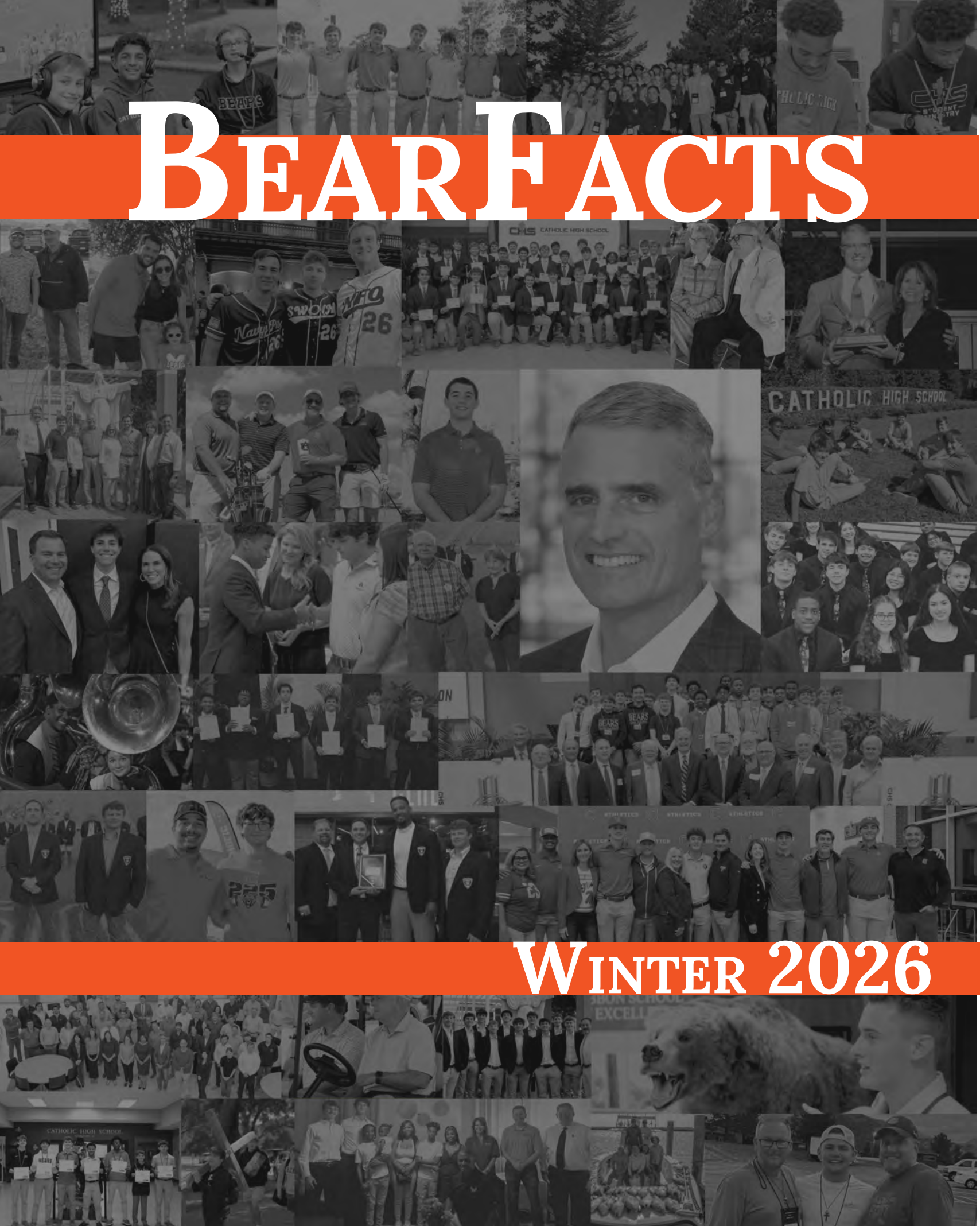
BearFacts



Winter 2026

AMETUR COR JESU

Loved be the heart of Jesus

Founded in 1894 by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, Catholic High School is an all-male college preparatory institution serving young men in grades 8 - 12.

Bear Facts is published biannually by Catholic High School's Office of Communications.

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Submissions:
We welcome the submission of material for possible publication based on the discretion of the editors.

Catholic High School
855 Hearthstone Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894



MAR 16 — **CAREER DAY**
CHS CAMPUS

MAR 20-22 — **CHS/SJA DRAMA CLUB SPRING MUSICAL**
SJA BLACK BOX THEATER

MAR 22 — **GRANDPARENTS DAY**
CHS GYM AND BROTHER DONNAN BERRY, S.C. STUDENT CENTER

MAR 26 — **BINGO**
BROTHER DONNAN BERRY, S.C. STUDENT CENTER

MAR 27 — **CHS vs. SJA CHALLENGE**
DALE WEINER FIELD

APR 15 — **LEADERSHIP CONVOCATION**
CHS GYM

APR 18 — **SENIOR PROM**
CHS GYM

APR 21 — **SPRING BAND CONCERT**
CHS GYM

APR 23 — **SPRING CHOIR CONCERT**
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - DOWNTOWN BR

MAY 12 — **SPRING SPORTS CONVOCATION**
CHS GYM

MAY 13 — **HONORS CONVOCATION**
CHS GYM

MAY 18 — **GRADUATION**
LSU

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PRESIDENT'S *update*

On September 26, 2025, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart lost a "giant" of the Institute. Brother Ivy LeBlanc, S.C., a 1963 graduate of Catholic High School, passed away after a relatively brief battle with cancer, having just turned 80 earlier that month. While Brother Ivy never served on the faculty of Catholic High School, his influence and legacy are deeply embedded in the Brothers who have served, and who currently serve at CHS, as well as in the lay partners who devote themselves daily to the education of the young men entrusted to this school.

Brother Ivy served the United States Province in numerous roles throughout his ministry. He spent 28 years at Brother Martin High School in New Orleans, ultimately serving as both principal and president. From there, he was elected Provincial of the New Orleans Province and later held additional leadership roles within the Institute. Remarkably, at the age of 79, Brother Ivy was named Treasurer of the worldwide Institute of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, a role that required him to travel regularly between Rome and New Orleans.

However, his most defining legacy was his unwavering passion for teaching, promoting, and demanding fidelity to the charism of Father André Coindre, founder of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Brother Ivy understood clearly that as fewer men choose the vocation as a Brother of the Sacred Heart, the responsibility for transmitting the charism would increasingly rest with lay educators, and ultimately with the students who benefit from that education. For this reason, his life's work centered on forming faculty and administrators to understand, embrace, live, and transmit the mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

Two of the most significant formation programs for which he advocated take place in Lyon, France, where Father Coindre founded the Institute, and in Rome, Italy, home to the Institute's headquarters. Brother Ivy was the guiding force behind these programs and was consistently present, teaching and presenting with his trademark fire and conviction. He emphasized the sacred trust the Brothers place in their lay partners to carry the mission forward. He was often visibly moved, sometimes to tears, as he spoke about the vital role lay educators play in the future of the Institute. Catholic High School regularly sends faculty members to these programs, and without exception every participant returns with a renewed and deepened understanding of the Brothers' mission and charism.

I was blessed to attend many of these sessions alongside Brother Ivy, first as a participant and later as a member of the presentation team. His influence on me has been profound. I was simultaneously in awe of his knowledge, passion, and dedication; respectfully challenged by his demanding expectation of excellence; and deeply touched by his compassion and humor. For Brother Ivy, nothing was more important than ensuring that the mission and charism of Father Coindre were faithfully passed on to future generations.

In his honor, Catholic High School has established the Brother Ivy LeBlanc, S.C. '63 Faculty Excellence Award, which will recognize past and present faculty members who have demonstrated distinction in promoting and living out the mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The first presentation of this award will take place in May 2026, with nominations from alumni and community members opening in February.

Although many in our community never had the opportunity to know Brother Ivy personally, his influence and legacy live on at Catholic High School. We owe him a profound debt of gratitude for a ministry and a life so faithfully lived. May he rest in peace.

Ametur Cor Jesu.
Loved be the Heart of Jesus.

Mrs. Lisa D. Harvey

PRINCIPAL'S *update*



I want to focus my reflections for this edition of *Bear Facts* on the multiple ways Catholic High School encourages our students to live out their faith.

We have a thriving campus ministry and student ministry program that meets the needs of our students and provides opportunities for them to minister. Seventy of our students participated in the summer mission program. Groups worked in Baton Rouge with the Gardere Initiative; in Klagetoh, AZ with the Brothers of the Sacred Heart at St. Anne's mission on the Navajo reservation; in Portland, ME with local church agencies dedicated to work with immigrants; in Woonsocket, RI with organizations devoted to alleviating hunger. A total of fourteen faculty accompanied our students on the various trips and led them in daily reflections that connected their service with their faith.

Our school liturgies have been reverent, and we are particularly blessed by the participation of our choir whose music dramatically enhances our worship. While adolescent boys in general are not known for singing at their school masses, our boys do participate in singing our traditional closing song, "We Will Rise Again." They also sang to our local Brothers of the Sacred Heart at the mass celebrating the foundation of the order. Our students practiced singing in religion classes so they could sing the Brothers' Institute song, "Animés de l'amour." They sang the French song, to the delight of the Brothers in attendance.

Our school chapel has been the site of rosaries, Eucharistic adoration, and visits by religion classes. Speaking of rosaries, a small group of students has resumed the rosary making ministry begun two years ago. Students volunteer to learn the process and spend their free time in the Campus Ministry office creating rosaries that feature Catholic High symbols. The group has guidelines: the first rosary one makes is to be given as a gift, the second one can be for the maker, but no rosaries are for sale. We have been fortunate that donors have continued to pay for the supplies for the rosary ministry.

Among the many groups our Campus Ministry program offers to support students is our discernment group. Over 30 students meet regularly with campus ministers to discuss how to discern a religious vocation. The group invites guest speakers to tell their vocation stories and has open discussions about how to support one another's vocation journeys. The group has borne fruit: four of our recent grads are currently in seminary studying for the Diocese of Baton Rouge.

These are just some of the ways that Catholic High School fulfills its mission to teach Gospel values in an environment of academic excellence, according to Catholic tradition in the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. Our Catholic faith is absolutely central to everything we do, and we continue to look for ways to inspire our students to deepen their relationship with God and Christ. Please keep us in your prayers, and we will do the same for you!

Dr. Tom Eldringhoff

Student OF THE YEAR

SENIOR BLAISE THOMASSIE NAMED CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL'S *Student of the Year* FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Catholic High School announces senior ***Blaise Thomassie*** as Student of the Year. During his time at CHS, Blaise has excelled both in the classroom (having maintained over a 4.0 GPA all four years) and on the football field. He has been an active member of the school community having participated in such student organizations as Honor Board, Mu Alpha Theta, My Brother's Keeper, National Honor Society, CHS Powerlifting, Student Ambassadors, and Student Ministry. He is also a regular volunteer at the Baton Rouge Food Bank.

As a sophomore, Blaise was chosen by his classmates to receive the CHS Kindness Award. He plans to attend Stanford University in the fall.

When asked about the honor of being named Catholic High School Student of the Year, Blaise said he could not be more thankful for the opportunity to represent Catholic High.

"It is a huge honor to be named Student of the Year. This Catholic High community has given so much to me during my time here, so all I have tried to do in return is give back to it."

We are so proud of Blaise and are honored to have him represent CHS in the Diocesan Student of the Year competition!

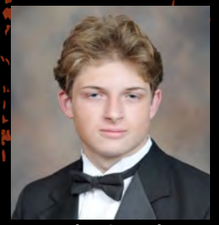




2026 National Merit Semi-Finalists Students and Commended Students



William Bruton
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



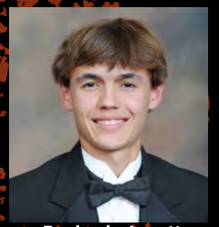
Rylan Carruth
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



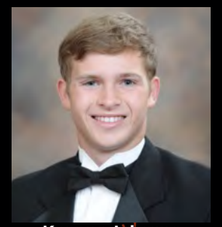
Noah Haefner
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



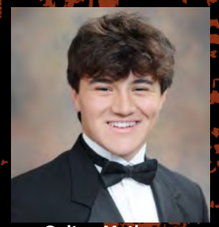
Lawton Hardgrove
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



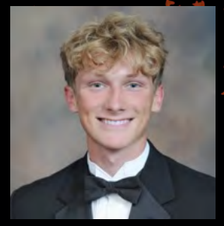
Benjamin Jewett
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



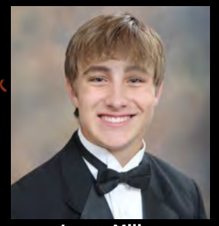
Keegan Johnson
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



Colton Matherne
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



Henry Mensman
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



Lucas Miller
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



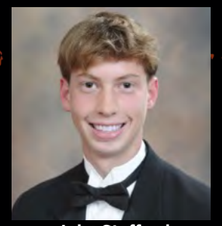
Liam Price
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



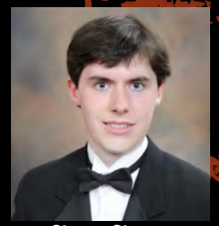
Luke Schulze
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



Trey Simoneaux
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



John Stafford
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



Steven Stogner
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026



Shawn Tate
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



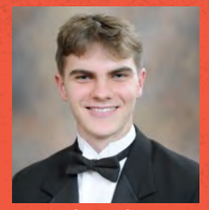
Jonathan Thompson
National Merit Semi-Finalist
Class of 2026



Felix Vincent
National Merit Commended Scholar
Class of 2026

College Board School Recognition Awards

**Scored within the top 10% at CHS on the PSAT.*



Cody Bankston
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



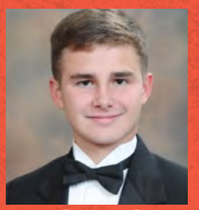
Dylan Bell
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Caden Bland
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



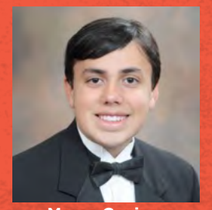
Jack Brady
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Baker Brooks
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Jack Butler
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



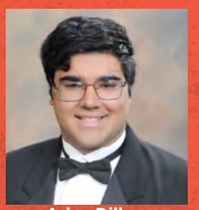
Marco Canizaro
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Mason Christensen
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



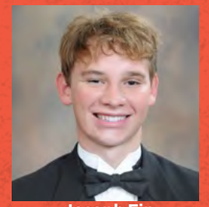
Roy Culotta Jr.
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Arjun Dillon
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Ryan Droddy
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Joseph Fin
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



