A New Day Dawning!

In its 163rd Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement on May 17, Opelousas Catholic School saw 52 young men and women receive their diplomas from OC Chancellor, the Reverend Monsignor Russell Harrington, in front of hundreds of family and friends in St. Landry Catholic Church. Monsignor Harrington gave an inspiring homily for these graduates to carry with them as they embarked on the next chapter in their lives. As heard in their chosen class hymn, this was truly a “new day dawning” for them, looking to whatever lies ahead.

There are so many reasons to be proud of these graduates!

• They have given service to their school and community and have been outstanding mentors of their faith to the younger Vikings.
• They have gathered over $1.6 million in scholarship awards and TOPS assistance.
• Several (23 to be exact) accumulated a total of over 400 hours of college credit through participation in the Dual Enrollment program over the last two years. Thus, some will begin their college studies as sophomores!
• Their average composite score on the ACT was announced as 22 which is well above both the state and national averages ... and right at two-thirds of the class qualified for Louisiana TOPS.

Individuals were recognized with special honors at the Awards Banquet and Baccalaureate Ceremony. Some were:
- Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Awards – Sam Pitre and Alyssa Chachere
- Gabby LaJack Memorial Scholarship – Morgan Charles
- Father J. Wilson Matt Little Light of Mine Scholarship – Madeleine Braham
- Msgr. Louis Melancon Memorial Awards - Alex Castille and Adrienne Allen

And at the Baccalaureate Ceremony, the first Monsignor Louis Melancon Memorial Awards were presented to Alex Castille and Adrienne Allen.

These graduates are now on assorted paths as they pursue careers and future happiness. Most are staying within the state for their studies. However, Madeleine Braham is headed east to Spring Hill College in Alabama to work on a Public Relations and Marketing degree, while Sam Pitre advances to Millsaps College in Mississippi for a science-related major. Going to UL-Lafayette close to home include Morgan Charles for Speech Pathology and Colleen Chachere for Criminal Justice so that she can work in forensics. Among those to attend LSU is Marsha Savage for a degree in Animal Science and ultimately a doctorate of Veterinary Medicine. Remy Bergeron will join Scholar’s College at Northwestern State University to major in Pre-Medicine in his pursuit to become a dentist. Adrienne Allen has chosen to begin her studies in Elementary Education at LSU in Eunice. These are just a few examples of excellence from the class of 2019.

Future leaders in our church and prospective doctors, teachers, business professionals and more are seen in these young people. Our prayers go with them for continued growth and strong faith in this life to eventually lead them to Heaven. May they forever worship His holy name!

Let the word of Christ dwell in you ... Colossians 3:16
For some reason that word has gone out of fashion, something I learned quickly when poking through the home stores in Lafayette looking for art work featuring the word “confidence.”

The administration and campus ministry team chose “confidence is key” as our theme for the 2019-2020 school year because we ARE confident – confident that we are doing our best to live as Catholics in a 21st Century world; confident that here at OC we provide our students with the religious, academic, athletic and social knowledge they need to succeed long after they leave 428 E. Prudhomme St.

Confidence. Yes, I am confident that Opelousas Catholic is living up to the mission “OCS educates students in the mission of Christ: To know, love, and serve God as disciples in this life in order to be happy with Him in the next.” I am confident that we have provided the moral compass our students need in this secular world. No, we cannot make the choices for them and we all have free will and make mistakes – but I AM CONFIDENT that many, many of our alumni and former students HAVE made the right decision when faced with tough choices because of the Catholic values we instill.

Confidence. Yes, I am confident that we are providing a quality (but Catholic-focused) academic education for our students. The background is there, whether your student is in regular, honors, or dual enrollment classes. Regardless of whether your student chooses a four-year college and has a head start with dual enrollment classes, chooses a two-year program or a vocational-technical option, chooses the military, or chooses an immediate career option, we are confident that he or she will be prepared.

Confidence. Yes, I am confident that ALL our students, regardless of their race, religious beliefs, gender, family situation or economic background, are treated fairly here at OC by our faculty and staff and by their fellow students. We simply will not tolerate anything else.

Confidence. Yes, I am confident that we have something here on our campus for every student. Obviously, we are very proud of our athletic accomplishments and are confident that under the guidance of our athletic staff we will continue to excel on the athletic fields and courts. But I am just as confident that our student government, 4-H program, quiz bowl, literary rally team, the new Cathletes group, and the reorganized Beta Club and all our campus groups and activities will continue to grow and provide for our students’ social well-being.

Confidence. Yes, I am confident that this school’s financial health is good, despite the downturn in our economy and the loss of many families to the Lafayette area. It is not easy balancing expenses with available resources, but I am confident that we will continue to get the job done.

Individuals from Opelousas Catholic School recognized with special awards for 2018-2019 included Allison Pousson, Elementary Teacher of the Year; Cindy Pitre, Secondary Teacher of the Year; along with Achiever/Supporter of the Year, Heidi Fisher Pelloquin. They were honored during Catholic Schools Week and at a special Diocesan prayer service in Lafayette.

Allison Pousson taught for eight years in the St. Landry Parish School System before coming to OC two years ago. While with St. Landry Parish, she was honored as “Teacher of the Year” for her work at North Elementary in 2013. At OC, Mrs. Pousson has taught in lower elementary and now works with the preschool program. She is also a product of Catholic education as she graduated from St. Edmund’s Catholic School in Eunice, La. before completing her degree program at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. She and her husband have two sons who attend OC, and their family lives in Church Point, La.

For 23 years now, Cindy Pitre has been a familiar face on the OC campus. She completed her degree program at LSU and USL in Art and Dance with an English certification. At OC, Mrs. Pitre has taught Art, Theatre, Speech and English and has worked with our Drama Club, directing numerous stage performances. Outside of school, she has given many hours of her time to Opelousas downtown improvement projects in an effort to beautify the city. Mrs. Pitre and her husband are the parents of two who are both OC alumni now.

In a special tribute to her leadership and years of work with the OC Alumni Softball Tournament, Heidi Fisher Pelloquin was selected as “Achiever/Supporter of the Year”! Heidi is a 1999 graduate of OC; and she and her classmates just celebrated their 20th anniversary since their senior year! Heidi earned her degree in Health Information and Healthcare Management at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette and now works as a Territory Manager for Obagi Medical. She is married to another OC alumnus Derek Pelloquin, and they became first-time parents of a baby girl in December.

