

Dear StMCS Families,

I'm so grateful for the time I had this week at the Minndependent Leadership Conference. It was an inspiring reminder of the strong network of private and independent schools we're blessed to be part of here in Minnesota. [Minndependent](#) has been a true partner, especially this past year as they advocated to preserve nonpublic pupil aid—support that directly benefits our students. We're thankful for our membership and all the ways they walk alongside us in serving the mission of St. Michael Catholic School.

We're also grateful for our ongoing partnership with Healing Moments Counseling and the valuable services they provide to our students and staff. We're also excited to host a parent presentation on building resilience in our students on October 29th. Please see the flyer below for more details.

Thank you for being part of our St. Michael Catholic School community and supporting our mission. Together, we help every student grow in faith, knowledge, and virtue!

Peace,

Heidi Gallus, Ed.S.
Principal

WEEKLY UPDATES

All School Weekly Updates

Catholic Schools Raffle

StMCS is once again participating in the Catholic United Financial (CUF) Raffle, **where 100% of the proceeds directly benefit our school**. CUF is a Trusted Fraternal Life™ organization—a member-owned, not-for-profit company that connects people of faith, protects their future, and generously supports parishes, schools, and communities. Learn more about CUF [here](#).

As part of their partnership with us, CUF would like to connect with our school families and share ways they can support you. If you would like to receive information from CUF, please take a moment to [opt in by filling out this form](#).

Scrip

As another great school year kicks off, so does another year of our scrip fundraiser program. Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from more than 750 of your favorite national & local participating retailers to earn on your daily purchases. Scrip also serves as a great way to buy gifts for friends & family and make great holiday gifts for your business/employees. Many popular retailers participate in our scrip program: Target, Amazon, Walmart, Barnes & Noble, Menards, Holiday Station Stores, Visa, etc. It has never been easier to create opportunities for your family and offset costs for our school. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

How it works:

- Buy gift cards at face value
- Earn up to 20% on every gift card you buy
- Use gift cards at full value for your everyday purchases

In addition to our family folder scrip order form due dates that will happen bi-monthly, you can now **shop 24/7 with the RaiseRight mobile app**. New this year, you can also link a credit card to **earn 5% on local dining**.

Learn more about our Scrip program [here](#) or check out this year's paper [order form](#). The first paper form order deadline is next **Friday, October 3**.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, October 9 - 2:30-7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 14 - 2:30-7:30 p.m.

Our teachers are looking forward to connecting with you in a couple weeks at parent/teacher conferences!

K-4 Conferences are held in their classrooms and are scheduled every 20 minutes.

- Log in to Sycamore to reserve your times(s). See instructions [here](#).
- Email Amy Huberty at ahuberty@stmccatholicsschool.org if you need your Sycamore log-in reset.

Middle Level Conferences - Teachers will be in the gym, and conferences are a walk-in format. Please keep each conversation to no more than 5 minutes to allow for as many parents as possible to meet with each teacher. If your conversation needs to go longer than that, please schedule a separate time to meet.

Middle Level Teachers will be on dinner breaks as noted below:

4:00-4:30

- Eileen Nygard
- Gina Contreras

5:00-5:30

- Tina Bania
- Leah Perish

4:30-5:00

- Becka Aschenbeck
- Sophie Hazen
- Grace Patnode

5:30-6:00

- Gina Olson
- Carrie Berning

The schedule for specialists is below along with their locations:

- Maria Carpenter (Music) - Thursday, 10/9 - Music Room
- Amy Huberty (Computers) - Thursday, 10/9 - Media Center
- Azucena Pacheco (Spanish) -Tuesday, 10/14 - Spanish Room
- Karen Tracy (K-4 LEAP/Phy. Ed.) - Tuesday, 10/14 - Admin. Wing
- Chris Fussy (ML Phy. Ed.) - Thursday 10/9 and Tuesday 10/14 - Admin. Wing
- Dawn Roberts and Lynn Johnson (Reading Specialists) - not at Fall Conference nights



STMCS PARENT PRESENTATIONS

BUILDING RESILIENCE

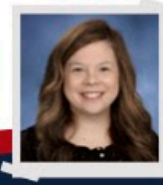
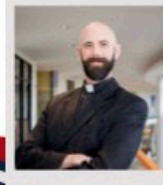
Telling the Difference Between Hard Times and Mental Health Concerns

Join us for a thoughtful panel discussion and presentation by Father Nathan Laliberte, Dr. Kathleen Massmann, Linnaea Lindahl, Christine Duckert, Kate Firnstahl, and others.

Together, we will explore how to recognize the difference between life's hard seasons and mental health concerns, and discover practical tools for building resilience in our students and families from a Catholic perspective.

- All Parents, Pre-K and beyond are welcome!
- We invite you to share any questions you may have by using this [QR code](#)





WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29 AT 6:15 PM

ST. JOSEPH HALL @ ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

OTHER INFORMATION

Flyers and Community Info



First Tuesday Rosary

Join us once a month as we unite in prayer, asking for God's love and protection over our Catholic School family and all who support and uphold Catholic education. October 7 at 7:35 am, St. Michael Catholic Church [flyer](#)

Respect Life Events

See [flyer](#) for information on several upcoming Respect Life events, including:

- Pro-Life Breakfast 10/5/25
- Life Chain & Rosary 10/5/25
- Pro-Life Dinner 10/18/25

Minndependent Webinar: 4 Strategies for a Smarter College Search

Tuesday, October 14th at 6:00 PM

An educational webinar for parents and guidance counselors.The college search continues to become more complex, making it harder for families to identify right-fit schools. Challenges include:

- Admission trends have changed in how colleges admit students
- Testing - some require it now, and some don't - what path makes sense?
- The number of schools on the "more selective" list continues to grow, and not just in the elite category.
- Substantial changes to the FAFSA and financial aid may make college more expensive.

Join us to learn how these changes may impact your family, and new strategies to consider that give your student the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships and financial aid. Register today.

RESOURCES

Quick Access Links



- [Online attendance form](#)
- [Scrip order form](#) - next order due 10/3

- [2025-26 School Calendar](#)
- [Staff Roster 2025-26](#)



ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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