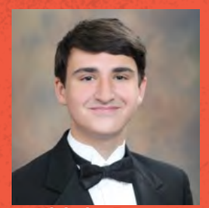
Jackson Herbst
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



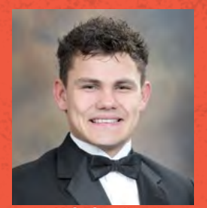
Ryan Luu
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



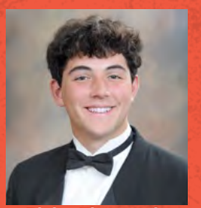
William McDaniel
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Nicholas Pecquet
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



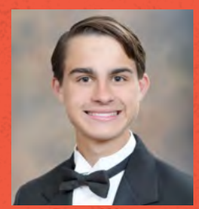
Kristian Scott
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



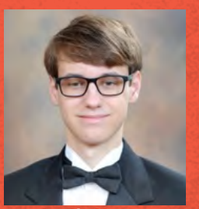
Blaise Thomassie
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Joaquin Torres-Novoa
School Recognition Award
Class of 2027

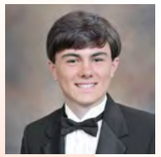


Peter Watson
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026



Austin Young
School Recognition Award
Class of 2026

Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars



Michael Aguillard
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



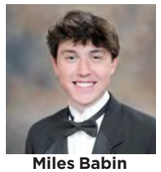
Anderson Ainsworth
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Sadek Alhorr
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2027



Maverick Arvel
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Miles Babin
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Cody Bankston
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Dylan Bell
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Gabriel Beyer
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Caden Bland
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



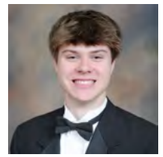
Jack Brady
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



Brennan Breaux
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Baker Brooks
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Jonathan Broussard
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



William Bruton
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



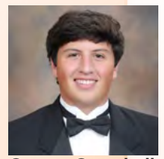
Charles Bugea
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2027



Jack Butler
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



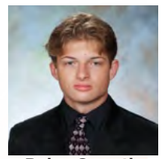
Ray Butler
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



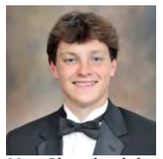
Connor Campbell
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



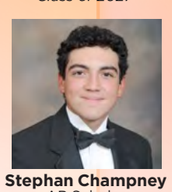
Marco Canizaro
AP Scholar with Honor
Class of 2026



Rylan Carruth
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



Max Chamberlain
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Stephan Champney
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



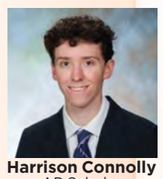
Ian Chapoton
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Benjamin Chiasson
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Mason Christensen
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



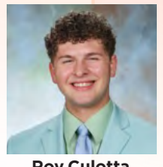
Harrison Connolly
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Alexander Cook
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Marcus Couhig
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Roy Culotta
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



Aaron Danielson
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Declan Daughdrill
AP Scholar
Class of 2027



Davis Dawes
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Jackson DeJean
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



John Delamain
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Arjun Dhillon
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Lee Dirks
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



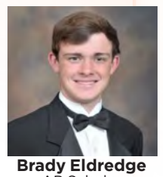
Ryan Droddy
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



Luke Duval
AP Scholar
Class of 2027



Elliott Eagleton
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Brady Eldredge
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Ben Faulk
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Brayden Ford
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2027

Noah Gawarecki
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Carter Gibson
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Charles Gilcrease
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Andrew Girouard
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Evan Guilbeau
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025

Lawton Hardgrove
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Jackson Herbst
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Luke House
AP Scholar with Honor
Class of 2025

Matthew Hupperich
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025

Joseph Huynh
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Charles Jeansonne
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Benjamin Jewett
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Keegan Johnson
AP Scholar
Class of 2026

Reece Johnson
AP Scholar
Class of 2026

Eric Jurkovic
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Caldwell Kerth
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Joshua King
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Johnathan Kirk
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Brooks Kogel
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Colin Laird
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2027

Barat Landry
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025

Joseph Landry
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

David Latil
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Wyatt Lewis
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Quinn Luu
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025

Ryan Luu
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Austin Martinez
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025

Carter Mashon
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Colton Matherne
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Grant Mathes
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Tate McCurry
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

William McDaniel
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Raz McRae
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Jonathan Mekari
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Miles Melancon
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Henry Mensmen
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Thomas Miller
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

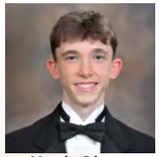
Luke Modenbach
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Patrick Moe
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

William Mumford
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026

Ethan Noel
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Brennan Normand
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Noah Olson
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Nicholas Pecquet
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



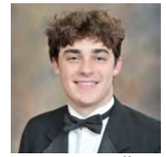
Blake Phistry
AP Scholar
Class of 2027



Liam Price
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



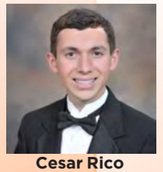
Quinn Price
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Max Procell
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Shiv Reshamwala
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Cesar Rico
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Austin Roberson
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



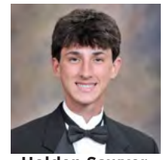
Henry Robin
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Gage Rowley
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



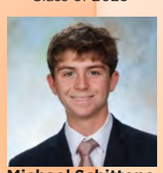
Hunter Savoie
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with Distinction
Class of 2025



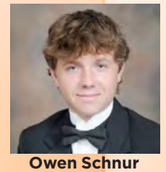
Holden Sawyer
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Max Schexnailder
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



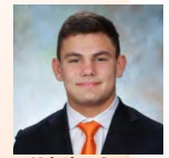
Michael Schittone
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



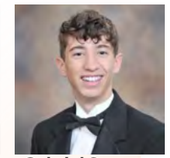
Owen Schnur
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025



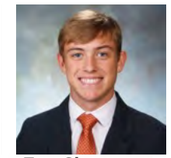
Luke Schulze
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



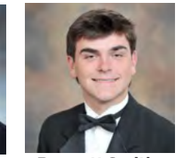
Kristian Scott
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



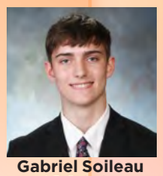
Gabriel Serrano
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Trey Simoneaux
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



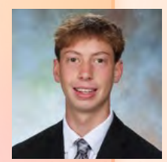
Bennett Smith
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



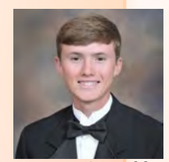
Gabriel Soileau
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



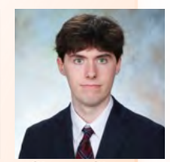
Jacob Sruk
AP Scholar
Class of 2027



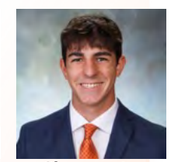
John Stafford
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



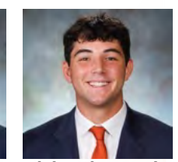
Dawson Stoeckle
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Steven Stogner
AP Scholar with Honor
Class of 2026



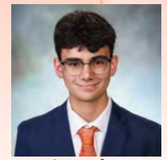
Shawn Tate
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



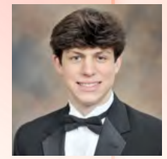
Blaise Thomassie
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



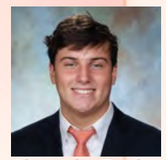
Jonathan Thompson
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026



Joaquin Torres-Novoa
AP Scholar with Honor
Class of 2027



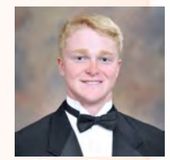
Matthew Trahan
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



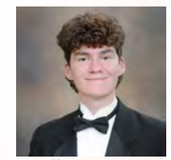
Alexander Traylor
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



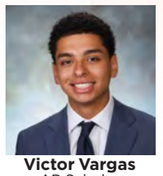
Joseph Tullier
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2027



Hayes Turner
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



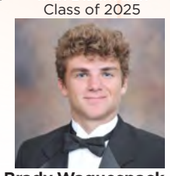
Oliver Vance
AP Scholar
Class of 2025



Victor Vargas
AP Scholar
Class of 2026



Felix Vincent
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026



Brady Waguespack
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2025



Graham Waguespack
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025



Peter Watson
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2026

Bennett Weinstein
AP Scholar
Class of 2027

Thomas Whaley
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Michael Wilhelm
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Logan Wong
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

Austin Young
AP Scholar
with Honor
Class of 2026

William Zaunbrecher
AP Scholar
Class of 2025

Kevin Zheng
AP Scholar
with Distinction
Class of 2025

summer at CHS

CHECK OUT THIS YEAR'S LINE-UP OF ACADEMIC, ATHLETIC, AND ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES.

catholichigh.org/summeratchs

CHS ANNOUNCES 2026 NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS

The Catholic High School administration is proud to announce that seven CHS seniors have been named National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalists for 2026.

Congratulations to CHS Seniors (pictured right): ***Liam Price, Keegan Johnson, Benjamin Jewett, John Stafford, Shawn Tate, Jonathan Thompson, and Henry Mensman*** who will all go on to compete for nearly $26 million in college scholarships!

We would also like to congratulate 10 other young men (pictured bottom) who were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Program as Commended Students. Pictured from left are ***Steven Stogner, Rylan Carruth, Luke Schulze, Will Bruton, Eli Vincent, Trey Simoneaux, Christian Hardgrove, Cole Matherne, Lucas Miller, and Noah Haefner.***

These young men submitted a detailed application about their academic records, participation in school and community activities, leadership accomplishments, honors, and awards to be considered as a National Merit Finalist. They were also endorsed by a school official, wrote an essay, and had outstanding grades throughout high school.

Congratulations, gentlemen!





CHS HONORS STUDENTS AT 2025 ACADEMIC CONVOCATION

Last fall, CHS hosted its annual Academic Convocation to recognize students earning First Honors and Highest Honors along with State Rally winners, National Latin Exam winners, ACT 30+ Club Members, and AP Scholars. Students who have received national recognition were also in attendance.

The following CHS seniors were awarded special scholarships.

The ***Brother Adrian Gaudin, S.C. Scribe Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to a student who displays strong aptitude in writing, editing, publications, and is involved in campus communications. This year's award was presented to ***Peyton Weinman***.

The ***F. Wayne Frey '71 and Marjorie "Grammy" Frey Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to a student who achieves high academics, provides humble service, and displays excellent effort. This year's recipient was ***M.J. Self***.

The ***Jacob Matthew Meek '17 Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to a deserving student who displays courage, tenacity, perseverance, resiliency, and has a medical disability. ***Constantino Meja-Rivera*** was the recipient of this scholarship.

The ***Jordan T. "Jordy" Rourke '06 Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to a senior with a positive attitude, strong sense of humor, and spirit to overcome any obstacle. This scholarship was presented to ***Harrison Connolly***.

The ***Brent David Pecue '80 Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to students who have excellent academic achievement, multiple extracurricular involvements, and are service-oriented. This year, three students received this award: ***Vincent Cutrone, James Earhart, and Grant Speer***.

The ***Bryan P. Boudet '92 Memorial Endowed Scholarship*** is awarded to a student who has suffered the loss of a parent prior to or during their high school career and excels in academics and extracurriculars or athletics. Preference is given to students who attended St. George Catholic Elementary School or is a member of the St. George Parish. This scholarship was presented to ***Elvin Sterling***.

Scan here for a full list of award recipients.











Catholic Leadership Encounter



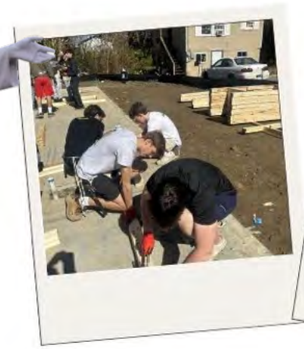


















A group of rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors attended the Catholic Leadership Encounter in Estes Park, Colorado. This program is designed to challenge high school students to develop their God-given abilities of leadership, anchored in Christian principles. These students spent 10 days participating in team-building activities, outdoor adventures and

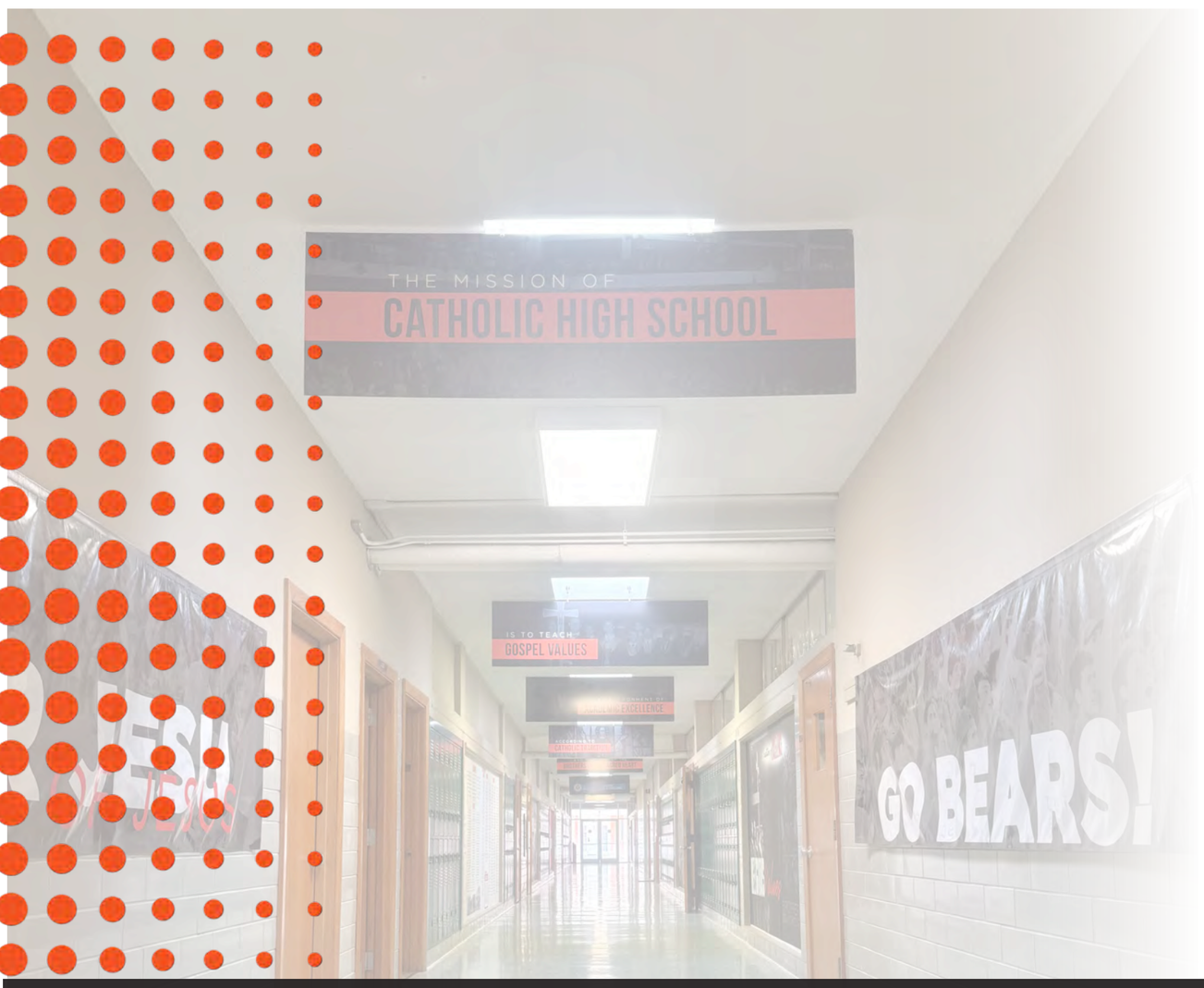
In September, Catholic High School students and faculty members, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, blessed single mother Shenique Holliday with the keys [illegible] sponsored with Habitat for Humanity. For Shenique's house, Catholic High students spent nearly 12,000 hours on both the construction and fundraising phases. CHS Principal Dr. Tom Eldringholff says the home build is one of the students' favorite community service projects.