Thank you to all of these outstanding individuals who give of themselves for the good of others … whether the children, families, or alumni … we are grateful for their “works of heart”!
Welcome and Thank You!
Opelousas Catholic School welcomes Msgr. Russell Harrington as our new Chancellor! Msgr. Harrington was assigned to St. Landry Catholic Church last summer and has fit in so well with his new church and school family. OC gives thanks to Msgr. Keith DeRouen of Our Lady Queen of Angels Church who has served diligently as Chancellor for the last several years. All he has done is greatly appreciated!

Assistant Principal of Elementary Grades
Mr. Matt Citron will be the new Assistant Principal of Elementary Grades for 2019-2020, replacing Mrs. Rose Lalonde who retired. He has been at Opelousas Catholic for 17 years, serving in the capacities of classroom teacher, department head, curriculum coordinator, junior high athletic director, and coach of boys’ and girls’ basketball and varsity football. Mr. Citron earned his bachelor’s degree through the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and then his master’s degree in Educational Leadership from McNeese State University. He and his wife are the parents of three children who attend OC. We welcome him in this new capacity!

Another “Coming Home”
OC is thrilled to welcome Haley Devillier Emonet (1996) as the new business manager. She is replacing long-time bookkeeper Barbara Artigue Fontenot (1959) who retired after 60 years of service. Haley comes home to her alma mater after her most recent work at the Diocese of Lafayette office in the accounting department. Haley and her husband Kristin (1992) are the parents of three children who all attend OC. We welcome him in this new capacity!

Staff Additions
OC greets Brian Green who is coming in as the “Elementary Physical Education instructor” and assistant baseball and football coach for 2019-2020. We are also pleased to have alumnus Will Pitre (2010) join the staff as a Social Studies teacher and Head Softball Coach who will also assist with football. Additionally, we welcome Mrs. Alissa Doucet to the upper elementary staff.

Mass Days for 2019-2020
School mass days are changing to Tuesdays for this year to better accommodate our pastors. As another adjustment, some of the masses will be “all school” but some will be only “PK-5” and some only “6-12.” This will allow our pastors to focus their homilies toward that particular age group. These and more good changes are on the horizon!

Salute to our RETIREES
OC is so grateful to these long-time members of our staff who have served with lots of love and devotion, giving of themselves for the children and families! They retired at the end of the 2018-2019 school year to enjoy more time with the own families and a little well deserved relaxation.

• Mrs. Barbara Artigue Fontenot completed an amazing 60 years of employment at AIC/OC, mostly as school bookkeeper. She has lovingly guided the school finances through many years of great change and progress. Thank you, Mrs. Barbara, for your tireless work given to generations of AIC and OCS families. In fact, she has actually spent 72 years of her life on Prudhomme Street since she attended AIC for her 12 years of education right before her employment … incredible and almost unheard of!

• Mrs. Rose Lalonde has been an exceptional and devoted teacher and administrator for the past 42 years … lovingly teaching and then directing the curriculum and supervising instruction to benefit the students. Mrs. Rose served in these capacities from elementary through junior high grade levels over her years of service. OC is truly grateful for her dynamic work provided to our children and families and the positive influence she has had on the lives of thousands of her students. She will be missed!

May God bless both of them with a happy retirement! They are forever Lady Vikings!

APPRECIATION EXTRAS!
Besides Mrs. Barbara Artigue Fontenot and Mrs. Rose Lalonde, other staff members who are moving on for the 2019-2020 school year include Brenda Hebert, Judi Richard Lucito (1975), and Joey Thibodeaux. OC is grateful for their outstanding service and wishes them many blessings! Another important note is that Mrs. Claire Speyrer, longtime administrative secretary, will now be working on a part-time basis.

May God bless OC parent Mitch Olivier, owner of Crawfish Corner in Opelousas, who once again provided a super delicious “crawfish boil” for the OC faculty/staff in May to celebrate the successful end of the school year!

We are forever thankful to all who help us in any way throughout the year ... those who serve as guest speakers and complete volunteer work and more! May God bless all!

We are so grateful to parents, family, and friends who have been sending in the Community Coffee UPC labels and the GM Box Tops to help our school. We also appreciate those who bring recyclables to the St. Landry Parish Recycling Center and apply it to OC’s account.

OC acknowledges our board of pastors for their love and guidance and appreciate their presence on campus. Thank you also to the deacons and church office staff members who are always very supportive!
ADVANCEMENT BULLETIN
by Kathy Hebert, Director of Advancement

Once again, we hope that you enjoy this issue of The Saga and encourage all alumni to contact the Advancement Office with information which may be included in future issues, etc. (337-942-5404 ext. 105; hebertk@ocsvikings.com).

With the “WE ARE” theme carried through this 2018-2019 school year, OC made every effort to define our great school. Indeed, we are a small school with BIG opportunities! Tremendous strides have been made academically with climbs in ACT and Pre-ACT scores and with 23 seniors leaving with over 400 college credit hours to bring to their college curriculum! Athletically, an amazing three district titles were won and coming so close to two state titles! But most of all on the spiritual side, our school family has grown in faith, putting it into action through service and compassion for those in need.

If you have followed our OC Facebook page, you have witnessed the many remarkable accomplishments and activities taking place! In other Advancement efforts, we likewise spread our good news through local church bulletins and other community publications. We also hope that you enjoyed receiving the recent “OCS Chronicles” providing our yearly financial report.

We are grateful to those of you who responded to our Angel Appeal which is making possible the modern Media Center in our former library. Advancement work has also involved alumni organization for Homecoming and the annual dinner and auction event.

For 2019-2020, our office looks forward to the “Brick Campaign” and efforts to compile a new OC school video for promotional purposes. The brick project has seen some delays but will get underway soon. Look for information coming in the mail and on our Facebook page and website.

May God continue to bless advancement endeavors as OC moves forward with “confidence”!

STUDENT AMBASSADOR CLUB coming!

Students have been invited to join “Viking Ambassadors”, a club where students will help in representing OC, welcoming visitors and more. They will be the “face of OC” in many ways as we make every effort to promote our great school.

RECOMMENDATIONS please!

Your recommendation of OC to family and friends looking for a solid Catholic education would be appreciated! You may have a friend or relative whose children may benefit from OC’s strong faith formation and academic and co-curricular excellence from preschool through grade 12. Please share this newsletter and encourage others to consider OC, truly a “small school with BIG opportunities”!

Check our school website (www.OCSvikings.com) or contact Mrs. Joanne Briley, Director of Admissions, at 337-942-5404 ext. 109. We hope that prospective families consider “making this place their HOME” for a quality Catholic education where WE ARE FAMILY!
BESTOWING BLESSINGS!

With “confidence” in the air on campus, we pray for blessings by our beloved alumni, grandparents, parents, and friends! There are many ways to offer assistance and reinforce Catholic education at OC!

