



SPECIAL SCHEDULES:

Thursday, February 4 and Wednesday, February 10: Standardized test preparation/presentations for 12th grade students. Dismissal at 2:54 p.m.

Monday, February 15 – Friday, February 19 – Mardi Gras Holiday. No school for students. Offices open Thursday, February 18 and Friday, February 19 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23 – Schoolwide liturgy at 9:50 a.m. Regular dismissal at 2:54.

Monday, March 1 – Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Retreats. Career Day for Seniors. No school for 8th graders.

[**CHS Calendar**](#)

COVID UPDATE: As is happening across the state of Louisiana and the United States following the Christmas holidays, Catholic High is experiencing a spike in positive cases and with the number of students in quarantine. The positivity rate among both faculty and students is currently 1.4%, which is certainly much lower than the remainder of the state.

The increase in cases demonstrates the absolute necessity for parents to monitor their sons' behavior away from school. While there have been a few instances of transmission among students at school events, primarily through athletics, the vast majority of positive COVID cases are coming from parties, sleepovers, riding in cars with one another, and other social events and gatherings. With the Mardi Gras holidays only two weeks away, I am concerned about another spike in cases following our return. Please do all you can to ensure the health and safety of everyone at CHS by

insisting that your son follow the guidelines that keep us all protected.

2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR: Attached to the newsletter is the 2021-2022 school calendar indicating important dates for the school year. Please make note of the dates of student orientation, the first day of classes, and holidays so that you can plan your son's schedule accordingly. We ask that parents not extend vacations or schedule other appointments during school days. Daily attendance at CHS is critical to the academic success of your son. Please see page 24 of the Student Handbook for our policies on absences.

[**Student Handbook**](#)

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

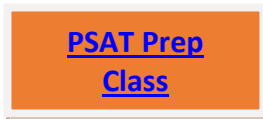
- **January 22:** The legal, moral and ethical issues surrounding sexual consent. Guest speakers were District Attorney Hillar Moore, Sergeant Bret Hart with the Special Victims Unit of Baton Rouge City Police, and faculty members Gerren Porch, Gabe Fertitta, and Erin Hart.
- **January 27:** Transitioning from the sanctuary environment of CHS to college, how to recognize depression, deal with anxiety and stress, and locate resources and supports available on college campuses. Guest speakers were CHS junior counselor Caroline Batsche; Tameka Franklin, a licensed professional counselor with the adolescent in-patient unit

at the TAU Center; and Janell Soileau, a psychiatric nurse practitioner at LSU's Mental Health Center serving college age students struggling with emotional and mental issues.

- **February 4:** Transitioning to College – Peer pressure and other important decisions. Attorney John McLindon will address the effects of destructive behaviors and potential long-term legal consequences, including alcohol and drug use, as well as the culture within fraternities that can contribute to destructive behaviors. A panel of recent alumni will also discuss the challenges they encountered in their first year of college.
- **February 10:** Seniors will complete a Senior Exit Survey, and vote for the American Legion Award and Jacob Meek'17 Scholarship Recipients.
- **March 4:** Information on graduation procedures, finish strong comments from administrators, and 2021 Class Picture.

PSAT PREPARATION CLASSES: Dates are available for the PSAT/NMSQT Preparation Course for members of the Class of 2023. These six workshops will be offered on: March 20 or 21, April 24 or 25, May 8 or 9, August 21 or 22, September 18 or 19, and October 2 or 3. There are also make-up workshops being offered in July (July 20, 21, 22). The cost of the PSAT/NMSQT course is \$215. A flier is included in this newsletter with more details about this course, including times.

Please email Mrs. Kessler at ckessler@catholichigh.org if you have questions about this course.



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

GOLDEN BEAR DONORS: A Golden Bear is the highest honor a student can receive for his work in academics and extracurricular activities. These awards are made possible through donations by generous sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring a Golden Bear in your

name or in memory of a loved one, please contact Tracy Ducote, Events Coordinator at tducote@catholichigh.org.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY 2021: CHS will recognize and celebrate our grandparents on Friday, March 19 as part of our regular school liturgy. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, CHS is unable to allow grandparents to attend the mass on campus, but the theme of this liturgy will be on the important role of grandparents in the lives of our students. In conjunction with the mass, the program will include student speakers, as well as performances by the CHS Wind Ensemble and choir. The event will be broadcast live so that grandparents and parents may participate remotely. A recording will be available so that families may watch at a later date as well.

More information about this Grandparents' Day celebration will be coming as details are finalized.

MARCH 1 DETAILS: March 1st is a day designated for special events for most of our students.

- All 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students will attend their yearly retreat. Specific details about the retreats will be sent out through Campus Ministry and religion classes. Retreats are mandatory for students.
- All 12th grade students will attend Career Day at Catholic High beginning with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Seniors will attend three different sessions of career presentations from CHS alums. This is a required attendance event for seniors.
- 8th grade students have March 1st off from school.

SUMMER AT CHS PROGRAM: Information including dates, times, and fees about our 2021 Summer at CHS courses will soon be available on our website. Registration will be available online beginning in March. Courses include:

Strength and Speed: Required for current CHS JV and varsity athletes, incoming 8th and 9th grade athletes. Middle School Conditioning course also available.