"Participating in these builds gives our students more than a chance to serve–it teaches them empathy, teamwork, and the power of using their skills to make a real difference. Watching our school community come together like this is truly touching."

CHS alumnus, Warrick Dunn '93, also gifted Shenique with a down payment for the home and furnishings for the family. Catholic High School has participated in the Habitat Youth Build since 2001, with thousands of students volunteering over the past 25 years. In 2014, students, teachers, and administrators, joined [illegible] dedicated CHS build. This experience offers both students and faculty the opportunity to be involved in the entire Habitat process–from raising the funds to sponsor the build, to providing the labor to build the home, and being present when the homeowner receives the keys to their new home. In addition, the relationship with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Baton Rouge provides students with the chance to have a direct impact on improving our local community through home ownership.

Habitat for Humanity® of Greater Baton Rouge





















A HALLWAY TRANSFORMED:

CELEBRATING THE PILLARS OF A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

A once ordinary high school hallway has been transformed into a vibrant and meaningful art installation that brings students, faculty, and visitors to pause and consider the values that shape our school.

Each section of the installation highlights a core pillar–academic excellence, brotherhood, faith formation, leadership, personal attention, and service to community–through carefully chosen colors, symbols, and photos of CHS students-young men to live out these pillars in their studies, friendships, and care for others.

More than decoration, this installation stands as a testament to living out the mission of our school in the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to ***Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Marler*** for their generous donation in support of these installations. Their contribution has played a vital role in enhancing our space, preserving our history, and enriching the experience for all who walk our hallways.

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894



Fastball Snoballs visited campus during homecoming week!



The Counseling Center led a series of activities in recognition of World Kindness Day. Our school community joined together to celebrate and promote acts of kindness across campus. We are pleased to announce the 2025 recipients of the CHS Kindness Award—an honor voted on by both students and faculty. Pictured from left: William Hardie, Sadek Alhorr, Jonathan Thompson, Elvin Sterling, Jay Carter, Jude Duval, and Brodie Riddle. (Not pictured: Caleb Kirk.)



Members from different clubs and organizations hosted club membership week! It was a great way for our new bears to explore their interests.



Members of the United States Air Force visited CHS to provide a hands-on, mentally challenging experience for our students to get a brief glimpse of the life in the Air Force.



ever Trunk or Treat! It was a huge success with lots of families from the neighborhood attending as well as CHS faculty and friends.



The CHS Senior Class of 2026 traveled to four different sites across Louisiana on October 12-13 for their senior retreat. Led by faculty, Brothers, alumni, parents, and priests, they spent time in their brotherly bond.

CHS SNAPSHOTS





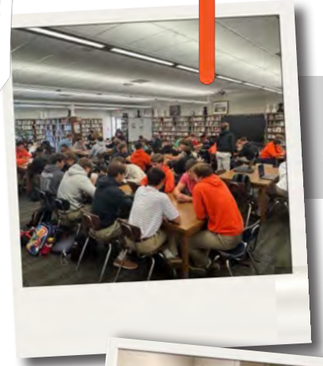
Catholic High worked with Habitat for Humanity to bless single mom Shenique Holliday with her new home for her and her family. With almost 12,000 hours of both construction and fundraising poured into this home, we are proud to say that it is the first home that the CHS community has worked on with Habitat for Humanity.



Joined by many of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart, we gathered as a community for our annual Foundation Day Mass.



Bears ROCK Bingo: Student Edition



We opened "The Hearth Student Success Center" for math lab, peer tutoring, mentoring, and academic success. It's available to all students, faculty, and staff.



A group of students visited Southdowns Elementary to help out with Fall Fest activities and fall pictures of the preschool students. CHS has a long standing partnership with this school and Fall Fest is just one of the days we volunteer with them.

Academic Convocation took place in September recognizing all of those students who have excelled in academics as well as achieving highest honors.



BAND & CHOIR



Mr. Duane LeBlanc
Band Director



Mr. Benjamin Buller
Assistant Band Director



Mr. Steve Galliano
Choir Director



Mrs. Danielle Laird
Assistant Choir Director

The first half of the 2025-2026 school year was a rewarding season for our student musicians. The CHS/SJA Choir and the Bruin Band demonstrated meaningful growth, impressive student achievement, and continued momentum across all areas of the program.

This past fall, the Bruin Band and Bruinette Dance Ensemble delivered an outstanding marching season, culminating in a third place finish at the State Marching Band Championships in Class 3C. This achievement reflected months of focused preparation, including summer rehearsals designed to ensure students were ready for football season and championship competition. Throughout the fall, the band proudly supported the football team at every game while maintaining a high standard of musical and visual performance. Concert performances were equally successful.

Students in the CHS/SJA choir had just as much success this past fall with nine young men and 11 young women being selected to the Louisiana Music Educators Association All-State Honor Choir—a record number of students selected. In addition to this honor, seven young men were selected to the Louisiana Chapter of American Choral Directors Association All-State Honor Choir. It is also worth celebrating the CHS Advanced Men's Choir, CHS/SJA Advanced Mixed, CHS/SJA Schola Cantorum and CHS/SJA Chamber Singers performace at the Louisiana Choral Large Assessment Festival. These singers won the Sweepstakes Trophy award at the festival, which is the main event for school choirs, organized by the Louisiana Music Educators Association (LMEA). All CHS and SJA singers received perfect scores across the board for their vocal and sightreading performances. Choir members were also asked to record the National Anthem to air before and after the news on local news station, WAFB-TV.

During the Christmas season, student musicians in the band and choir shared their talents at three, well-attended concerts that showcased the depth and versatility of these ensembles. The performances highlighted not only musical excellence, but also the dedication and professionalism of our students and staff. The season's highlight was the annual Candlelight Christmas Concert held at the River Center Theatre.

Overall, the fall of 2025 reaffirmed that the performing arts at CHS and SJA are alive and thriving, built on a strong culture, disciplined work ethic, and a shared commitment to excellence. We look forward to an exciting second semester.





THE HEARTH



Mrs. Sherie LeBlanc
Director
sleblanc@catholichigh.org



Ms. Tracy Ducote
Assistant Director
tducote@catholichigh.org



Brother Chris Sweeney, S.C.
Assistant Director
bcsweeney@catholichigh.org

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Our newly established Student Success Center, known as **"The Hearth,"** is a dynamic hub designed to create a holistic experience for every student at CHS. This student-focused space offers a welcoming environment where learners can make up missed tests in a quiet, supervised setting, receive personalized peer tutoring, and attend specialized math lab sessions tailored to reinforce key concepts. Beyond subject-specific support, the center provides targeted resources to help students strengthen executive functioning skills such as organization, time management, self-reflection, perseverance, attention to detail, task initiation and self-control. Staffed by dedicated educators and trained peer mentors, the student success center fosters a culture of collaboration, resilience, and growth-ensuring that every student has the tools and guidance they need to thrive across all disciplines.







LEARN MORE

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

BEAR NATION

& THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS

BY BART SAIA '91

The legacy of the bright orange "Game Day Pants"—now a symbol of unmatched school spirit at Catholic High—began back in 2009 with one student and one spontaneous purchase. It all started when Ben Jumonville, son of CHS staff member Mr. Charles Jumonville, was on a college visit to Clemson University. While browsing through the campus bookstore, Ben and his dad came across a pair of bright orange pants patterned with white paws. Though Clemson's mascot is the Tiger, the two couldn't help but notice how much the design looked like bear paws. Finding it funny—and fitting—they decided to buy them. When Ben wore the pants to school the next school day, he was met with compliments, and a spark that would ignite a long-standing CHS tradition. After deciding to attend Penn State instead of Clemson, Ben realized he wouldn't be needing those orange pants anymore. His mother suggested he pass them down—but not just to anyone. The new owner had to be someone who embodied true Catholic High spirit. So, Ben passed them to Sean Saxon '11, who proudly carried on the tradition and, in turn, passed them along to the next spirited senior.



Since then, the orange "Game Day Pants" have been handed down year after year—a living legacy of CHS pride. Today, senior Mills Richardson carries that honor, wearing the pants every Friday and leading the charge in the student section on game days. From this tradition, something even bigger was born—Bear Nation. Each year, the "Bearer of the Pants" assembles a small group of classmates, known for their energy and passion, to join him in the student section. Clad in black and orange overalls, they are the heart and soul of CHS spirit—firing up crowds not only at athletic events but also at St. Joseph's Academy events and Diocesan middle school tours.

As a first-year moderator of this incredible group, I've had the privilege of witnessing their devotion up close. These young men don't just lead cheers—they lead with faith and brotherhood. One unforgettable moment came during a home football game this season when almost every member of Bear Nation received confession from Father Michael Alello '98 right in the middle of the action. Watching that moment unfold reminded me that Bear Nation represents more than school pride—it embodies the spirit, values, and faith that make Catholic High School truly special. The bright orange pants may have started as a funny find in a college bookstore, but today they stand as a proud symbol of tradition, leadership, and love for CHS. And as long as there's a Bear Nation, the legacy of the pants will live on—loud, proud, and in orange.

BEARER OF THE PANTS

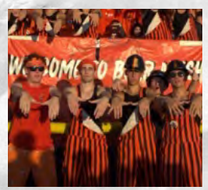
2010: Ben Jumonville
2011: Sean Saxton
2012: Collin Finergan
2013: Cody Abshire

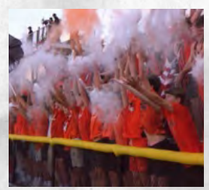
2014: Madison Dillard
2015: Simon Silverberg
2016: William Lee
2017: Lance Rodriguez

2018: Easton Hollis
2019: Parker Stanford
2020: Luke McGibboney
2021: Berk Jones

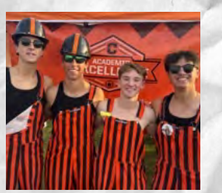
2022: Jack Douglas
2023: Shawn Chau
2024: Austin Arledge
2025: Jack Ruckert
2026: Mills Richardson

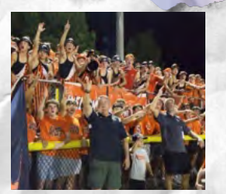














A LETTER FROM THE *Athletic Director*

As students returned to campus for the 2025-2026 school year, the Catholic High athletic program continued to experience remarkable success highlighted by the Vociferous Juggernaut capturing their third consecutive state championship. CHS also earned district and metro titles in football and cross country.

For the third straight year and 11th time in program history, the CHS swim team stood on top of the podium as the Division I State Champions. The Bears dominated the competition throughout the season, defeating rival Jesuit in a dual meet, capturing the Gulf Coast Classic (Mobile, AL), and winning the team's 33rd consecutive CCSL City Championship. The Bears won six individual events and all three relays amassing 610 points, the second most points a CHS team has ever scored in the meet. Ten swimmers earned All-Metro honors while Coach Sion Cavana '18 was named CCSL Coach of the Year, and junior Noah Vargas was named Swimmer of the Year. At the state meet, Vargas led the Bears by winning the 200 IM and 100 Breast individual titles as well as being a part of the state-champion 400 Free relay team. CHS finished over 100 points clear of second-place Jesuit.

On the course, the Big Orange Wave continued to compete at a high level under second year coach Corey Mistretta. The Bears had success early in the season as they took first place at the Episcopal Round Table Run and LCA Knights Invitational. Sophomore Gus Juneau finished first in each of those meets. On October 29, CHS won the Metro meet title placing five runners in the top 15 finishers. Juneau led the way with a second-place finish. At the State Championship meet in Natchitoches, the Bears had three runners place in the top 20 to vault CHS into a third-place overall finish. Juneau finished his brilliant sophomore season with a 4th-place finish and was named to the All-State team.

The CUR DOG football team gave fans more unforgettable moments as they remained one of the premier programs in the state. CHS finished 10-3 playing one of the most challenging schedules in the state. The Bears began the year by defeating perennial power Destrehan for the second consecutive year thanks to a four-touchdown performance from tailback Justin Batiste. CHS also earned victories over St. Thomas More and U-High in non-district play. The Bears encountered adversity in the middle of the season after losing two straight games to West Monroe and Madison-Ridgeland Academy (MS) by a total of four points. As district play began, Coach Hudson Fuller's team kicked it into high gear winning five straight games and capturing their fourth straight district title in dominant fashion. The run was highlighted by a 57-28 win at Central and a 41-7 victory over Zachary in the season finale. In the playoffs, CHS defeated Captain Shreve before hosting Alexandria in the quarterfinals. After ASH took a 6-3 halftime lead, the Bears scored 41 unanswered points in the second half on their way to a 44-6 win. The following week, CHS fell to Edna Karr in the semifinals for the second straight season.

This fall, our teams shined academically and athletically. Their success is the product of countless hours of effort from players, coaches, and teachers. These young men embody how athletics enriches Catholic High's mission to educate the whole person.

Matt Shelton
CHS Athletic Director

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

FALL SPORTS *Convocation*

Catholic High School honored members of the cross country, football, and swimming teams at the Fall Sports Convocation. Along with lettermen, coaches gave season recaps and distributed individual awards.