Advocates can PRAY for the school, VOLUNTEER time for the children, and/or provide monetary DONATIONS to help OC carry out the school’s mission!

Become CONNECTED … follow the OC Facebook page daily
Become INFORMED … look over school newsletters, publications, website
Become INVOLVED … join the Alumni Association or school organizations
Become SPIRITED … organize class reunions; display Viking pride with items from The Viking Shop (OC website)
Become a BACKER … bless Tuition Assistance, Angel Appeal, Foundation Trust, Building Fund, Athletics, Alumni Association

Any of these actions will make a significant difference!

Anyone can even leave a legacy with Planned Giving! Gifts through a will or estate plan may be completed to allow you to take care of your loved ones and the children of OC at the same time. Please check with your financial advisor, CPA or attorney to find out more.

Your company may have a Matching Gift Program as a benefit to employees who want to give back to nonprofits. Please look into it!

Give, and it shall be given unto you … Luke 6:38

Barbara Artigue Fontenot
Honorary Fund

Did you notice in the June mailing of the “OCS Chronicles”? Our Foundation Trust Fund now has a special giving addition to honor the amazing 60 years of service given by Mrs. Barbara Artigue Fontenot (1959) who recently retired as OC’s bookkeeper. Anyone may make a gift and indicate that the gift is being made to the Foundation in recognition of Mrs. Fontenot’s “exceptional” years of loving service to the school. Thank you for helping OC and noting Mrs. Fontenot’s devotion!

GIFTS IN MEMORY

It warms our hearts to receive gifts to memorialize special individuals like the following remembrances:

The OC chapel in memory of Msgr. Louis Melancon was blessed by the donation of a beautiful chalice by our local Knights of Columbus in loving tribute to him.

Our 4-H Club members held a touching dedication to the late Alyssa Guillory who was an active 4-H Club member when she passed away in the summer of 2012. Several of Alyssa’s family members attended and witnessed a beautiful plaque in her memory placed in the 4-H Club’s butterfly garden on campus.

Three impressive benches in memory of Kathryn DeJean Howard (1992) were recently donated by Bill Lawless, first cousin to Kathryn’s mom, Carolyne Dunbar DeJean (1962). Kathryn passed away in September 2018 at the young age of 44. The butterfly bench and two outdoor metal benches … such loving gifts in Kathryn’s name!

The late Kathryn DeJean Howard’s nieces and OC students Maddie Rose Mouret and Kathryn Camille Mouret were happy to see this butterfly bench near the main entrance.

TECH “Bits and Bytes”
by Beth Going Hebert (1974), Technology Director

In addition to our two new grants from last year and adding our junior class to the VTEC program, we are wrapping up the transformation of the new Media Center. Electronics are connected, painting is all done and new floors are installed. We have been re-shelving the books and getting the new furniture in place. A special section of the Media Center has been created for our lower grade students in PreK-5. We, of course, have books but will have games they can interact with and a reading area for the teacher to read books aloud to the students. Thanks to generous donors to Angel Appeal 2019 and money from Msgr. Louis Melancon, our students will have a beautiful and functional Media Center with technology and books to enjoy this year.

Network security is always a top priority for any system. Plans are being made to help our students better understand the dangers that lurk on the World Wide Web. With some information, we hope to be able to help them judge whether the situation they are facing is one in which they should proceed or leave the site immediately. Using education and common sense will go far in keeping our computers and students safe.

Looking for a way to help OC? Bring us your used ink, toner, and old cell phones. We recycle them and get cash back or discounts on office supplies. Generally earning over $500 per year, we thank our parents and friends who make this a success.

You can also earn significant state tax credits by purchasing new computer equipment for Opelousas Catholic. Call me (337-942-5404, ext 102) for more information regarding this beneficial program. Please note that my office has re-located and is now next to the Media Center. As always, it is my pleasure to serve our students and parents in the area of technology, and we look forward to continuous improvements this upcoming school year.

Looking Ahead to 2019-2020!

With great enthusiasm, we look forward to what lies ahead for Opelousas Catholic School!

• Modern Media Center
• New athletic facilities near the field house
• New parking lot in front of the gymnasium
• Revamped front lobby for check-in
• Probable re-roofing project
• Brick campaign venture
• New promotional school video
• and much more!

Theme Song - Confidence!

Since confidence is key to all that we do at Opelousas Catholic School, appropriately the song by the music artist Sanctus Real has been chosen for our theme song for this upcoming year! Note this portion of the lyrics:

So give me faith like Daniel in the lion’s den
Give me hope like Moses in the wilderness
Give me a heart like David, Lord be my defense
So I can face my giants with confidence
Emmy Hutchins and Wayne Singleton showed their second grade auction item, a Holy Communion slate … depicting this exceptional time in their lives when they first received Jesus!

Citizenship awards for elementary went to those chosen for their exceptional leadership, academics, and respect for others: Annabelle Martin, Jackson Burnett, McKenize Lafleur, Maddie Rue Moutre, Ainsley Reed, Jack Nugent, Landon Ryder, Scout Darbonne, Caroline Courville, John Parker Fontenot, Madison Gussman, and Madison Faul.

See the excited looks on the faces of these kindergarten students as Mrs. Lalonde read to them about “Curious George”!

Third graders have been enjoying their classwork on their Chromebooks!

This group of fifth graders had fun in holding up the OCS frame to display their pride in being Vikings!

Religion awards for elementary were given to those selected for their demonstration of outstanding Christian behavior and Catholic faith: Alivia Geace, Caroline Olivier, Cohen Gallis, Nate Pousson, Cayden Meche, Sadie Smith, Katelyn Martin, Bhea Tate, Kennon Bohrner, and Jardyn Richard. Not pictured are Emmy Hutchins and Luke Reed.
The Grey Effect

OC participates in programs to help good causes; and this year one of our preschool parents introduced us to a special foundation they set up after the tragic loss of their infant son Greyson to SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome). Brian and Katie Sebastien started “The Grey Effect” a few years ago to spread awareness about SIDS and hopefully prevent others from this loss. With dollars raised, they purchase Owlet Baby Care Monitors to provide for new parents before they leave the hospital; and to help the cause, the Owlet Company matches The Grey Effect purchases. Mrs. Blaire Schwartzenburg Emonet, OC preschool teacher, was expecting her baby in February and was presented a monitor through the program. Learn more on their website (www.thegreyeffectfoundation.com). To promote awareness, OC students and staff wore “pink or blue” for their “Paint the Country Pink/Blue Day”. Shown here are preschool children sporting their “pink and blue” for SIDS awareness. How beautiful ... Greyson’s spirit remains alive!