Academics: ACT Preparation*, Preparation for Algebra I, Preparation for English I, Keyboarding*, Study Skills*, Fun Science*, Robotics*, College Application Boot Camp*, 3D Animation*, Computer Game Development Using Scratch*, CHS/SJA Percussion Camp*, New Member Marching Camp*, Adventure Camp*, CHS Writing Boot Camp.

*courses open to girls

Athletic Camps: (Basketball, Baseball, Golf, Football, Soccer, Wrestling, Lacrosse) will be scheduled as possible within LHSAA, state, and school COVID-19 guidelines. Details may be delayed and will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

CHS MEN'S CLUB: The 37th annual Men's Club \$13,000 Raffle will take place on Friday, April 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brother Donnan Berry, S.C. Student Center. **Only 500 tickets will be sold.** The final ticket drawn wins the grand prize of \$10,000! Please help support the Men's Club and the mission of CHS by purchasing a \$100 raffle ticket. Tickets can be purchased clicking the link below or you may contact Men's Club President Jeffrey Hotard at jhotard@catholichigh.org.

[Men's Club Raffle Ticket](#)

2020 - 2021 PARENTS APPEAL UPDATE [From Jamie Segar '90, Director of Advancement]: Valentine's Day is fast approaching! Please show your love for CHS by making a gift to The Fund for CHS! The Fund for CHS currently stands at 21% parent participation. We need your contribution to raise this percentage of participation. If you have yet to make a gift or pledge, please help support CHS's efforts to continue to offer an outstanding Catholic education to the students in our care. Gifts of any amount make a huge difference and impact every student at CHS.

Please make your tax-deductible gift by June 30 and help support CHS and the mission of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart.

CHS sends a HUGE "Thank You" to those parents who have already made a gift or pledge this school year. Your participation is key in helping us continue to providing a holistic educational experience for all of our students. We appreciate your support!

[Honor Roll](#)

[Donate](#)

MOTHERS' CLUB (From Joanie Montelaro, President): The CHS Mothers' Club hosted another Student Treat Day on Wednesday, January 20. A big thank you to Emily Grey and Brianne Dupre for organizing these days throughout the year. Thanks also to all the

amazing moms who donated and volunteered to help. The response was so incredible, and we received more than enough to make sure all of our boys received treats.

The Car Raffle sales have been extended to April 1, 2021. The drawing will take place on May 2, 2021 at the Mother/Son Breakfast. Tickets may be purchased on the CHS website, but your bear also has a personalized link that can be shared with family and friends.

It is not too late to join the Mothers' Club! To join click on the button below.

[Mothers' Club Membership](#)

CHS PSAT/NMSQT PREPARATION PROGRAM

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

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

PSAT Workshop 2021			
Workshop # 1	Saturday, March 20 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, March 21 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 2	Saturday, April 24 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, April 25 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 3	Saturday, May 8 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, May 9 1 pm to 4 pm
MAKEUP SESSIONS	Workshop #1 Makeup Tuesday, July 20 9 am to noon	Workshop #2 Makeup Wednesday, July 21 9 am to noon	Workshop #3 Thursday, July 22 9 am to noon
Workshop # 4	Saturday, August 21 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, August 22 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 5	Saturday, September 18 9 am to noon	or	Sunday, September 19 1 pm to 4 pm
Workshop # 6 MOCK EXAM	Saturday, October 2 9 am to 12:30 pm	or	Sunday, October 3 1 pm to 4:30 pm

All sessions will be held in Room 108 at CHS. The \$215 course fee includes all course materials.

Any current sophomore may take this course. Registration is available online at mychs.catholichigh.org or you may bring the form below to the Main Office with the course fee of \$215 by Friday, March 10.

For more information, please email Mrs. Kessler at ckessler@catholichigh.org.

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PSAT/NMSQT PREPARATION PROGRAM

Registration is available online at mychs.catholichigh.org or you can detach and return this portion to the Main Office by Friday, March 10 with a check made payable to Catholic High School.

Please register _____ for the PSAT/NMSQT Preparation Program.

Student Email Address: _____ (please print)

Parent Name: _____ (please print)

Parent Email Address: _____ (please print)

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<p>Important Dates 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aug. 5 & 6 Faculty & Staff Prof. Development Aug. 9 & 10 Student Orientation Aug. 11 1st day of school for 8th & 9th grades Aug. 12 1st day of school for all students Sept. 6 Labor Day holiday Sept. 7 Prof. Dev. (no school for students) Oct. 8 1st quarter ends Oct. 10-11 Senior Retreat Nov. 8 Faculty & Staff Day of Experience Nov. 22-26 Thanksgiving holidays Dec 14-Dec. 17 1st semester examinations Dec. 17 1st semester ends Dec 20-Jan. 1 Christmas holidays 	<p>Important Dates 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan. 3 Faculty & Staff Development Jan. 4 2nd semester classes begin Jan. 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday Feb. 28-Mar. 4 Mardi Gras holidays Mar. 11 3rd Quarter Ends TBD Junior Retreat/9th & 10th grade testing TBD Sophomore Retreat/11th grade testing Apr. 15-22 Easter holidays Mar. 28 Faculty & Staff Retreat May 6 - 11 Senior final examinations May 21 Graduation May 23 - 26 2nd semester examinations May 27 2nd semester ends May 27 Record Day 																																																												

Legend: Circles indicate holidays for students and faculty

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