CROSS COUNTRY



JONATHAN THOMPSON '26
COACH'S AWARD



PETER WATSON '26
"ORANGE WAVE" AWARD



AUGUSTIN JUNEAU '28
OUTSTANDING RUNNER



BRADYN WILKERSON '27
SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD

FOOTBALL



BLAINE BRADFORD '26
TEAM CAPTAIN DEFENSE



MAXWELL MAURER '26
TEAM CAPTAIN DEFENSE



HARRISON KIDDER '26
TEAM CAPTAIN DEFENSE



IAN LOCKLAR '27
STRENGTH ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



JACKSON SHAW '27
SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD



JOHN DEMOSS '26
"GOLDEN GRIZZLY" AWARD
THE STEVEN DEUMITE MEMORIAL AWARD



KOOPER ROME '27
SPECIAL TEAMS AWARD

SWIMMING



JAMES LEBLANC '27
MOST IMPROVED



KHOA NGUYEN '26
SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARD



BLAKE TALBERT '26
COACH'S AWARD



NOAH VARGAS '27
MOST VALUABLE SWIMMER

NEXT-LEVEL ATHLETES





BLAINE BRADFORD '26
FOOTBALL
OHIO STATE



HARRISON KIDDER '26
FOOTBALL
UL LAFAYETTE



BLAISE THOMASSIE '26
FOOTBALL
STANFORD UNIVERSITY



LUCAS LAWRENCE '26
BASEBALL
OLE MISS



MILLS RICHARDSON '26
BASEBALL
SOUTHEASTERN (LA)

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GRIZZLY GREATS

CLASS OF 2025

Induction Ceremony

On August 2, 2025, Catholic High School formally inducted five new members to the Grizzly Greats Athletic Hall of Fame. The Class of 2025 consisted of ***Mr. David Brewerton '92, Dr. David Pollet '02, Dr. Mathew Mazoch '03, Mr. Chris Williams '03, and Coach Kyle Jackson '07+.***

From their achievements on the football field, golf course, wrestling mat, and tennis court, to their accomplishments in the NFL, medical profession, and coaching the next generation, these men exemplify the values of Catholic High School and the Grizzly Greats Athletic Hall of Fame.















A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894



A MESSAGE FROM
The Office of Advancement

During the Fall of 2025, the Office of Advancement saw many successes in its annual appeal efforts. With this year's fundraising theme focusing on **sustained giving, designated giving, and annual giving,** we led a successful National Give Day campaign, raising more than $425,000 for our current and future Bears. Another incredible achievement was getting 100% of our faculty members to participate in the annual appeal. A special thank you goes out to these dedicated men and women for their continued dedication and support of the young men in our care. We wouldn't be the school and community we are without their support.

As we continue to engage our community in ways to ensure CHS remains steadfast in its mission to provide a faith-filled, affordable, and holistic Catholic education to the young men of Baton Rouge, we wanted to provide a quick overview of the three areas of focus for this year's giving cycle.

SUSTAINED GIVING. Gifts to the CHS Foundation through scholarships, endowments, and annual appeal giving from Friends and Alumni of CHS support the long-term fiscal sustainability of the school. Annually, the Foundation supports Catholic High School by financing financial aid for qualified students as well as supplementing the school's general operating budget so that tuition for all families remains as low as possible—currently the second lowest amongst its peer group.

ANNUAL GIVING. Each year, parents play a vital role in advancing the CHS mission through the Annual Appeal. Every dollar donated to the annual appeal by parents directly supports student programs, classroom initiatives, and campus experiences that enrich every Bear's journey.



DESIGNATED GIVING. Many members of our community choose to give where their passion lies—supporting the programs and projects that inspire them most.



As we begin the second part of the school year, I encourage CHS alumni, parents, and friends to join us to experience what makes our school so special. We invite you to join us for our spring spiritual services and social gatherings to show your support for not only our young men, but for our entire school community. As always, thank you for your support.

Ben DiPalma '00
Director of Advancement

UPCOMING *Events*

Spiritual

February 13
Rosary at 7:45 AM
February 24
Liturgy at 7:45 AM
February 27
Rosary at 7:45 AM
March 13
Stations of the Cross at 7:45 AM
April 15
Rosary at 7:45 AM
April 24
Rosary at 7:45 AM
April 29
Liturgy at 9:45 AM
May 8
Rosary at 7:45 AM
May 15
Liturgy at 9:45 AM

Social

February 28
Alumni Gumbo Jam
Mothers' Club Auction
Men's Club Cornhole Tournament
March 6
Stakeholders Day
March 16
Career Day
March 22
Grandparents Day
March 26
Bears Bingo
March 26-27
1894 Challenge
April 21
Band Concert
April 23
Choir Concert
April 24
Art Show
June 4-6
CHS Fishing Rodeo

PERPETUAL FOUNDERS

The following individuals, groups, and businesses are Catholic High School Perpetual Founders. Their ongoing support of the mission of the school and the Brothers of the Sacred Heart is deeply appreciated. They have donated $100,000 or more to CHS during their lifetime. We salute and honor this esteemed group of Perpetual Founders for their continued commitment to the advancement efforts at CHS.

PERPETUAL FOUNDER - SACRED HEART
$500,000 +

Mrs. Dana Bernhard
Mr. James M. Bernhard Jr.+
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Burke '86
CHS Alumni Office
CHS Men's Club
CHS Mothers' Club
Colonel James F. Coerver '46
Mrs. Claire Couhig
Mr. Kevin H. Couhig+
Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. Deumite Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Ryan D. Jumonville '91
Mr. Gerald H. Marchand '49+
Mrs. Linda K. Marchand
Dr. and Mrs. Claude B. Pennington+
Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation
Ms. Jo Sevin
Mr. Leonce J. Sevin Jr. '47+
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene C. Sykes Jr. '85
Mr. Charles L. Valluzzo
Mrs. Nancy Valluzzo+
Mr. and Mrs. Chris C. Valluzzo '87
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Valluzzo '78

PERPETUAL FOUNDER - SANCTUARY
$250,000 - $499,999

Mr. and Mrs. David H. Arrighi Sr. '73
Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Couhig '90
Succession of Evelyn Nelson Davis
Dr. and Mrs. Jacques de la Bretonne
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. DiVincenti Jr. '73
Faulk & Winkler
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Faulk III
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Fischer+
Mrs. Alice D. Greer
Mrs. Margaret Womack Hart
Mr. H. Guy Hopkins III '76 and Mrs. Marion "Missy" Hopkins+
Donna and Jerry Jolly '70
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Melancon Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael C. Moran '86
The E.J. and Marjory B. Ourso Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Salmon
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Stephens '73
Mr. and Mrs. Roland M. Toups
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick G. Tullier '75
Mr. John G. Turner '78 and Mr. Jerry G. Fischer
Mr. Milton J. Womack Sr.+

PERPETUAL FOUNDER - COINDRE
$100,000 - $249,999

ARKEL Constructors
Mr. and Mrs. Billy J. Aguillard '70
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt H. Ainsworth '96
Margie and Ralph Alexander
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Alford Sr. '89
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Barfield Jr. '82
Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Barnidge
Baton Rouge Coca-Cola United
Baton Rouge State Fair Foundation
Brother Donnan Berry, S.C.+
Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Bologna '45+
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph J. Bonnecaze '65
Dr. and Mrs. Gregory A. Brandao '73
Mr. and Mrs. Redfield E. Bryan Jr. '55
Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Burke '89
Cajun Industries, LLC
Mr. Roe F. Cangelosi '22+
Dr. Michael S. Crapanzano '80 and Dr. Kathleen Crapanzano
Mr. Danny A. Daniel Sr. '56+
Mrs. Mary Daniel
Mr. and Mrs. M. David DiVincenti Sr. '70
Mr. John A. Ebner '87
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65
Dr. and Mrs. Quentin D. Falgoust '61
Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Ferachi '84
Mr. and Mrs. Chris A. Ferrara
Mr. and Mrs. Derek J. Fife '96
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Fife
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Fourrier '28+
Dr. and Mrs. David G. Fourrier '66
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Frugé
Mrs. Frances Gaudin
Mr. Louis B. Gaudin+
Ferdinand J. Guerin, Jr. and Audrey Ann Guerin Living Trust
Lisa and Ted Harvey
Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Hebert Jr. '64
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Heroman Jr. '29+
Guy Hopkins Construction Co.
Governor and Mrs. Bobby Jindal
Mr. and Mrs. Francis C. Jumonville Jr. '73
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Kirby '80
Mr. D. Ben Kleinpeter+
Mr. and Mrs. Gary J. Lacombe
Lamar Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. Brandon P. Landry '97
Mrs. Frances L. Landry+
L.A.S.B.C., Inc.
Mr. Richard H. Lea Jr. '77
Mr. and Mrs. V. Price LeBlanc Sr.+
Mrs. Barbara E. LeGrange
Mr. Ulyesse J. LeGrange '48+
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald H. Marchand Charitable Trust
Mrs. Mary L. McCoy
Dr. and Mrs. Tom J. Meek Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Mockler
Moreau Physical Therapy
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin C. Moreau III '92
Mr. Daniel R. Murray '63
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin M. Ortego '79
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Ourso+
Mr. and Mrs. J. Clifford Ourso Sr. '26+
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Panepinto '70
Dr. Claude J. Patin+
Estate of Dr. Claude J. Patin+
Mr. and Mrs. William W. Pecue II '78
Mr. and Mrs. F. Jay Poché Jr.
Mrs. Camilla R. Pugh
Dr. and Mrs. Vincent O. Rachal
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Reymond '14+
Mr. and Mrs. John F. Robichaux '62
Mr. and Mrs. Michael O. Rourke
Dr. Fred J. Ruiz Sr. '45+
Mr. and Mrs. M. Wesley Salmon '91
Dr. and Mrs. Carlton H. Sheely II
Shell Oil Company
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Sherman
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Smith '01
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Steele II
Mr. and Mrs. W. Martin Svendson '73
Mr. and Mrs. Jorge L. Tarajano '80
Mr. Charest D. Thibaut+
Mrs. Charest D. "Pigeon" Thibaut Jr.
United Networks of America
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick C. Valluzzo '99
Dr. and Mrs. Richard R. Vath

+ Deceased
**** New Perpetual Founder or Giving Level Increase***

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 189

FIRST-TIME FOUNDERS

Being a Founder at Catholic High School is a prestigious honor representing a commitment of $2,000 within a fiscal year. We deeply appreciate our Founders, whose generous contributions significantly enhance our students educational experiences, providing them with the resources and confidence to excel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Allen
Mr. Steven Anderson
Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. Augusta III '86
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana
Bold Strategies
Mr. and Mrs. Trent R. Bondy '98
Ms. Kelli D. Bottger
Mr. Jean-Pierre Boulanger '08
Mr. and Mrs. Brennan Bourg Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Brewer
Dr. and Mrs. B. Joseph Brooks Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Broussard '88
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Butler '02
Cocreham Brick and Stone, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Conley
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey C. Fernandez '92
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C. Fetterman '94
First Horizon Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Foreman
Mr. Jorge L. Gonzalez '91
Cecil Graves State Farm
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Holloway Jr.
Mr. Michael McDowell '13
Mercedes-Benz of Baton Rouge
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Misuraca Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Nugent
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Overton
Parish Construction and Roofing
Mr. and Mrs. Duc Phan
Mr. Edward B. Picou Jr. '49
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Plauche
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Rabb '77
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt D. Ristroph '12
Ryan, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. Bennett C. Saia '90
Mr. and Mrs. Garrett M. Schram '02
Miss Claire Ellen Stephens
Mr. and Mrs. Mawe Takyi
Tarajano Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Terito Jr.
Mr. George Thibodeaux
Trey Ourso & Associates
United Rentals Branch G99
Mrs. Klaire Verbois
Dr. Pamela Simmons and Mr. Jacob Wilkerson

YOUNG FOUNDERS

Catholic High School proudly acknowledges those recognized as Young Founders graduating 15 years or less. We are grateful for their dedication and support—having donated $1,000 or more as of June 30, 2025.

Mr. J. Benton Alford, Jr. '17
Mr. Benjamin J. Brayer '13
Mr. M. Scott Daigle '10
Mr. John Eric Ginn '17
Mr. Bradley Katzmarzyk '14
Mr. Theodore R. Lieux '12
Mr. Michael C. McDowell '13
Mr. N. Wells Richard '11
Mr. Kurt Ristroph '12
Mr. Bennett Saia '20
Mr. Andrew Schoonmaker '17
Mr. Brian D. Tucker '12
Mr. Joseph L. Vinning '10
Mr. Curtis G. Westmoland '14

CONSECUTIVE FOUNDERS

Thank you to the following members who have reached the Founders level of giving consecutively for 20 years or more. Members of the Consecutive Founders are listed below.

20 - 24 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Boudreaux '59
Cajun Industries
Mr. and Sonny Calandro '58
Capitol City Produce
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Carville '76
CHS Men's Club
Mr. and Mrs. Blane Clark '77
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ferachi '84
Dr. Paul Waguespack '85
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wesley Salmon '91
Mr. Pete and Mrs. Elizabeth Hymel
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Nelson '79

25 - 29 YEARS

Margie and Ralph Alexander
Dr. and Mrs. Greg Brandao '73
Colonel James Coerver '46
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Deumite
Mr. and Mrs. Michael DiVincenti '73
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Jolly '75
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Kim Morgan
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Randow
Mr. Bill and Mrs. Cynthia Steele

30 - 34 YEARS

CHS Mothers' Club
Mr. and Mrs. David DiVincenti '70
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Faulk
Mrs. and Mrs. Ralph Stephens '73

35 - 39 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Bonnecaze '65
Mr. David Butler '77
Donna and Jerry Jolly '70
Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Jumonville '73

40 YEARS+ GIVING

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Ellis '65

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENDOWMENTS *updates*

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED IN THE 2025 CALENDAR YEAR

Marcelian F. Gautreaux III '71 Endowed Scholarship
Marion John Bahlinger '42 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
The CHS Class of 1991 Scholarship Fund
The CHS Class of 1992 Scholarship Fund
The CHS Class of 2000 Scholarship Fund
The Father Gregory J. Daigle '77 Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Harvey Family Scholarship Fund

NEW DESIGNATED ENDOWMENTS CREATED IN THE 2025 CALENDAR YEAR

Fruge Family Endowment
The CHS Class of 1973 Tomorrow Fund

TOP 10 SCHOLARSHIPS ALL-TIME CONTRIBUTIONS

CHS Golf Classic Endowed Scholarship
Perry Thomas Fischer Memorial Endowed Scholarship
CHS Alumni Fishing Rodeo Endowed Scholarship
CHS Class of 1973 Endowed Scholarship/
CHS Class of 1973 50-Year Reunion Endowed Scholarship
Brother Eldon Crifasi, S.C. '39 Endowed Scholarship
Jacob Matthew Meek '17 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Bryan P. Boudet '92 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Mildred Creaghan Robichaux and Gertrude Creaghan Endowed Scholarship
Barbara E. and Ulyesse J. LeGrange '48 Endowed Scholarship
Brent David Pecue '80 Memorial Endowed Scholarship