Missionary Lesson

OC makes every effort to show instances of compassion to the children. This spring the third, fourth and fifth graders were blessed to hear the stories of Ms. Olivia Briolo, a missionary and sister to Mrs. Jessica Fontenot, OC third grade teacher. Ms. Olivia became emotional telling them how she served the poor, many of them children, and spread the gospel in the Phillipines and Peru. She shared some pictures with the students of the children and families she grew to love and encouraged the students to be missionaries at home and to proclaim God’s word to family and friends. It was a very inspiring visit!

GRANDPARENTS’ DAY

Grandparents’ Day 2019 is set for Wednesday, November 20! All grandparents (or a special aunt or uncle or godparent) are encouraged to attend. After the prayer service, there will be classroom visits with the elementary children. So please mark your calendars as the children look forward to this special day when you visit them! Pictured in 2018, Mrs. Carol Lafleur visited with her precious granddaughter MaKenzie for Grandparents’ Day ... much to MaKenzie’s delight!
OC "Students of the Year" for 2018-2019: Chris Jesclard, 5th grade; Marsha Savage, 12th grade; and Carter Zerangue, 8th grade

Nine student scholars were inducted into the National Honor Society based on their scholarship, service, leadership and character. Congratulations to:

Madeline Aymond    Jordan Doucet          Avery Provost
Alex Castille        Noah LaBruyere         Jesse Roy
Lora Charles     Morgan Nicholas           Katie Wagley

Serving as president in the next school year will be Avery Provost.

The Junior Beta Club completed a great service project in March when they presented a check for $2,200.00 to “Hope for Opelousas”, a local organization providing after-school enrichment programs and mentoring for 100 students in the area. What outstanding philanthropic efforts by our Junior Beta!

Students in grades 5 & 12 being solid examples of our school mission while staying academically strong and active in school events were named “Vikings of the Year” (chosen from the Vikings of the Month list):

Bella Blanchard & Brennan Charles - Elementary Vikings of the Year
Adrienne Allen & Taylor Thistlethwaite - High School Vikings of the Year

Elementary student Lucy Meche and junior high student Candice Green were named “Outstanding Piano Students of the Year” by Mrs. Carita Vargas of the Piano Masters program at OC.

Honored with the 2018-2019 School Service Awards were seniors Morgan Charles and Taylor Thistlethwaite for their positive responses in helping others and their school.

Kade Bidstrup, 8th grader, was the recipient of the Father Joseph Verbis Lafleur Memorial Scholarship as made available through the Richard Lafleur family.

High school leaders for the 2019-2020 school year include Katie Wagley, Student Body President; and class presidents Jon Ross Miller, seniors; Ivory Luna, juniors; Jaren St. Clair, sophomores; and Carter Zerangue, freshmen.

EVERY student from OC competing in the District Literary Rally at UL-Lafayette this spring PLACED in their respective subject areas! Fifteen of them (placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd) qualified for the State Literary Rally at LSU!

First place winners:
Ellie LaFleur, English I
John Paul Braham, Algebra II
Jordan Doucet, Accounting

Second place winners:
Lora Charles, Advanced Math/Pre-Calculus
Maddee Braham, World History
Eli Guidroz, French I
Adrienne Allen, Psychology
Elia Eades, Health

Third place winners:
Carter Zerangue, Algebra I
Ethan Mistrol, Geometry
Colin Lauret, Biology II
Gabe Reed, Physical Science
Brandon David, Chemistry
Rhett Bergeron, World Geography
Tayker Gauthreaux, French II

Maddie Braham and Colleen Chachere were also named to the “All-Star Cast” for their one-act play in the District Drama Rally.

Jordan Doucet, senior, competed in the State Literary Rally and was awarded second place in the subject of Accounting.

The Varsity Cheerleader Squad 2019-2020: Lexi Fontenot, captain; Katie Wagley, co-captain; Maci Bergeron, Aubre Berzas, Mary Collins, Amy Claire Miller, Olivia Hebert, Kaylee Bergeron, Lindsay Charles, Ella Eades, Anna Kate Emonet, Brailley Major, Alyssa Meche, Gracie Carriere, Olivia Clark, and Emmie Courvelle. OC takes pride in their numerous UCA summer camp awards and congratulates the four who were named “All American” … Katie, Lexi, Aubre, and Mary! The Junior High Cheerleaders also had a great UCA camp in late summer with several awards and with Mary Katherine Trahan making “All American”!

The Vikette Dance Team 2019-2020: Emily Briley (captain), Anna McKinney (co-captain), Nyah Lynch, Lydia Martin, Lauren Charles, Kaitlynn Carriere, Alyssa Guider, Marilyn Moody, and McKenzie DeRouen. The team also had a successful UDA summer camp with several awards including special kudos to Emily and Nyah for making “All American”!

It was another moving Passion Play presented by the senior class during Holy Week. Major parts were played beautifully by Alex Castille, Jesus Christ; Marsha Savage, His mother Mary; and Madeleine Braham, Mary Magdalene.

At the Junior Ring Ceremony, many junior scholars were recognized for reaching and/or exceeding college readiness benchmark scores as set by ACT on recent testing. These are minimum scores required for students to have a high probability of success in credit-bearing first-year college courses in areas of English composition, Social Sciences, College Algebra, and Biology. The group pictured included those juniors who had ACT composite scores of 23 or higher! *On another note, this was the first year the juniors wore white gowns for the Ring Ceremony while seniors wore their purple graduation gowns to present class rings to them.
We commend high school leaders Noah LaBruyere, Katie Wagley, Myles Lynch, Emily Briley, Grant Larcade, and Lora Charles who were selected as delegates to attend the American Legion Boys' and Girls' State this summer at Northwestern State University, a premier leadership development program for young people.

The late Msgr. Louis J. Melancon was a driving force behind the success of our school for many years as a pastor and later in retirement as our school chaplain. Following his death last summer, to perpetuate his memory and legacy, the administration presented scholarships to students best exemplifying the spirit of Msgr. Melancon. A student was selected from each owner parish and one at large who met the requirements. Congratulations to the following Msgr. Melancon Memorial Scholarship recipients:

- Addison Gautreaux, St. Landry Catholic Church
- Joseph Gradnigo, Holy Ghost Catholic Church
- Emily Jesclard, Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church
- Kade Bidstrup, Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church
- Eli Chelette, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
- Emma Boudreaux, Sacred Heart Catholic Church (Port Barre)

High school French students enjoyed their dress and their part in the second annual Courir de Mardi Gras at OC, a cultural learning experience filled with fun! Elementary French students of Mrs. Pam Cormier Helon (1985) led the prayer in French; kindergarten students dressed as "chickens" sang "Alueta" with Mrs. Emily Truhan Turner (2001); and in the end, the real chickens were released for the BIG chase in a special lesson about this South Louisiana tradition. Thanks also to the volunteer fathers who cooked a delicious gumbo for all!

