As a reminder, the mission of the CHS Big Read Program is:

- to integrate a common work of literature into curriculum, enhancing community and creating meaning for academic activities.
- to encourage an appreciation of reading by providing selections that not only have literary merit but are engaging and relatable as well.
- to foster the critical thinking skills our students need to be successful.
- to teach students to engage in constructive dialogue that is respectful, honest, and mature.

We encourage parents to engage their sons in conversation about the readings over the next few months. We look forward to the meaningful discussions and activities that will take place this year as our students and faculty make the most of this work of literature.

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

## Screening Questionnaire for Injectable Influenza Vaccination

**For adult patients as well as parents of children to be vaccinated:** The following questions will help us determine if there is any reason we should not give you, or your child an injectable influenza vaccination today or in the near future. If you answer "yes" to any question, it does not necessarily mean you would not be vaccinated. It only means additional questions must be asked. If a question is not clear, please call Healthvacs at 225-270-2925.

1. Is the person to be vaccinated sick today or had fever in the last 48 hours?      Yes      No

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2. Does the person to be vaccinated have asthma, heart, lung, kidney, liver disease, diabetes, neurologic or neuromuscular disease or a blood disorder?      Yes      No  
If yes please list.

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3. Is the person to be vaccinated allergic to eggs or ever had a serious reaction to an influenza vaccine in the past?      Yes      No

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4. Has the person to be vaccinated ever had Guillain-Barre' Syndrome?      Yes      No

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**Consent for vaccination:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use:**

Form reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Vaccine Admin.: Fluvirin MDV/Fluvirin PFS/Afluria MDV

Influenza Injection Lot# & Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ **Site:** LD / RD

# Influenza (Flu) Vaccine (Inactivated or Recombinant): *What you need to know*

Many Vaccine Information Statements are available in Spanish and other languages. See [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

Hojas de información sobre vacunas están disponibles en español y en muchos otros idiomas. Visite [www.immunize.org/vis](http://www.immunize.org/vis)

## 1 Why get vaccinated?

**Influenza vaccine** can prevent **influenza (flu)**.

**Flu** is a contagious disease that spreads around the United States every year, usually between October and May. Anyone can get the flu, but it is more dangerous for some people. Infants and young children, people 65 years of age and older, pregnant women, and people with certain health conditions or a weakened immune system are at greatest risk of flu complications.

Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. If you have a medical condition, such as heart disease, cancer or diabetes, flu can make it worse.

Flu can cause fever and chills, sore throat, muscle aches, fatigue, cough, headache, and runny or stuffy nose. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

Each year **thousands of people in the United States die from flu**, and many more are hospitalized. Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related visits to the doctor each year.

## 2 Influenza vaccine

CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older get vaccinated every flu season. **Children 6 months through 8 years of age** may need 2 doses during a single flu season. **Everyone else** needs only 1 dose each flu season.

It takes about 2 weeks for protection to develop after vaccination.

There are many flu viruses, and they are always changing. Each year a new flu vaccine is made to protect against three or four viruses that are likely to cause disease in the upcoming flu season. Even when the vaccine doesn't exactly match these viruses, it may still provide some protection.

Influenza vaccine **does not cause flu**.

Influenza vaccine may be given at the same time as other vaccines.

## 3 Talk with your health care provider

Tell your vaccine provider if the person getting the vaccine:

- Has had an **allergic reaction after a previous dose of influenza vaccine**, or has any **severe, life-threatening allergies**.
- Has ever had **Guillain-Barré Syndrome** (also called GBS).

In some cases, your health care provider may decide to postpone influenza vaccination to a future visit.

People with minor illnesses, such as a cold, may be vaccinated. People who are moderately or severely ill should usually wait until they recover before getting influenza vaccine.

Your health care provider can give you more information.





## 4 Risks of a vaccine reaction

- Soreness, redness, and swelling where shot is given, fever, muscle aches, and headache can happen after influenza vaccine.
- There may be a very small increased risk of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) after inactivated influenza vaccine (the flu shot).

Young children who get the flu shot along with pneumococcal vaccine (PCV13), and/or DTaP vaccine at the same time might be slightly more likely to have a seizure caused by fever. Tell your health care provider if a child who is getting flu vaccine has ever had a seizure.

People sometimes faint after medical procedures, including vaccination. Tell your provider if you feel dizzy or have vision changes or ringing in the ears.

As with any medicine, there is a very remote chance of a vaccine causing a severe allergic reaction, other serious injury, or death.

## 5 What if there is a serious problem?

An allergic reaction could occur after the vaccinated person leaves the clinic. If you see signs of a severe allergic reaction (hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, or weakness), call **9-1-1** and get the person to the nearest hospital.

For other signs that concern you, call your health care provider.

Adverse reactions should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Your health care provider will usually file this report, or you can do it yourself. Visit the VAERS website at [www.vaers.hhs.gov](http://www.vaers.hhs.gov) or call **1-800-822-7967**. *VAERS is only for reporting reactions, and VAERS staff do not give medical advice.*

## 6 The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) is a federal program that was created to compensate people who may have been injured by certain vaccines. Visit the VICP website at [www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation](http://www.hrsa.gov/vaccinecompensation) or call **1-800-338-2382** to learn about the program and about filing a claim. There is a time limit to file a claim for compensation.

## 7 How can I learn more?

- Ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your local or state health department.
- Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
  - Call **1-800-232-4636 (1-800-CDC-INFO)** or
  - Visit CDC's [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

Vaccine Information Statement (Interim)  
**Inactivated Influenza  
Vaccine**



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