TOP 10 ENDOWMENTS ALL-TIME CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Gregory A. Brandao '73 Faculty and Staff Endowment (Board Designated)
The Bernhard Endowment
The Evelyn, Jerry and Brian Davis '89 Endowment
Brother Francis David, SC Endowment (Board Designated)
Jared V. Rachal '99 Endowment
Men's Club Endowment Fund
The Gerald E. Tullier Faculty and Staff Enhancement Endowment (Board Designated)
Gary J. and Lynette I. Lacombe Endowment
Brother Donnan Berry Memorial Faculty Enhancement Endowment (Board Designated)
The CHS Class of 1975 Endowment

TOP 5 CHS CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS OR ENDOWMENTS ALL-TIME CONTRIBUTIONS

CHS Class of 1973 Endowed Scholarship/CHS Class of 1973 50-Year Reunion Endowed Scholarship.....$267,751
CHS Class of 1982 Endowed Scholarship.....$126,320
CHS Class of 1998 Endowed Scholarship.....$111,699
CHS Class of 1975 Endowment.....$90,935
CHS Class of 1970 Endowed Scholarship.....$81,350

TOP 5 CHS CLASS SCHOLARSHIP/ ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS (JUL 1 - DEC 31)

The CHS Class of 1971 Endowment Scholarship.....$19,529
The CHS Class of 2000 Scholarship Fund..... $8,625
The CHS Class of 1998 Endowment Scholarship..... $7,177
The CHS Class of 1992 Scholarship Fund.....$4,225
The CHS Class of 1982 Endowed Scholarship..... $2,138

TOP 10 SCHOLARSHIPS/ ENDOWMENTS OUTSIDE OF CHS CLASSES (JUL 1 - DEC 31)

Marcelian F. Gautreaux III '71 Endowed Scholarship
Marion John Bahlinger '42 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Mildred Creaghan Robichaux and Gertrude Creaghan Endowed Scholarship
Beale Family Endowed Scholarship
Cusick Family Endowed Scholarship
Miller Family Endowed Scholarship
Dr. Jerry '66 & Mrs. Nancy Fourrier Scholarship Fund
Bryan P. Boudet '92 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Jacob Matthew Meek '17 Memorial Endowed Scholarship
The Margie Arceneaux Alexander Endowment

****Denotes increased ranking.***

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

THE *Pennington Family* FOUNDATION

By Margie Alexander

Catholic High School is very happy to announce that the Pennington Family Foundation once again awarded a grant to the school. The grant is awarded for The Hearth: A Student Success Center. The Hearth, the former library, is located near the Centennial Courtyard which is the heart of the Catholic High School campus. The newly established Student Success Center, is a dynamic hub designed to create a holistic experience for every student at CHS.

This student-focused space offers a welcoming environment where learners can make up missed tests in a quiet, supervised setting, receive personalized peer tutoring, and attend specialized math lab sessions tailored to reinforce key concepts. Beyond subject-specific support, the center provides targeted resources to help students strengthen executive functioning skills such as organization, time management, self-reflection, perseverance, attention to detail, task initiation, and self-control.

In addition, The Hearth offers resources and support to help students navigate the metacognition cycle which will help them find their individual success in each class by assessing a task, evaluating strengths and weaknesses, plan an approach, and apply strategies.

The Hearth provides meeting spaces and materials for social engagement in small and large group settings. Staffed by dedicated educators and trained peer mentors, the Student Success Center fosters a culture of collaboration, resilience, and growth—ensuring that every student has the tools and guidance he needs for holistic development. Most important, the center will provide guidance for students who struggle academically by providing a hub for student engagement, tutoring, and enrichment across disciplines. Textbooks, reference materials, educational games, academic journals, e-books, and online learning tools are provided.

Claude B. "Doc" Pennington and his wife, Irene Wells Pennington, officially created the Pennington Foundation in 1982, but the story actually begins in the early 1920s. Doc Pennington began his career as a laborer in the Louisiana oil and gas industry but soon decided to follow in his father's footsteps and pursue a practice in the field of optometry.



Following his father's passing, Doc Pennington returned to his original passion - the oil and gas industry. He purchased Mount Pleasant Plantation, which later became adjacent to one of the largest oil and gas finds in Louisiana history.

Mr. and Mrs. Pennington were adamant in sharing their success with the community and today the board of trustees for the Foundation assures that continues to happen. As mentioned on the web page, the Foundation "strives to continue to not just identify problems in our community, but to identify the unique assets of the South, and to invest in creative solutions that create impact in Louisiana and the world." We are very grateful for this grant as it allows the school to fund this special project that is not included in the school's operating budget.

Brother Donnan Berry, LEGACY PARTNERS

Mrs. Margie Alexander
Mr. and Mrs. James G. Arbour '73
Mr. Sidney V. Arbour Jr. '31 +
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Arrighi Sr. '73
Mr. John A. Bani '38 +
Mr. James M. Bernhard Sr. '43 +
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Bogan III '73
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick C. Brady
Dr. and Mrs. Gregory A. Brandao '73
Dr. James W. Briggs '65
Mr. Huey P. Brown '58 +
Mrs. Elsie Carville +
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Clements Jr. '73
Mr. George S. Covert '73
Mr. Frank J. Culotta Jr. '59 +
Dr. and Dr. Nelson P. Daly '73
Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. LeLatin '73
Mr. and Mrs. M. David DiVincenti Sr. '70
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. DiVincenti Jr. '73
Mr. and Mrs. Hal Dupuy '73
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65
Dr. and Mrs. Quentin D. Falgoust '61
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Faulk III
Dr. and Mrs. Brian E. Galante '92
Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Galante
Dr. and Mrs. William Gallmann III '73
Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Gerald Jr. '76
Mr. Robert S. Greer Jr. +
F. Joseph Guerin Jr. '48 +
Lt. Col. Stephen H. Harmon Jr. '58 +
Mr. Terry V. Hatter '73
Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Hebert Jr. '64
Mr. and Mrs. Stan I. Heine '73
Mr. and Mrs. Brent S. Honoré '76
Mr. P. William Huey Jr. '65
Mr. and Mrs. J. Gerard Jolly '70
Mr. and Mrs. Francis C. Jumonville Jr. '73
Mr. and Mrs. R. Patrick Kelleher Jr. '83
Mr. and Mrs. Wedge L. Kyes Jr. '70
Mrs. Helen Langlois +
Mr. Stanford P. Lemoine '73
Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Leon Jr. '73
Dr. William H. Lindsey Jr. '45 +
Mr. Stephen C. Losavio Sr. '73
Dr. and Mrs. Tom J. Meek Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Melancon Jr.
Mr. P. J. Mills Jr. '51 +
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald H. Marchand Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Jess L. McHugh '73
Mr. and Mrs. John H. McMillan III '73
Mr. and Mrs. Clifton N. Ourso
Mr. Milton M. Ourso Jr. +
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen I. Pastorek '73
Dr. Claude J. Patin +
Mr. Alton J. Pertuit Jr. '58
Mr. Russell Pesson '73
Mr. and Mrs. Philip B. Polito '73
Mrs. Laura Redden Reymond +
Dr. and Dr. O. Lonnie Roberts Jr. '58
Mr. Donald L. Simoneaux Sr. '54 +
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Stephens '73
Mr. and Mrs. W. Martin Svendson '73
Mr. Eric J. Vicknair '75
Mr. and Mrs. W. Randolph Watts Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Whatley '71
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie P. Wilbert '73

***Members of the "Tomorrow Fund"**







THE CLASS OF 1977 *Mission Cross*

Members of the Class of 1977 announced their plans to leave a lasting legacy on our campus with the construction of The CHS Class of 1977 Mission Cross. The cross will stand nearly 25 feet tall in front of our school serving as a daily reminder of who [illegible] prayer, and of commitment to the values that unite our young men in faith, scholarship, leadership, and service.

The sculpture will be installed and dedicated on Foundation Day, September 30, 2026, signifying 50 years since the Class of '77 began their senior year at CHS. A heartfelt thank you goes out to these dedicated Bears for this special addition to campus that our school community will enjoy for years to come.

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

THE MARION JOHN BAHLINGER '42 *Endowed Scholarship*

BY JAMIE SEGAR '90



To honor the legacy of their late father, Ann Bahlinger Bernard, SJA '77, John [illegible] Marion John Bahlinger, Catholic High School Class of 1942 established the Marion John Bahlinger '42 Memorial Endowed Scholarship on September 30, 2025.

Dedicated to living a life of profound faith, Marion John Bahlinger [illegible] loving family. His life story stands as a testament to patriotism, resilience, service to his country and community, and above all, his unwavering trust in God, shared throughout his life with his beloved wife, Betty.

Marion was raised in a deeply rooted Catholic family. He began his education at Sacred Heart School before transferring to Catholic High School in the 4th grade, graduating in 1942. He [illegible] with the United States Army's 106th Infantry Division during World War II. In December 1944, he was captured during the Battle of the Bulge and held in Stalag IV-B in Marburg, Germany.

"Daddy had the same strong faith throughout his life and never lost his faith even when captured during the Battle of the Bulge," shared Ann, Marion's eldest daughter. "He told us he prayed the rosary the entire night before the 106th surrendered to the Germans and prayed the rosary continuously in the prison camps."

His prayers were answered when the 106th Infantry Division was liberated in Zietz, Germany, on April 13, 1945. After returning from the war, Marion received his bachelor's degree from Spring Hill College, then completed his post-graduate studies at St. Louis University. Following his post-graduate studies, Marion spent ten years, as part of his Jesuit novitiate teaching at Jesuit High School in Dallas, Texas. Eventually discerning that his vocation was family life, he left the seminary and married his high school sweetheart, Elizabeth "Betty" Klein. Together, they raised their [illegible] attend Catholic schools through high school.

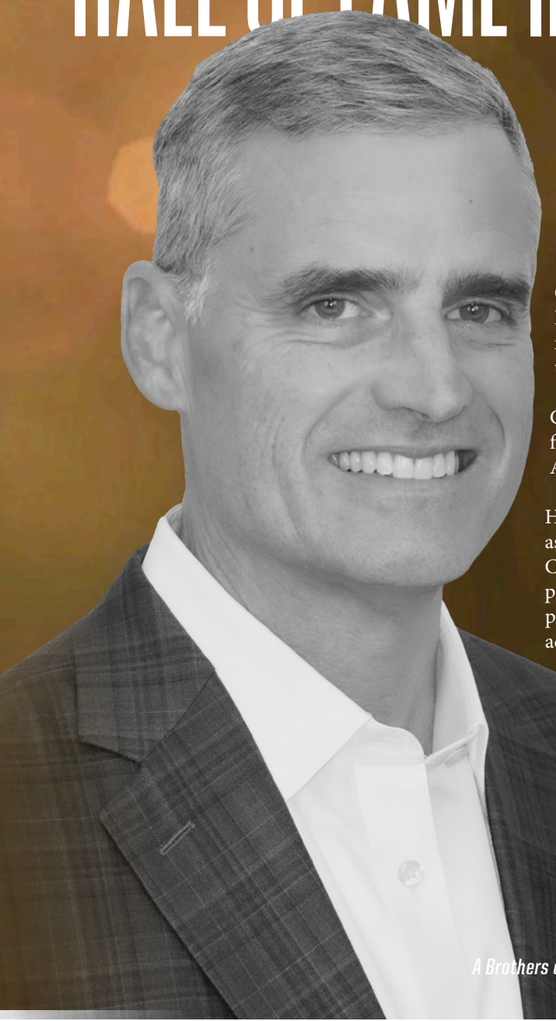
Marion and Betty's commitment to Catholic education continued through the next generation. All six of their grandchildren attended St. Aloysius and graduated from either Catholic High School or St. Joseph's Academy: [illegible] Surek '17, and Claire Surek '19 from SJA.

[illegible] declining health, he never missed Sunday Mass. His love for Betty was evident in the gentle care he provided as she faced dementia. Together they prayed the rosary daily, often sitting side by side on the couch or watching Mass on [illegible] of life.

"To be able to establish this scholarship in Daddy's name is a blessing and a gift to our parents, who gave up so much for our Catholic education," mentioned Ann.

Through the establishment of the Marion John Bahlinger '42 Memorial Endowed Scholarship, the Bahlinger family ensures that their father's values—and his deep belief in the mission of Catholic education—will continue to impact CHS students for generations to come. Catholic High School is deeply grateful for their generosity and for the privilege of honoring Marion's remarkable life through this enduring scholarship.

40TH ANNUAL FOUNDERS BANQUET AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY



HONORING MR. THOMAS A. "TIM" BARFIELD JR. '82

Catholic High School held its 40th Annual Founders Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on December 4, 2025. Nearly 300 guests gathered to honor the many men and women who so graciously dedicate their time, talent, and investment to support CHS.

Guests were greeted with beautiful Christmas caroling and the opening prayer from the CHS and SJA Choir before Mr. Ben DiPalma '00, CHS Director of Advancement, gave the opening remarks.

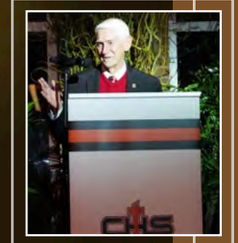
Hall of Fame and Perpetual Founders members in attendance were recognized as well as volunteer leaders, first-time founders, and consecutive founders who supported CHS at the $2,000 annual giving level during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Young founders present were also recognized. Following, Dr. Tom Eldringhoff, in his third year as principal, recapped a successful school year and presented his State-of-the-School address. He praised the dedication and sacrifice of the CHS faculty and staff and presented this year's Open House video. Dinner was catered by City Group Hospitality.

This celebration of generosity was followed by the induction of the 2025 CHS Hall of Fame honoree, ***Mr. Thomas A. "Tim" Barfield Jr. '82***. CHS President, Mrs. Lisa Harvey gave her address of highlighting Tim's incredible generosity not only to CHS, but to the greater Baton Rouge community, then the crowd enoyed a tribute video showcasing Tim's dedication to Catholic High School and the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.













Donors who support Catholic High School during the 2025-2026 fiscal year (July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026) at the $2,000 Founders level and above will receive an invitation to the 41st Annual Catholic High School Founders Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction to take place on Thursday, December 3, 2026.

Do you know someone worthy of this distinction into the CHS Hall of Fame? Nominations will be accepted from now until August 1, 2026. Go to catholichigh.org/halloffame to submit your nomination form for an upcoming honoree.