High school French students enjoyed their dress and their part in the second annual Courir de Mardi Gras at OC, a cultural learning experience filled with fun! Elementary French students of Mrs. Pam Cormier Helon (1985) led the prayer in French; kindergarten students dressed as "chickens" sang "Alueta" with Mrs. Emily Truhan Turner (2001); and in the end, the real chickens were released for the BIG chase in a special lesson about this South Louisiana tradition. Thanks also to the volunteer fathers who cooked a delicious gumbo for all!

VIKINGS OF THE MONTH

Students in grades 5 (elementary section); 8 (junior high section); and 12 (high school section) were selected as “Vikings of the Month” for their outstanding qualities, academics and leadership.

January: Ali Bertrand & Konnor Bidstrup, 5th
Betsy Wallace & Kade Bidstrup, 8th
Molly Truhan & Brandon Theriot, 12th

February: Ellie Savage & John Parker Trahan, 5th
McKenzie Chevis & Jake Veazey, 8th
Rebecca Thomas & Sam Pire, 12th

March: Aubree Carriere & Rhylian Faul, 5th
Ann-Elyse Venable & Jackson LaGrange, 8th
Lara Clark & Scout Busby, 12th

April: Bailey Melancon & Bennett Fisher, 5th
Olivia Deville & Luke Copenhaver, 8th
Amelia Miguez & Adam Purser, 12th

*Those honored in September-December were listed in the winter issue of The Saga newsletter.

For the last time together, the graduates (some being at OC since preschool) sang proudly the school alma mater closing out the 2019 Baccalaureate Ceremony. Many special friendships will last a lifetime!
ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

What an OUTSTANDING year for Viking athletics! Three DISTRICT TITLES were earned by football, boys’ basketball and baseball! Playoff action was seen by football, boys’ and girls’ soccer, boys’ and girls’ basketball, and baseball. Incredibly, boys’ basketball made it all the way to the State Semifinals while the baseball team played in the State Finals and are the 2019 State Division IV Runner Up! There were many individual accolades, too!

Football (Coach Thomas David)
District 5-1A Champs … undefeated in district!
The team went to the quarterfinal round!
Zach Mengarelli (OC Team Co-MVP)
Devin Thierry (OC Team Co-MVP; District Offensive MVP)
Cameron Lee (District Defensive MVP)
Christian Miller (Leadership Award)
Remy Bergeron & James Monroe (Captain’s Awards)
Coach Thomas David (District 5-1A Coach of the Year)

Cross Country (Coach Steve Guidroz)
Lauren Bainter (Girls’ MVP)
Hunter Monceret (Boys’ MVP)
State Meet participants:
Girls Lauren Bainter, Lauren Charles, Lora Charles, Lydia Martin
Boys Jon Burton Charles, Max Collins, Luke Lafleur, Colin Lauret,
Myles Lynch, Hunter Monceret, Toby Villemarette

Girls’ Basketball (Coach Matt Citron)
They placed 2nd in district and reached the regional round!
Amelia Miguez (OC Offensive MVP)
Layn Carter (OC Defensive MVP)

Boys’ Basketball (Coach Jeff Dupre)
District 5-1A Champs & went to State Semifinals!
Ronal Patin (OC Offensive MVP)
Devin Thierry (OC Defensive MVP)
Keon Coleman (OC Team MVP; All Acadiana & All State honors)
Coach Jeff Dupre (District 5-1A Coach of the Year)

Girls’ Soccer (Coach Chuck Soileau)
The team went to the playoffs’ 1st round!
Madeleine Sylvester (OC Offensive MVP; District & Parish Offensive MVP)
Marsha Savage (OC Defensive MVP)
Mary Collins (OC Midfield MVP; Parish Defensive MVP)
Sarah Ortego (OC Team MVP)

Boys’ Soccer (Coach Ben Dubuc)
The team went to the playoffs’ 1st round!
Drew Sebastien (OC Offensive MVP)
Jack Sebastien (OC Defensive MVP)
Jesse Roy (OC Team MVP)

Softball (Coach Jay Artall)
Sarah Ortego (OC Offensive MVP & Team MVP)
Gracie Lavergne (OC Defensive MVP)
Morgan Nicholas (Scotty Speyrer Sportsmanship Award)

Baseball (Coach Justin Boyd)
District 5-1A Champs & Division IV State Runner-Up!
Zach Mengarelli (OC Offensive MVP & District MVP)
Mac Thibodeaux (OC Defensive MVP)
Cameron Gauthier (OC Team MVP & Parish MVP; All State)
Jesse Roy (Gene Mills Memorial Award)
Coach Justin Boyd (District 5-1A & Parish Coach of the Year)

Track (Coaches Thomas David & Connie Thierry)
Girls:
Sahvana Bourque (OC Track MVP)
Layn Carter (OC Field MVP)

Boys:
Ethan Stelly (OC Track MVP)
Donovan Green (OC Field MVP) (District, Parish & Regional Champ Discus; School Record)
James Monroe (District & Parish Champ Shot Put)
Keon Coleman (Parish Champ High Jump)

Golf (Coach John Braham)
Regional 4th place
John Paul Braham (OC Best Overall Golfer)
Luke Vidrine (OC Most Outstanding Performance, Regionals)

Tennis (Coach Chuck Soileau)
Taylor Thistlethwaite (Regional Champ; State Semifinalist)
Other State Tourney qualifiers:
Mary Collins, Aubry Hidalgo, Colin Lauret, Kathryn Mouret,
Marsha Savage, Emily Thibodeaux

SPECIAL ATHLETIC FOOTNOTES

Recipients of the 2nd annual Earl Heintz Scholarship were Keon Coleman and Caleb Sullivan as presented by Mrs. Marty Heintz in memory of her late husband who taught and coached football and track over his career. The chosen athletes participated in these two sports and met the character requirements and recommendations.

OC gives thanks to Coach Jay Artall (1978) who has coached the Lady Vikings softball team for several years. He announced that he is stepping down as the head softball coach, and we are grateful for his many years of devotion in directing the softball program.

Announced as “All State Academic Honors” through LHSA for outstanding academic achievement and athletic participation: seniors Lauren Bainter, Remy Bergeron, Alex Catille, Matthew Courville, Sam Pitre, Marsha Savage, and Taylor Thistlethwaite.

In baseball, Cameron Gauthier was named “2019 Pitcher of the Year” on the LBCA Region 5 Team. Also named on this team list were Sam Pitre and Cameron Lee.

Congratulations to Coach Roddy Dye for being selected as “Athletic Booster of the Year” for his many years of coaching junior high football and his untiring work on the field with varsity football. Thank you!

In highest honors, Sarah Ortego was named “Lady Viking of the Year” at the Athletic Awards Program while Matthew Courville received the “Viking of the Year” honors. *Lauren Bainter and Taylor Thistlethwaite were recipients of the Scholastic Athlete awards.*
Success Stories at the Next Level

• Congratulations to Mallory Little (2018) who played the first base position for the LSU-Eunice Lady Tigers this year, helping them to the 2019 NJCAA Division II Softball National Championship!

• Mia Manzanares (2015) competed in her fourth College National Rodeo Finals and took first place in the Goat Tying event and won the All Around Title again, leading the McNeese women’s team to their second National Championship! She graduated summa cum laude in May with a B.S. degree in Health and Human Performance and a concentration in Sports Medicine. Mia is now working on her masters through Texas A&M Commerce and will still be able to compete in rodeo one more year. Then she will apply to physical therapy school to pursue her doctorate.

FOOTBALL SEASON 2019 (DISTRICT 5-1A)

Friday, August 30 Eunice Jamboree St. Ed’s
Friday, September 6 Opelousas High Home
Friday, September 13 Vermilion Catholic Away
Thursday, September 19 Port Barre Away
Friday, September 27 Kinder Home
Friday, October 4 Port Allen Away
Thursday, October 10 St. Edmund (D) Home
Friday, October 18 Catholic High-PC (D) Away
Friday, October 25 North Central (D) * Home
Friday, November 1 Sacred Heart-VP (D) Home
Friday, November 8 Westminster (D) Home

(D) District game * Homecoming

2019 “Gun/Cash A Week” Raffle
The Athletic Council continues its Super Raffle where there are 52 chances to win! Each week the winner has a choice between a Winchester SXP Waterfowl 12 gauge shotgun OR Savage Axis Stainless XP rifle OR $500 cash. Contact Athletic Director Tommy Tate (337-942-5404 ext. 113; tatet@ocsvikings.com) for more information on purchasing a $50 ticket!

ALUMNI SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT Sees Changes!
Mark your calendars for the 10th annual OC Alumni Softball Tournament set for September 7-8. We are excited to see it being held on the OC ball fields this year, and it will be held on Saturday-Sunday instead of Friday-Saturday-Sunday as in the past. Being able to have two games going at every time slot will certainly help! Expect to see some “cabbage ball” games for the “older” alumni. There will be treats and activities for the kids as well.

If you want to enjoy a BIG game, mark September 6 on your calendars for the matchup between the 1A OC Vikings and the 4A OHS Tigers in Donald Gardner Stadium which will open up the regular season for both teams! Other than some jamboree stints in the 70s and 80s, it has been DECADES since these cross-town Opelousas teams have met on the field in regular season. Could this be the beginning of a very special game for years ahead? See you there on September 6!

Junior High Athletics!
Congratulations to our junior high teams for their successful year:

• 5th-6th grade football won the “Crawfish Bowl” as League Champs once again!
• 7th-8th grade football earned the title of League Runner-Up
• 6th grade baseball claimed the League Championship!
• 7th grade baseball & 7th grade softball finished as League Runner-Ups

Lil’ Viking Rodeo Star!
This spring our little second grader Addison Gautreaux won “Rookie of the Year” in the Louisiana Cajun Little Britches Rodeo! She competed at “nationals” this summer and finished in the Top 28 in barrels and poles! We are so proud of Addison and will be cheering her on for years to come!

ATHLETIC FUNDRAISING
Dancing Viking Starz!
The “Dancing Viking Starz” annual event sponsored by the OC Athletic Council was again a great entertaining evening featuring seven couples!
Craig Bordelon (1986) & Stacie Miller – Mirror Ball Champs
Elbert Guillory & Caroline Cosgrove-Richard (2013)
George Hargroder (1982) & Stephanie Roy – Judge’s Award
Jason Hatfield & Wanda Juneau
*Team Shannon Bihm Miller (1990) – Fan Favorite
Walt Phythian & Donna Veillon
“Team Shannon Miller” included Emily Trathan Turner (2001), Brandi G. Olivier, Heather Savoie Wallace (1993), and Nichole Gordon Miller (2005). The Athletic Council thanks the dancers, choreographers, sponsors, guests, and volunteers helping to raise funds for Viking athletics!

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Come on alumni! Send us your information to be included in this section for future issues.

Dennis Boudreaux (1980) completed his studies in English Education at USL and has been employed by the Iberia Parish School Board for the last 28 years where he has taught English for grades 7-12. He was honored as "Teacher of the Year" in 1989 and again in 2002. On a special note, Dennis has published three books/novels over the years. He and his wife live in Erath, La. and are the parents of three children.

Keith Guidry (1993) earned his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. He has enjoyed a career as a graphic designer, a Museum Curator of Exhibitions for the Opelousas museum of Art, and an Assistant Director of the UL Alumni Association. Keith and his wife Lisa live in Lafayette where he now serves as the Community Relations Coordinator of the Lafayette Public Library System. He has five godsons and one goddaughter, and enjoys making art, cooking, and traveling with his wife.

Amber Cormier (2009) received her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from the LSU School of Allied Health. She currently lives in New Orleans where she works in inpatient rehab therapy with traumatic brain, stroke and spinal cord injuries.

Kristen Courville Pavy (2010) studied for two years through the LSU system and has been a licensed pharmacy technician for six years. She is currently working for Opelousas General Health System. Kristen and her husband Matt are expecting their first child this summer and make their home in Port Barre, La.

Emily Labbe Pitre (2010) attended LSU in Baton Rouge where she graduated with a master's degree in education. She is now married and teaches first grade in Metarie, La. where they are raising their two young sons.

William Pitre (2010) graduated from LSU with a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. After working in the St. Landry Parish School System, Will just accepted a position at his alma mater to teach Social Studies and become the head softball coach in 2019-2020. He will also help with football. Will married within the past year, and he and his wife live in the Opelousas area.

Logan Doucet (2011) received her B.S. degree from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in Business Administration with a major in Accounting. Logan continued her studies and earned her Master of Business Administration. She currently works as an accountant with John S. Dowling & Company in Opelousas.

Gavin Doucet (2013) studied at UL-Lafayette before getting into the business world and now works as the grocery manager for Cash Saver in Opelousas. He is engaged to Ashley Bernard (2014), and they plan to marry on May 23, 2020.