ABOUT TIM

Mr. Thomas A. "Tim" Barfield Jr. '82 currently serves as the President of CSRS, LLC, a Baton Rouge–based architectural and engineering consulting firm, which was acquired by Westwood Professional Services in June 2025. In January 2026, he assumed the role of Senior Vice President of Program Management at Westwood, one of the nation's fastest-growing architecture and engineering firms headquartered in Plano, Texas.

Prior to joining CSRS, Tim held several senior roles in Louisiana state government, including Secretary of the Department of Revenue, Executive Counsel to the Governor, and Executive Director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

In the private sector, he has served in executive leadership positions at two publicly traded companies, including roles as president, chief operating officer, chief development officer, general counsel, and managing director of European operations.

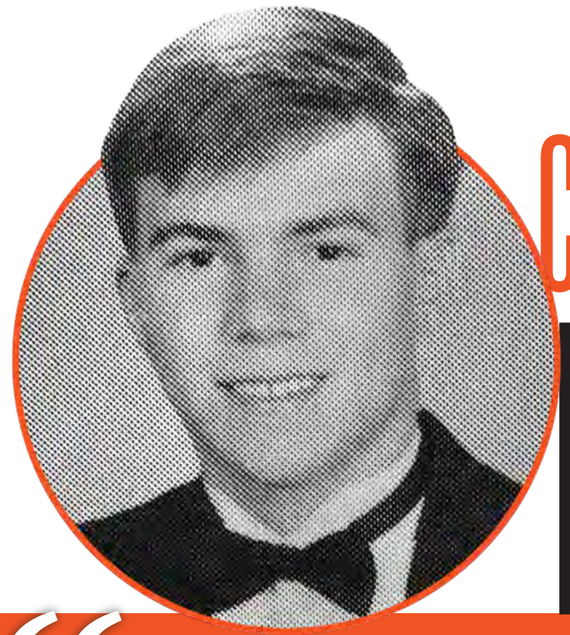
Tim began his career as an attorney, serving as a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Frank J. Polozola, a CHS alumnus from the Class of 1959 and Hall of Fame member. He later practiced as an associate with a national law firm, where he focused on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic transactions.

As an active community leader, he has served on the boards of several educational, community, and nonprofit organizations, including the CHS Foundation.

Tim attended Louisiana State University, where he earned a B.S. in Business Administration and a J.D. from the Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

Tim and his wife, Nan, have four children: Thomas, CHS Class of 2014, and his wife Lily live in Houston, Texas; Ann Marie and her husband Eric Dworkin live in Dallas, Texas; Clare lives in New York City; and Daniel, CHS Class of 2020, lives in New York City. Tim's father, Tommy, was a member of the CHS Class of 1953 and his grandfather, Danny, attended St. Vincent's Academy.

A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 2026
DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE
DEREK FIFE '96

> Catholic High challenged me to grow not only academically, but spiritually and as a leader. Being recognized as a Distinguished Graduate is both humbling and inspiring, and it motivates me to continue serving and giving back to Catholic High and all Catholic schools so other students can have the same opportunities I was given.



CHS administrators, faculty, and community leaders gathered on January 26, 2026, to honor this year's Distinguished Graduate, Mr. Derek Fife '96, at a special recognition dinner.

CHS Principal Dr. Tom Eldringhoff noted that Derek was selected for his unwavering commitment to professional excellence, strong personal values, outstanding character, and service to the broader community—qualities that reflect the mission and tradition of Catholic education.

"Derek's commitment to his community, especially to Catholic High School, is exceptional," said Ben DiPalma '00, Director of Advancement. "Whether he is supervising a construction project, helping the school navigate a repair, or simply offering advice and perspective, he is always ready to lend his support."

A 1996 graduate of CHS, Derek Fife serves as President and Co-Owner of Arkel Constructors, overseeing all aspects of the company's operations.

He contributes his leadership to several boards, including St. Joseph's Academy, the Foundation for Woman's Hospital, and the Baton Rouge Volleyball and Basketball Association, where he currently serves as president.

Derek and his wife, Elizabeth, are the parents of three children: Ella, Charlotte, and Bradley, a current senior at Catholic High School.

Each year, every Catholic school in the Diocese of Baton Rouge selects one alumnus as its Distinguished Graduate—an honor reserved for individuals who have made meaningful and lasting contributions to their school, church, and community. CHS is proud to recognize Derek Fife '96 for his exceptional achievements and dedicated service.











2025 HOMECOMING TAILGATE



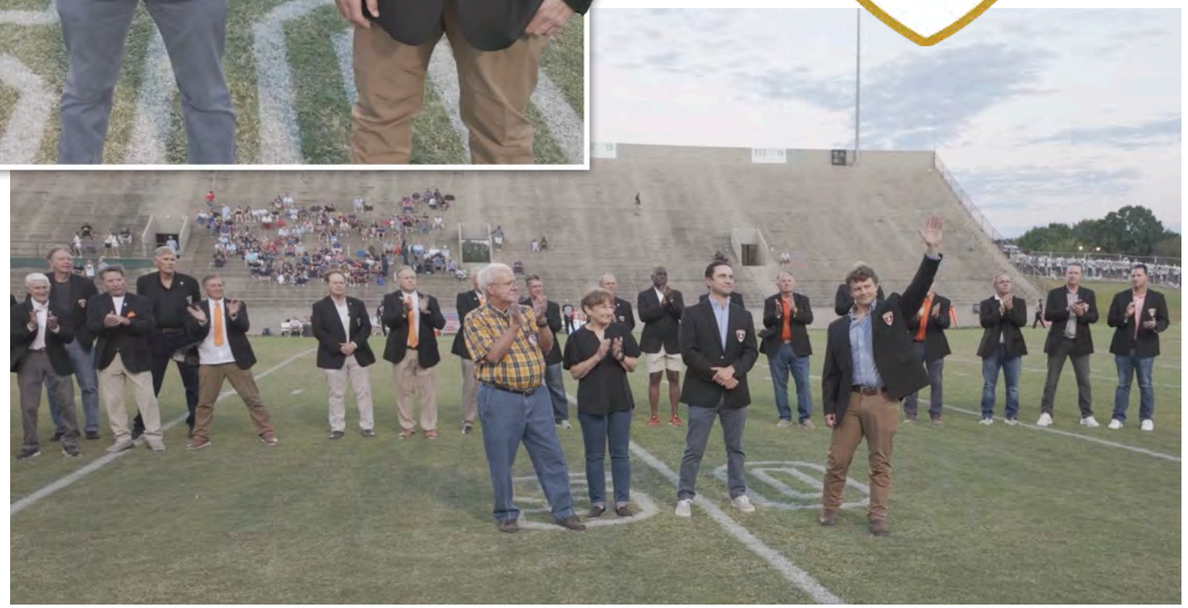
GRIZZLY GREATS

CHS alumni, family members, friends, and faculty members gathered at Memorial Stadium prior to the 2025 Homecoming Game for the annual Alumni Tailgate. The crowd enjoyed food cooked by CHS students in the Grizzly Hospitality Group, performances by the CHS Band and Bruinettes, and a celebration of our newest Grizzly Greats—David Brewerton '92, David Pollet '02, Mathew Mazoch '03, Chris Williams '03, and Kyle Jackson '07+. We were honored to be joined by the Jackson family who walked onto the field in honor of Kyle who passed away in 2022.

Thank you to all who came out to celebrate the Bears!

CHS ALUMNI TAILGATE HOMECOMING







THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

CELEBRITY THEATRES

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ITA Vents, Gutters & Shutters

Carolan BRICK

MARRERO EST. 1988 WEALTH

Price LeBlanc

PATIN CONSTRUCTION GROUP

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SouthernAIR COOLING · HEATING · PLUMBING · ELECTRICAL BATON ROUGE

JONES WALKER Kevin Ainsworth CHS Class of '92

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The NeuroMedical Center CLINIC Experts for the Brain, Spine, & Nervous System

CHS GOLF CLASSIC Presented by CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2025

BIRDIES & BOGIES WITH BEARS

The Catholic High School Alumni Association hosted the 2025 Golf Classic on Friday, September 26, at Santa Maria Golf Course. This year's event featured morning and afternoon flights complete with food and drinks along the course.

More than **280 golfers** came out helping us raise over **$65,000** to support the CHS Golf Classic Scholarship which provides tuition assistance to students based on financial need. Thank you to all our sponsors, especially our **Title Sponsor, Celebrity Theatres**. For details on our 2026 event, be sure to check out **catholichigh.org/golfclassic**.



AM Flight

1st Place Low Net
Jesse Romero '03
Matthew Miller '03
Kyle Hebert '03
Ryan Allen '03

1st Place Low Gross
Jeffrey Patin '89
Brandon Bueche '89
Gioire Manguno
Clayton Brown

Most Honest
Hugo Marrero '83
Malcom Zanca
Glenn Appleton
Scott Larson

Longest Drive
Joel Richard

Closest to the Hole
Charles Partin '99

Poker Run
Scott Larson
Tyler Simoneaux

PM Flight

1st Place Low Net
Stan Stolzenthaler '71
Randall Montalbano '71
James R. Davis '71
Daron Ourso '70

1st Place Low Gross
Guy Hymel '12
Jacob Watlington '12
Brian Anderson '12
Chris Sciambra '11

Most Honest
Kurt Boehringer '05
Blake Boehringer '07
Karl Boehringer '04
Bo Boehringer '71

Longest Drive
Grand Landry '08

Closest to the Hole
Brian Anderson '12

Poker Run
James Maness

SCAN HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT



CLAY SHOOT

On November 14, 2025, more than **120 CHS alumni and friends** gathered at the Bridgeview Gun Club in Port Allen for the CHS Alumni Association's annual Sporting Clay Shoot. It was a beautiful day to spend outdoors for the shooting competition which helped add **$25,000** to the Alumni Association's yearly donation to CHS.







THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Lipsey's · LUBA Workers Compensation · Angelle Materials · Salmon & Associates
Benny's Car Wash · Salco Construction · Ditch Witch · The Barn Pizza & More
Louisiana Land Bank · WBR Farm Bureau · Primary Care Plus · WBR Sheriff Jeff Bergeron
In Memory of Carl Gremillion '52 · Andrew Bernard '94 · First Horizon Bank
Corrosion Consultants LLC · Grizzly Greats · Camp Matens '60 & Barbara Matens
Mossy Oak Properties · Toby Willis-Edward Jones · Kramer Irby '97 · JR Construction
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Ourso Farms, Inc · SC Adjusting Services · DirtWorx · Heartwood Enterprises
Charles Carter Construction · Harvey Honore & Co.

TITLE SPONSOR

TSC logistics

2025 WINNERS





JUNIOR

1st Place
Luke Schulze '26
Luke McKnight '27
Grey Loup '27
Stefan Schexnayder

2nd Place
Jonathan Stephens '29
Bowman Irby '29
Bennett Irby '29
Bradley Frosch '28

3rd Place
Benjamin Templet '29
Mason Weber '29
Jackson Robin
Layne Lurry '29

Highest Overall
Luke Schulze '26

ADULT

1st Place
Johnny Rispone
Corey Gautreaux
Landon Turner
Shane Hernandez

2nd Place
Cullen Folley
Vince Trahan
Bill Corves
Matt Loup

3rd Place
Chris Landry '00
Drew Landry '05
Jeremy Powers
Taylor Mitchell

Highest Overall
Landon Turner

Highest Overall (Alumni)
Chris Landry '00

Long Bird Winner
Landon Turner

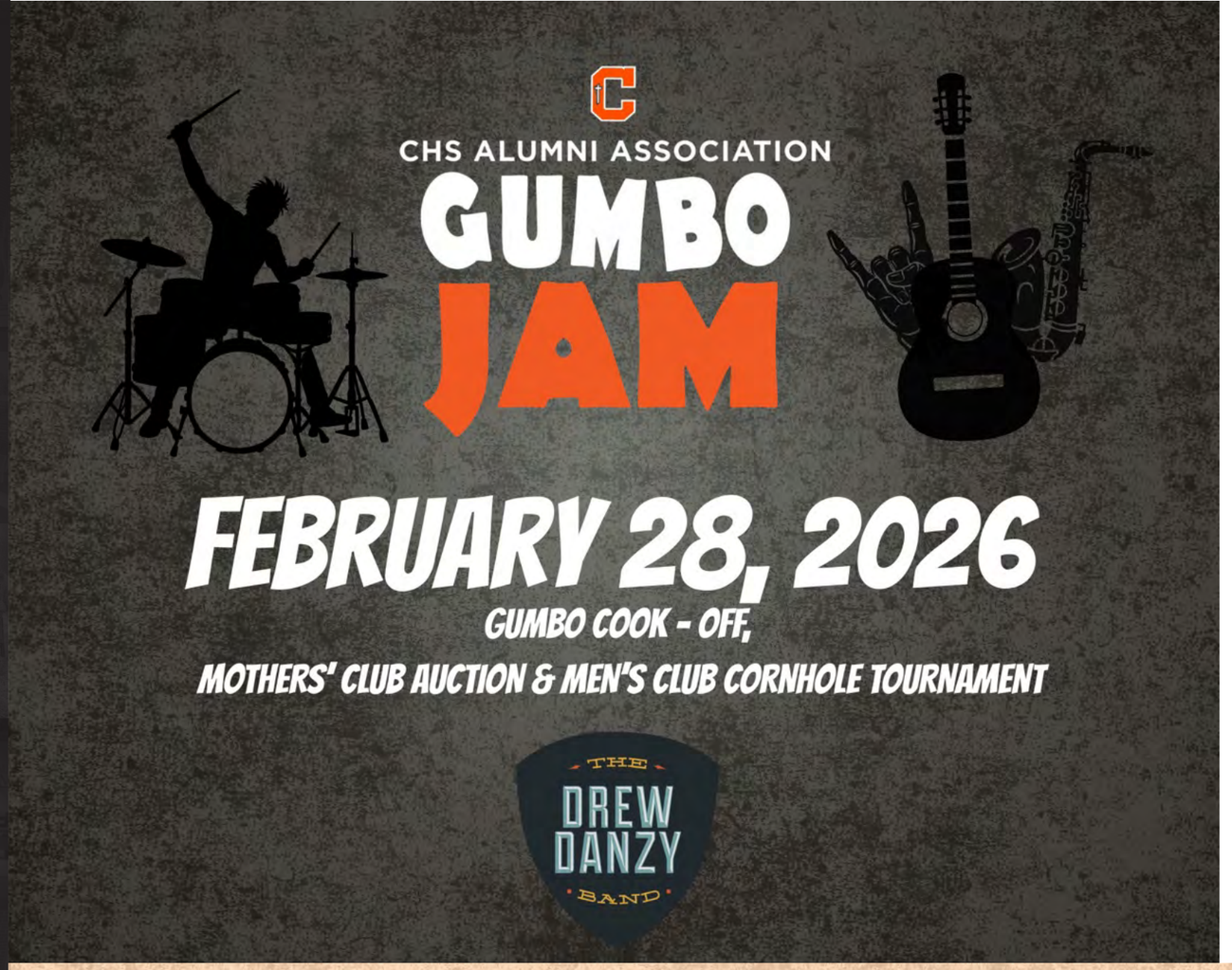
Alumni Board of Directors
2025 - 2026

Bart Saia ’91
Director of Alumni Relations
Joffre Meek ’16
Alumni Assoc. President
Cameron Hunt ’12
Alumni Assoc. President-Elect
Louis Angelloz ’11
Steven Berthelot ’92
Monty Buckles ’93
Steven Cheatham ’97
Madison Dillard ’14
Kyle Smith ’95
William Gauthier ’12
Dale LeBlanc ’95
David Alello ’95
Bryan Hart ’98
Joe LeBlanc ’72
Justin Mannino ’06
Tim Welborn ’92
Michael Wong ’01
Chris Landry ’00
John Paul Luckett III ’10

Nick Miller ’07 – Past President

Advancement: Ben DiPalma ’00, Jamie Segar ’90, Shelley Vance

Volunteer Corps:
Billy Aguillard ’70, Michael Brassett ’01, John Bugea ’00, John Cambre ’02, Stephen Fertitta ’06, C.J. Griffin ’08, Don Haney ’06, Brian Hightower ’97, Brandon Kelly ’00, Ken Litz ’75, John Paul Luckett ’81, Andrew Simon ’12, John Waggenspack ’18, Max Welborn ’18





ALUMNI *in the News*

1964 Judge Anthony Marabella (ret.)
a graduate of the CHS Class of 1964 and the LSU Law Class of 1973, was inducted into the Louisiana Justice Hall of Fame for his lifetime contributions to the criminal justice system.