Emily Vidrine (2014) recently completed the LSU Dental Hygiene Program in Lafayette, and she even took time out of her busy schedule this spring to speak to the OC preschoolers and kindergarteners about the importance of keeping their teeth clean and healthy. Emily looks forward to her career as a dental hygienist.

Kaleb Gautreaux (2015) finished his degree program in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette. He is currently living in Baton Rouge where he is waiting on a job confirmation.

Connor Lastie (2015) completed the Non-Destructive testing program through T.H. Harris Vo-Tech School and has been working in the petrochemical/oilfield industry. He also continues his culinary skills on the side working with his mother to continue the legacy of Shirley Lemelle's Catering.

Amy Stelly (2015) graduated in May from LSU in Baton Rouge where she studied Kinesiology. While at LSU, she was a four-year academic honor roll student on the LSU Track and Field team as a pole vaulter. Amy now plans to further her education by entering into a physical therapy program.

Join the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!
The Catholic Schools of Opelousas Alumni Association seeks more members from OC, AIC, and Holy Ghost School as the group continues in the spirit of Catholic education. Kathy Hebert in the Advancement Office expresses gratitude to the alumni board and Heather Savoie Wallace (OC 1993), president for the past five years. Heather is handing over the gavel to Blaire Schwartzburg Emonet (2001) and Haley Devillier Emonet (1996) who will serve as Co-Presidents this year.

ALL alumni are encouraged to get involved to make a difference for OC! Those on the school’s database can expect to receive 2019-20 membership information in the mail soon. Let’s pull together and be advocates for Catholic education in Opelousas!

NEWEST ALUMNI – Class of 2019
(note the parent or parents who are alumni)

Adrienne Allen * 

Clint Ardoin *

Taylor Armand

Lauren Bainton *

Remy Bergeron *
Paul & Shannon Woodson Bergeron (1991)

Gabrielle Biba
Paul Biba (1988)

Madeleine Braham *

Destiny Broussard

S. Scout Busby
Charles & Jennifer Daigle Busby (1988)

Alexander Castille *

Alyssa Chachere

C. Colleen Chachere *

Marion Charles *

Lara Clark

Maximilian Collins *

Evan Cosgrove-Richard

Kathryn Cosgrove-Richard (1986)

Matthew Courville *
Alan (1972) & Judy Reed Courville (1976)

Lane Darby

Jennifer Speyer Darby (1989)

Jordan Doucet *
Kevin Doucet (1982)

Ann Marie Duplechain
Lia Reed Duplechain (1987)

Gabrielle Fusillier *

Michael Galindo

Gavin Guidroz

Chloe Jarrell

Amanda Knott *

Cameron Lee

Collin Leger
Corey Leger (1992)

Madison Macip

Natalie Marks *
Julie DeJean Marks (1976)

Laura Meche

Zachary Mengarelli

Lynette Artall Mengarelli (1981)

Amelia Miguez *

Christian Miller

James Monroe

Sarah Ortego

Samuel Pitre *

Adam Purser
Michael Purser (1986)

Dylan Reed

Tyler Richard

Leah Robin

Marsha Savage *

Mary Grace Stelly *

Emily Sutor

Madeleine Sylvester
Michael Sylvester (1980)

Brandon Theriot

Emily Thibodeaux

J. McBride Thibodeaux

Devin Thierry
Neal Thierry (1984)

Taylor Thisteltwhaitre *

Rebecca Thomas *

Molly Trahan *

Luke Vidrine
Michael Vidrine (1982)

Honor graduate *
ALUMNI in the MEDIA ...

In the local Community Chronicles newspaper, we saw that Charles Going (1973) was appointed to serve on the Opelousas General Hospital Trust Authority Board of Trustees. Charles is a Certified Public Accountant and senior member and founder of Going, Sebastion, Fisher & LeBoeuf LLP in Opelousas. He has practiced public accounting for the past 41 years and has served on boards for business, civic, non-profit and religious organizations. He is a former president of the St. Landry Chamber of Commerce, Our Lady Queen of Angels Catholic Church Parish Council, and Opelousas Rotary Club. Currently, Charles serves as president of the Opelousas Area Cerebral Palsy Clinic and chairman of his church finance committee. He and his wife Laurie (1974) are the parents of triplets who have all completed their education at OC.

Bobby Ardoin (1966) continues to be the local Daily World newspaper reporter and sportswriter and was recently honored by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association. He has completed an amazing 52 years of covering high school athletics in St. Landry Parish!

Featured in our local newspaper, Hunter DeBlanc (2004) graduated from UL-Lafayette and has been a pianist, singer and songwriter around Australia in recent years. After writing the song “Sydney” for his love of the city there, his music has taken off and has been supported by Australian Radio Promotions. Since then, he has enjoyed interviews and appearances throughout Australia.

As recently noted on social media, Dr. Troy Ardoin (1994) is an orthopedic surgeon practicing in the Little Rock, Arkansas area. He focuses on the care and surgical repair of the foot and ankle. You can learn more about him at www.orthoarkansas.com/troy-ardoin-md. Dr. Ardoin and his wife are the parents of four children.

Cannatella Grocery in Melville owned by Grant Cannatella (1984) and his brother Brian Cannatella (1981) was recently featured on TWILA (This Week in Louisiana Agriculture) and seen on 18 state broadcast and cable stations! They were featured for bringing their small town charm to mid-city Baton Rouge where they opened a specialty store there which Grant’s wife Pam manages.

The Baton Rouge Advocate newspaper published a story on Andy Martin (1997) in late March announcing his hire as the new head football coach at University High in Baton Rouge. University High is where Coach Martin has been working as an assistant for several years when they won three Division II state championships. Prior to that, he coached at Catholic High of Baton Rouge.

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Reported by the university is the LSU Spring 2019 Graduate List, and OC notices a few alumni. Congratulations to all!

College of Business: Leslie Miquel III (2014)
College of Human Sciences & Education: Amy Stelly (2015)
College of Science, Alisy Soileau (2015)

STORK NEWS from OC COUPLE

Dr. Jason and Katie Diesi Trahan (2002/2001) welcomed their fifth child in June when baby girl Celia Mae was born. Jason is building his practice as an ENT with Southern ENT in Opelousas while Katie remains very busy with their young family. Celia Mae will surely follow in the footsteps of her older siblings who all attend Opelousas Catholic.

HOMECOMING 2019!

Attention alumni! Mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2019! Let’s join together and reminisce those good old high school days!