.....

1970 Rick Bahlinger
publishes his first novel, *Mother Nature Hates To Lose*, a disaster novel of epic proportions that takes place in south Louisiana, but resonates across the country and around the world with devastating human, economic and environmental impact.



.....

1982 Lloyd Champagne, Stewart Gordon, John Politz
Three CHS Class of 1982 graduates at their 35-year LSU School of Medicine reunion in New Orleans.



.....

1982 Stephen Toups
is the CEO of Turner Industries and has been named a 2025 LSU Business School Hall of Distinction Inductee. Stephen has spent 28 years in leadership at Turner Industries, helping guide the company as a major force in industrial construction and maintenance across the Gulf Coast. He is also a respected industry leader, serving in key roles with NCCER, AFPM, and the ECC Association, and contributes to economic and community development through multiple Louisiana board positions.

.....

1991 Jeremy Woosley
was nominated for an Emmy Award for Outstanding Production Design for a Narrative Contemporary program and Supervising Art Director for the movie series The White Lotus.

1996 Kurt Ainsworth
Co-Founder and CEO of Marucci Sports has been named a 2025 LSU Business School Hall of Distinction Inductee. He launched Marucci from a backyard shed in 2004 and built it into the #1 bat brand in Major League Baseball. Under his leadership, Marucci has expanded globally, acquired major industry brands, and was sold for $572 million to Fox Factory Holding Corp. In 2025, Marucci and Victus secured the designation as the Official Bats of Major League Baseball.

.....

1997 Colin LaRose
recently joined IP law firm Guntin & Gust as patent counsel. Previously, he was a primary examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

.....

1999 Donnie Jones
was named to the LSU Tigers and Philadelphia Eagles All Quarter Century (2000-2024) Football Teams. Donnie was a four-year starter/letterman at LSU and went on to play 15 years in the NFL. He is also a member of the Catholic High School Grizzly Greats.

.....

2000 Michael Watts
and his wife wife, Kathy, welcomed their son, Nolan.



.....

2001 Clay Achee
is making his mark in children's television and the creative arts. A Baton Rouge native, Clay spent a decade in the Louisiana film industry before creating Ziggy and The Junkyard Band, which launched on LPB in 2021 as Ziggy's Arts Adventure. Whether building imaginative worlds or bringing puppets to life, he blends realism with magic to inspire young viewers. Clay has also collaborated extensively with Michael Russo in film and sound production, including operating Building Studios, an ADR/Foley studio formerly located in Celtic Studios.

.....

2004 Elliot Hutchinson
accepts the role of Executive Director of Communications and Community Affairs with NOLA Public Schools.

2004 Michael Kleinpeter
Congratulations to Vice President of Moore Industries, Michael Kleinpeter, for being named one of the *2025 Baton Rouge Business Report Forty Under 40* honorees.



.....

2005 DIxon McMakin
LSU chose State Rep. Dixon McMakin of Baton Rouge as the new public address announcer for games at Tiger Stadium. McMakin will also handle PA duties at LSU.



.....

2006 Justin Mannino
Congratulations to Taylor Porter Partner Justin T. Mannino for being named one of the *2025 Baton Rouge Business Report Forty Under 40* honorees.



.....

2006 Dr. Gary Walker
Congratulations to NeuroMedical Center Vascular Neurologist, Dr. Gary Walker '06, for being named one of the *2025 Baton Rouge Business Report Forty Under 40* honorees.

.....

2008 Trent Fresina
Congratulations to Trent Fresina, Owner, LeBlanc & Fresina Builders, Neighborhood Health, and Our Mom's Restaurant & Bar for being named one of the *2025 Baton Rouge Business Report Forty Under 40* honorees.

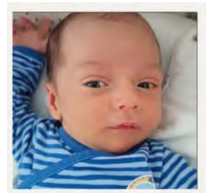


2010 Brad Nelson
is currently serving in the United States Peace Corps as an Education volunteer in rural Jamaica. His primary job is to support students who are struggling with reading and to help build the capacity of local teachers. In addition to teaching, he is using his football coaching background to help expand American football across the island. He combined two local high schools to form the first American Football team ever in St. Mary parish and will be competing this fall against teams across the country. Other projects include renovating the library, creating a functional computer lab, and constructing a covered pathway at the school.



.....

2011 Michael Kron
and his wife gave birth to a son, Leon Jacques Warren Kron. Leon was born on September 18, 2025, in Bayonne, France.



.....

2012 William Gauthier
and his wife Alli Beth, welcomed their son, Hampton Ward Gauthier, on October 27, 2025. Hampton was born at Woman's Hospital and weighed 8.6 pounds.



.....

2008 Matt Arrighi, 2009 Steven Duhe, 2010 Trenton Ball, 2010 Andrew Pecue, 2010 Andrew Rabalais
As a result of their outstanding commitment and fundraising for Hogs for the Cause, team Bark & Bite BBQ was recently honored with a room dedicated in their team's name at the Hogs for the Cause Family Support Home at OLOL Children's Hospital. Team Bark & Bite BBQ has raised over $300,000 in the past three years for Hogs for the Cause with the mission of supporting families with children battling pediatric brain cancer and other medical challenges. Since opening, the Hogs House has welcomed more than 460 families to stay for free while their child is receiving care at OLOL Children's Hospital.

ALUMNI *in the News*

2010 Camren Esch
married Samantha Ferrara on December 14, 2025. Camren is a BSN, RN in the emergency room at Our Lady of the Lake Children's Hospital.



.....

2016 Daniel Gunn
LSU Law-Selected for Class of 2025 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

.....

2016 Thomas Kadair
was the recipient of the 2025 Parade of Homes People's Choice Award! Owner of Kadair Construction in Baton Rouge, after graduating from LSU, Thomas began his career as a superintendent with one of Louisiana's largest and most recognizable homebuilders, Level Homes. During this time, he oversaw more than 100 new construction homes—giving him a unique perspective and valuable experience with complex new construction, renovation, and commercial projects. Branching off to begin his own company, he now leads all residential and commercial construction projects within his company and oversees an experienced network of project managers, tradesmen, subcontractors, and vendors.



.....

2017 Benton Alford
LSU Law-Selected for Class of 2025 Dean's Award for Leadership.

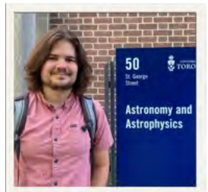
.....

2018 Jacob Fereday
has been sworn in by the State of Tennessee as an Assistant District Attorney, 11th Judicial District. He will serve in Chattanooga as a prosecutor for Hamilton County. Jacob received his Juris Doctor degree from Memphis Law in 2025, earning a Certificate in Advocacy and honors in Trial Advocacy and The Order of Barristers. He completed his undergraduate studies at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2022.

2021 James Robert III
is turning challenge into purpose. Born without fingers on his left hand, he has used his experience to inspire and help others with limb differences. A recent LSU graduate, James is pursuing a master's degree in prosthetics and health care administration while serving as chief print technologist at Make Good NOLA, where he helps create custom prosthetics for children.

.....

2021 Christian Thompson
graduated Summa Cum Laude from Arizona State University in May 2025 with a bachelor's degree in Astrophysics and a minor in Data Science. During his four years at ASU he worked on research to improve the capabilities of high-altitude balloon-borne telescopes, culminating in an undergraduate thesis. Christian was awarded a fellowship with the Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics at the University of Toronto, where he is currently pursuing a PhD in Astrophysics with emphasis in astronomical instrumentation.



.....

2022 Ben Herman, Liam Carruth, Hap Heroman
Service assignments for the United States Naval Academy. From left: Ben Herman (Pilot), Liam Carruth (Surface Warfare), (Nuclear), and Hap Heroman (Naval Flight Officer).



.....

2023 Hunter Hamilton and Tyler Morris
LSUS places two boats in top 50 at the Bassmaster College National Championship. CHS graduates, Hunter and Tyler, totaled a two-day weight of 23-9 to place 27th.



Bears Return to Campus

Catholic High School was buzzing with activity this past summer as alumni from across decades returned to campus to reconnect and celebrate the bonds formed during their years as Bears.The weekend began with a special gathering for our earliest alumni. The Golden Bear Brunch, honoring graduates from the Classes of 1960 and prior, was held on July 18, 2025. It was a warm and joyful morning filled with stories, familiar faces, and a strong sense of CHS history and tradition.

Later that same day, CHS hosted the reunions for the Classes of 1995, 2005, and 2015. Each class brought its own energy and excitement, filling the evening with stories, laughter, and the easy camaraderie that comes from shared traditions. Friends picked up right where they left off, and the campus once again echoed with familiar voices and memories.

The celebration continued July 19, 2025, when the Class of 1985 gathered for its 40-Year Reunion. The group enjoyed an evening of reflection, reconnection, and plenty of fun as classmates looked back on four decades of life since CHS while appreciating the friendships that have stood the test of time.

Hosting these reunions on campus allowed alumni to revisit the places that shaped their CHS experience and to see firsthand how their alma mater continues to grow. It was a meaningful, lively summer that reminded us just how strong the Bear brotherhood remains.

Summer of CLASS REUNIONS



1942



1995



2005



1965



2000



2015



2026 FISHING RODEO

SAVE THE DATE
JUNE 4-6, 2026
FOURCHON MARINA



A Brothers of the Sacred Heart School Since 1894

CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOSTS CLE

The CHS Alumni Association hosted its annual Continuing Legal Education (CLE) session on December 22, 2025. More than 80 legal practitioners joined us to learn more about the legal impacts of legislative changes, public service commission updates, and the need-to-knows about bankruptcy law. Thank you to our presenters Justin Bello '06, Dale Cronin '86, Justin Mannino '06, Dixon McMakin '05, Cameron Murray '15, Dwayne Murray, Paul Rachal, and Braeden Smith '16 for sharing their expertise with our legal community!

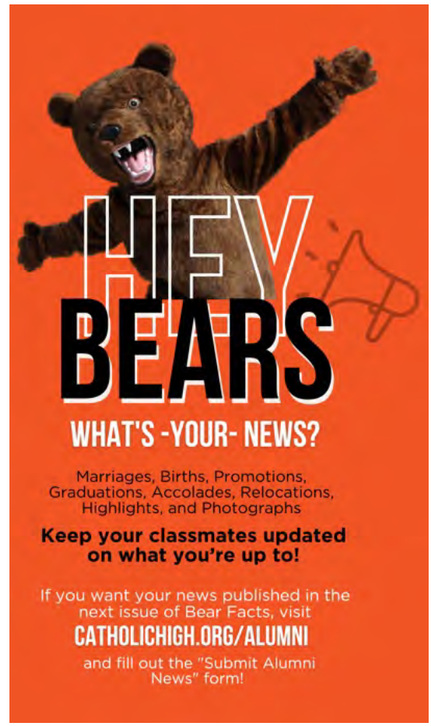












MEMORIAL *and* HONORARY GIFTS

THERE ARE MANY special occasions during our lives when we choose to memorialize or honor in a special way those we hold dear. The following are acknowledged for the gifts to Catholic High School from June 30, 2025 to December 31, 2025, in honor or memory of loved ones. Please remember these alumni and friends, as well as their families, in your prayers.

Memorial Gifts

Mrs. Marilyn Allgood
Mr. Malcom Adams
Mr. Julius Grubbs
Ms. Katie Higgins

Mr. Douglas Authemat
Dr. and Mrs. Kent M. Rhodes

Mr. Carl E. Babin
Babin and DeNicola, APLC

Dr. Louis J. Barbato Jr. '64
Dr. and Mrs. William F. Hagemann
Ms. Susan Messina

Mr. Gordon L. Bargas Jr. '51
Crawford Foundation
Mr. And Mrs. Randall Morton
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Purgeson
Suzanne and Gray Sexton

Brother Donnan Berry, S.C.
Mr. and Mrs. Rudy C. Valenciano

Mr. Bryan P. Boudet '92
Mr. Jeffrey Pizzo

Mr. Vincent Cannatella
Mr. and Mrs. M. Davis DiVincenti Sr. '70

Mr. Samuel C. Carraway '65
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65
Mr. and Mrs. Rudy C. Valenciano

Mrs. Syliva Darce
Mr. Ryan O. Neustrom '00

Mr. J. Dawson '71
Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Boehringer Jr. '71

Mr. Stewart L. Dietrich '40
Mr. Daryl J. Dietrich

Mr. Samuel W. DiVincenti Sr. '67
Mr. and Mrs. M. David DiVincenti Sr. '70

Mr. Steve Fourrier '61
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65
Mr. and Mrs. Rudy C. Valenciano

Mr. David I. Fremin '82
Mr. and Mrs. T. Flint Virgets '78

Mr. Leslie P. Gatz '64
Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Pam Arnold
Mr. Randolph J. Bonnecase '65 and Mrs. Carol G. Bonnecaze
Mrs. Nellie Broussard
Ms. Ann Margaret Deavers
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65
Mr. John C. Hamilton Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon J. Hebert
Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Hebert Jr. '64
Mr. Barry and Mrs. Leslie Kilpatrick
Mr. Linton J. Naquin Jr.

Mr. Leslie P. Gatz '64
Mr. and Mrs. Jay J. Noel IV '87
Mr. CW and Mrs. Carolyn Stutts

Mrs. Charles A. Gogreve III '64
Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Hebert Jr. '64

Mr. Michael Gomez
Mr. and Mrs. Don Chance

Mr. Carl W. Gremillion Sr. '52
Mr. Ernest A. Gremillion '54

Mr. James Arthur Gremillion '51
Mr. Ernest A. Gremillion '54

Mrs. Margaret Gremillion
Mr. Ernest A. Gremillion '54

Mr. George B. Guttner '64
PKT Brothers

Ms. Lynn C. Hendry
The Honorable John L. Dardenne and Mrs. Catherine Dardenne

Mr. Robert J. Hernandez '55
Dr. and Mrs. Francis J. Brewerton '55

Reverend J. Clifton Hill Jr. '54
Mr. Ernest A. Gremillion '54

Mr. Roy J. Keller '65
Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Ellis Sr. '65

Mr. Joshua M. Hoffpauir '98
Mr. and Mrs. Brian J. Goad '98

Mr. Charles D. Levy '53
Mr. Ernest A. Gremillion '54

Mr. Jacob M. Meek '17
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Quinlan III '87

Brother Malcolm Melcher, S.C.
Mr. and Mrs. Rudy C. Valenciano

Dr. and Mrs. James R. Ourso '58
Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Hebert Jr. '64

Mr. Gordon L. Parker Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Stari

Ms. Libby Rhodes
Dr. and Mrs. Kent M. Rhodes

Dr. Robert P. Robichaux '62
Dr. and Mrs. Francis J. Brewerton '55

Mr. Andrew D. Shread '01
Mr. J. Wade Whitty IV '01
Mr. Steve and Mrs. Regina Hatcher
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Nelson '79

Mr. Robert M. Tuminello '46
Mrs. Marion Kleinpeter

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Margie and Ralph Alexander
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Leslie

Mr. Carson R. Arms '26
Mr. Jason Arms and Dr. Drew Arms

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. "Tim" Barfield Jr. '82
Mr. Derek Fitch

Mr. Cole T. Boudreaux '29
HolSpanMD

Mr. and Mrs. David P. Brewerton '92
Ms. Margaret Hart

Mr. Grayson H. Broussard '28
Carrie Broussard

Mr. John L. Bugea '28
Mrs. Dana Murray

Mr. Pierson J. Carmouche '26
Carmouche Insurance of Baton Rouge
Mr. and Mrs. Pete Carmouche

Class of '92
Mr. and Mrs. Steven C. Berthelot '92

Class of 1994 ATM
Honorable and Mrs. Richard L. Bourgeois Jr. '94
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick N. Broyles '94
Mr. and Mrs. Neal R. Lamonica '94
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey A. Ponson '94

Mr. Robert F. Conley '25
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Conley
FM Conley Consulting

Mr. William N. Creech '23
Mrs. Katherine Creech

Mr. Connor K. Dooley '26
Dr. and Mrs. Patrick W. Dooley '93

Faculty of the Class of '04
Mr. Tomasz P. Stryjewski '04

Mr. Parker L. Galloway '28
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Galloway

Mr. John V. Gaudiano '27
St. James Place Retirement Community

Mr. Brayden M. Gomez '28
Mr. and Mrs. Don Chance

Mr. Landon J. Gomez '30
Mr. and Mrs. Don Chance

Mr. and Mrs. Ted W. Harvey
Mr. Korey D. Harvey '02

Mr. Steven P. Herman '85
Mr. Timothy Cummings

Mr. William H. Kessler IV '23
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Kessler III

Brother Clifford King, S.C.
Mr. James D. Stuckey '24

Mr. Michael P. Krzystowczyk '17
Dr. and Dr. Krzystowczyk

Mr. Brennan C. Lambert '18
Mr. and Mrs. Brad A. Lambert

Mr. Lucas W. Lawrence '26
Mr. and Mrs. Will Lawrence

Mr. James D. LeBlanc '27
Mr. and Mrs. Blake LeBlanc
Wettlin Treppendahl

Mr. Michael P. LeBlanc '29
Mr. Duane and Mrs. Sherie Leblanc
Mr. and Mrs. Jules J. Noel III

Mr. and Mrs. James Magette
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Ellen Raley

Mr. and Mrs. James Magette
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Ellen Raley

Mr. Reid J. Matassa '29
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Mr. Daniel C. McCalip '29
Mrs. Gwen McCalip

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Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin McCurry

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Ms. Carol M. White

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Newman '08
Ms. Carol M. White

Mr. Liam Perrault
Ms. Mary C. Taaffe

Mr. Ethan M. Pickering '26
Baker Construction

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Randow
Mr. and Mrs. Mark T. Emonet '87

Mr. Hayes W. Segar '26
Mr. and Mrs. L. James Segar III '90

Mr. Jackson S. Shaw '27
3S Team

Mr. Aiden L. Strief '27
Dr. Pressley L. and Mrs. Ann S. Campbell

Mr. Landon M. Strief '30
Dr. Pressley L. and Mrs. Ann S. Campbell

Mr. Beau M. Thomas '26
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ely

Mr. Blake E. Thomas '28
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ely

Mr. Blaise R. Thomassie '26
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overall

Mr. Benjamin M. Wallace '26
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Alderman
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wallace

Mr. James Wilkinson
Mr. Donald Halloran

in

MEMORIAM

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025, the following alumni and friends of CHS have passed away since the last issue of Bear Facts. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

Benjamin Adler '20
Col. Ben B. Babin '56
Dr. Louis J. Barbato '64
Mr. Joseph Belello '49
Mr. Ronald J. Bourgeois '61
Mr. Samuel C. Carraway '65
Mr. Joseph B. Castille '96
Mr. S. Alfred Champagne Jr. '64
Dr. Clifford H. Comeaux Jr. '61
Mr. Kevin H. Couhig
Mr. Russell J. Culotta Sr.
Reverend Gregory J. Daigle '77
Mr. Danny A. Daniel Sr. '56
Mr. J. Dawson '71
Mr. Gerald P. Dicharry '59
Mr. Steve Fourrier '61
Mr. Leslie P. Gatz '64
Mrs. Francis Gaudin
Mr. George B. Guttner '64
Mr. S. Michael Harris '71
Mr. Ron W. Hedrick
Ms. Lynn C. Hendry
Reverend J. Clinton Hill '54
Mr. Sean C. Howell '84
Mr. Roy J. Keller '65
Mr. Robert J. Lanclos '81
Brother Ivy LeBlanc, S.C. '63
Mr. Anthony J. Pecoraro '57
Mr. Charles W. Pixley
Mr. Andrew D. Shread '01
Mr. Robert M. Tuminello '46
Mr. Richard A. Valenti '79
Mr. Jeffrey B. Vicari '75



CHS Archives
Treasures of the Past



Treasures belonging to Colonel James Coerver '46 including his elementary school Certificate, his CHS Diploma and two plaques he received for his 60th and 65th anniversary from CHS.
Donated by Jerry Jolly '70



Colonel James Coerver's plaque for achieving the status of a Perpetual Founder in 2019.
Donated by Jerry Jolly '70.



A souvenir glass from the 1987 Senior Prom.
Donated by Patrick Reynolds '87



A CHS "beanie"
Donated by Denny Vicknair '63

The CHS Class of 1963's Class Reunion photo.
Donated by Brother Ronald Hingle, Provincial of the Province of the United States for the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.





Athletic programs from 1972, a photo featuring Grizzly Greats, Tony Giganti '37 and Mel Didier '44, pictured alongside Brother Donnan Berry, S.C., Buddy Hoffmann '74, Coach Barrett Murphy and Denny Braud.



A collection of song sheets written by Brother Berchmans and music by Brother Cosmos.
Donated by CHS Band Director Duane LeBlanc.



A black and orange CHS Folder.
Donated by Mrs. Dixie Guitreau, mother of Andrew '74, James '83, and Joseph Guitreau '87.



Bobby Grenchik's '83 two golden bears for Best in Religion and Best in Service in 1983.

A collection of newspaper articles, the a letterman C belonging to Mr. John Coerver '44, invitations, CHS 100-year collection book, a photo with classmates, and a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the Building Fund Drive of 1971-1974 by Brother Donnan Berry, S.C. and Clifford Ourso.
Donated by Colonel James Coerver '46



A collection of CHS directories and handbooks, and a copy of The Bearly Published from 1987. This publication featured an article titled, "Let's Look Back 1986," written by Joey Laville and David Toups featuring artwork by John Lackett.



Please contact Margie Alexander at malexander@catholichigh.org if you have CHS treasures from years past.



Sports in the





BY DAVID BUTLER '77

It has been said that every time God closes a door, he opens a better door. That perhaps applies to Catholic High wrestling coach Tommy Prochaska '92.

Prochaska, a state runner up wrestler, never imagined he would be the head wrestling coach at Catholic High and certainly not for 32 years. He had plans to be an engineer and take over his father's company. While in college Prochaska served as an assistant wrestling coach at Catholic High. It seems he was not enjoying his engineering classes and did not want to pursue that career. He instead changed direction as he was drawn to coaching as a vocation.

When he took over as head coach, his goal was to have a positive impact on kids like his coaches had on him. He stated: "For me Kenny Spellman was the guiding force as an athlete, as a coach, Gerry Garidel, Dale Weiner and Pete Boudreaux 59' helped me grow as a coach as I saw how they interacted with kids."

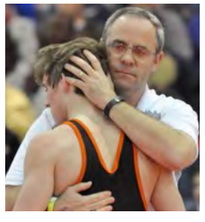
When kids wrestle for Prochaska, he always considers them one of his kids, one of his own. In fact, Prochaska writes a newsletter for all former Catholic High wrestlers to keep them in the fold and part of the program.

Under Prochaska's direction the team won state titles in 2008 and 2010 while finishing as state runner up numerous times. Prochaska noted: "I am very proud of our team as at some point we have won every tournament we have entered whether in Louisiana, Texas, Florida or Alabama. I am proud of the consistency of the program. My first year we did not have a state finalist, but we have had one every year since. We may be the only team in the state with that accomplishment. The kids have risen to the occasion and it speaks well for our program."

God also opened another door for Prochaska while serving at Catholic High. He met his wife, Lori, who also served on the faculty. The couple have been married for almost 23 years. In fact, the school administration moved the 8th grade promotion time so the faculty and staff could attend the wedding. In reflecting on his years at Catholic High Prochaska noted: " I am so grateful to Catholic High and the Brothers of the Sacred Heart because I owe everything to them. I am who I am today because of it. I got my education, my job and my family because of CHS. It will always be an honor to work here and to tell everyone I am an alum."









At the Heart of the Mission

BY BROTHER MICHAEL MIGACZ, S.C.

Catholic High regularly expresses the hope that our graduates learn to value themselves and others as unique children of God. To help instill that sensitivity, CHS offers several domestic and international mission trips each year. Much can be said about the lessons learned on each of these treks, but the yearly BOSH service trips have unique features.
What makes the BOSH service trips distinctive is that they gather students from Brothers' schools around the country, and each summer a different school hosts the assembly. This past summer we went to Rhode Island; in 2024, it was Catholic High's turn to show hospitality; and this coming July, as we begin our second decade, students are eagerly signing up for a journey to New York City's Queens Borough. I fortunately have participated in ten trips.

The hallmarks of a Brother's lifestyle are community, service, and spirituality—values that the young people experience on these trips. From the first day of meeting other young people from different parts of the country, the students start to mingle. The chaperones provide community building activities. During the week of praying, working together, and engaging with each other, bonds are formed. New friends keep in contact long after the trips are over.

Throughout the past ten mission trips, our students have done a variety of work to help the needy of the local area: picking up debris, painting homes, helping out at soup kitchens, or working in gardens to provide vegetables to food pantries. On several trips there was direct contact with young children: teaching Bible classes, doing arts and crafts, or just playing games with them. In doing service, our teen boys and girls become aware of the struggles of others.

Spirituality is a way of bringing service activities together. The Lord delights that these young folks are connecting and learning to get along despite regional differences. Students' horizons are being expanded as they engage in service. Their prayers during the week reflect this. Each school leads morning or evening prayer, giving voice to our experiences while asking God to help us be mindful of those who are hurting. Celebration of the Eucharist begins and ends the week, connecting Christ's sacrificial love to the events of the week.

The Spirit also is expressed by engaging in fun activities. Students play sports, games, or just hang out with each other. There are also enjoyable excursions: in the South we visited an alligator farm, went to Avery Island, had a beach experience at Ship Island, and saw what LSU and downtown Baton Rouge had to offer. There were outings to New Orleans to take in the sights. In the North, our students climbed mountain trails, appreciated gorgeous lakes, toured elegant homes in Newport, and joined cheering crowds watching minor league baseball games. Do you think there will be anything exciting to see in NYC this summer?

The host school gets to showcase their region and boast about the local food, history, and culture of their area. We enjoyed New England clam chowder and New Jersey pizza. Of course, the southern cuisine impressed all visitors. Wherever we go, students get to meet Brothers from that local area. The Brothers socialize with the youngsters, and some participate in the service projects. Our students realize that Brothers of the Sacred Heart are around the country (and the world), working with the young to tell the good news that they are loved by God.

These amazing yearly assemblies began in 2014 when the previous three BOSH provinces of New Orleans, New York, and New England unified to form the Province of the United States. At first, four of our schools participated; now we are up to nine schools. Even our school in England, St. Columba's, began sending students three years ago.
Through these BOSH service trips, our young people are experiencing the importance of connecting and bonding, talking to God about their daily lives, and, like our founder André Coindre, seeing and serving Christ in those need.

The world may not be calling you to become a Brother of the Sacred Heart, but maybe God is!

If you're not already committed, why not consider life as a Brother of the Sacred Heart? Let's talk.

Brother Michael Migacz, S.C.
Vocation Director,
Province of the United States
732.718.8559
mmigacz@catholichigh.org

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BICENTENNIAL
BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEART



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
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CHS PARENTS

If your son no longer lives at home, please send us his new address. If you also wish to receive BearFacts, please email svance@catholichigh.org and let us know. Thank you!

catholichigh.org

Scan the QR code to update your mailing address, email address, and phone number so we can keep you in the loop on all the great events, socials, and campus and alumni



THE MISSION of Catholic High School is to teach Gospel values in an environment of academic excellence according to Catholic tradition and the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS A SIX-TIME
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE
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