Homecoming Parade – Thursday, October 24, 6:00 pm
Homecoming Mass – Friday, October 25, time TBA
Homecoming Game – Friday, October 25, 7:00 pm

* All alumni are invited to stop by the “Alumni Welcome Tent” (6-7 pm) to register for half-time drawings and to enjoy food, refreshments, and reminiscing before the game! A pre-game presentation of past royalty is set for 6:30 pm.

ALL past grads are encouraged to attend/participate in the parade, coronation and game. To be recognized at the game are the OC classes of 2010, 2000, 1990 and 1980 and AIC and Holy Ghost School classes of 1970. More detailed information will be mailed to alumni in September. For any questions, contact Kathy Hebert in the Advancement Office (337-942-5404 ext. 105) or email at hebertk@ocsylvikings.com.

Do you know who gave the highest bid and won the beautiful “Live Painting” from last year’s Homecoming game?? The parents of Homecoming Queen Morgan Charles … Blake and Hope Charles! What a fabulous keepsake!

Recalling PAST PARADE HONORS

➢ Buddy Mackey was honored as the Homecoming Grand Marshal in the 1989 Homecoming Parade 30 years ago this fall!

➢ Twenty years ago in the fall of 1999, representatives of each class since the formation of OC in 1972 were chosen to lead the Homecoming Parade.

➢ Coach Roddy Dye, loyal OC booster and volunteer, was bestowed the honor of 2009 Homecoming Grand Marshal ten years ago.

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

Gifts to the OC Memorial Program during this school year have memorialized departed friends and loved ones by remembering them at all school masses. The following names have been initially enrolled from July 2018 – July 2019. Noted in parentheses are the years of graduation of those who are alumni. May God bless them all with eternal peace!

Anyone interested in enrolling a loved one may send a gift to the Opelousas Catholic Foundation at 428 E. Prudhomme Street indicating the name of the departed friends and loved ones by remembering them at all school masses. The following names have been initially enrolled from July 2018 – July 2019. Noted in parentheses are the years of graduation of those who are alumni.

Fredda Mayeaux
Floyd Lavergne
Msgr. Louis Melancon
Albert Olivier
Barbara Burgin-Thibodeaux (1964)
Frances Reiners
Paul E. Joubert, Jr.
George Beaugh
Murphy Green
Ethel Thibodeaux
Norma P. Cortez
John Ortego, Jr.
Kathryn DeJean Howard
Jackie Bordelon
Janva and Paul Costanza
Bobby R. Meaux
Lois Ledoux Robert (1950)
Charles Ruffino, Jr. (1960)
William “Billy” Jarrell, Jr. (1955)
Merrick Wyble, MD
Raphael Paul Fontenot
Harriett Hidalgo Doucet (1955)
Thelma L. Macip
Alvin Ray Verrette
Rev. Joseph Breaux
Eugenia Bearb
Sonny Fuselier
Neal Whip (1977)
Kermitt Christ
Eddie L. Stelly (1990)

Remembering the days at AIC, when the “boys” and “girls” were separated and taught by the Christian Brothers and the Marianites of Holy Cross! Besides these “boys”, the “girls” graduates included Sandra Bordelon, Janet Bourque, Franclyn Carriere, Barbara Clause, Judy Doucet, Cynthia Fegg, Jessica Jarrell, Linda Latour, Dolores Lervergne, Maxine Ledoux, Ann Lyman, Carolyn Mayer, Betty Napien, Susan

Onnebane, Sherry Ortego, Bonnie Pire, Judith Quirk, Clarisse Sandea, Jo Ann Selleau, Jo Anne Vidrine, Tetretna Wilbert, Mary Wyble, Theresa Wyble, and Beverly Zerangue.

This group from the Class of 1960 is about to celebrate 60 years since their senior year!

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Anyone interested in enrolling a loved one may send a gift to the Opelousas Catholic Foundation at 428 E. Prudhomme Street indicating the name of the deceased, the name(s)/address of the donor(s), and the name(s)/address of the family to be sent a card by OC in acknowledgment of the enrollment.

Freida Mayeaux
Floyd Lavergne
Msgr. Louis Melancon
Albert Olivier
Barbara Burgin-Thibodeaux (1964)
Frances Reiners
Paul E. Joubert, Jr.
George Beaugh
Murphy Green
Ethel Thibodeaux
Norma P. Cortez
John Ortego, Jr.
Kathryn DeJean Howard
Jackie Bordelon
Janva and Paul Costanza
Bobby R. Meaux
Lois Ledoux Robert (1950)
Charles Ruffino, Jr. (1960)
William “Billy” Jarrell, Jr. (1955)
Merrick Wyble, MD
Raphael Paul Fontenot
Harriett Hidalgo Doucet (1955)
Thelma L. Macip
Alvin Ray Verrette
Rev. Joseph Breaux
Eugenia Bearb
Sonny Fuselier
Neal Whip (1977)
Kermitt Christ
Eddie L. Stelly (1990)
Angel Appeal 2018-2019

How grateful we are for the gifts bestowed upon our Angel Appeal Drive for 2018-2019! (Gratitude also goes out to those who purchased Dinner & Auction tickets.) All efforts helped to transform our library into a modern media center.

Seraphim Society ($5,000+)
David/Emily Lucito Smith (2002)

Cherubim Club ($2,500+)
Juanita Brinkman Fontenot (1954)
in memory of Harold (1953) and Todd Fontenot (1978)
Mary Beth Henry (1977)
in memory of Scott A. Henry

St. Michael Protectors ($1,000+)
Dr. Amelie A. Hollier (1980)

St. Gabriel Givers ($500+)
Rev. Angelo Cremaldi
Elaine E. Eise (1972)
in memory of Sal Sr, Betty, Sal Jr, and David Diesi
Deacon Sammy/Becky Faul Diesi (1968/1970)
Kim/David Edmond (1988)
Faye/Wayne Reiniers (1972)

Archangel Associates ($250+)
Virvl Fontenot Bradley (1952)
in memory of John E. Bradley
Bruce Gaudin
Iris LaBruyere
in memory of Louis R. LaBruyere III
James C. Lopez (1963)
Brad/Sharon Ortego
Mark/Carrie Reed
Larry/Laurie Singletary
Cecil W. Soileau (1956)
Daniel/Suzzette VonGontard
in memory of Missy Quebedeaux

Guardian Angels ($100+)
Anonymous
American Bank & Trust Company
Jim/Patrici Ventre Bagby (1976)
J.Y. Bordelon, MD
Jason/Elizabeth Borne
Justin Boyd (1997)
Pat/Willy Boyd (1971)
Laurie/Stevie Dupuis (1973)
Eric/Blaine Schwartzburg Emonet (1996/2001)
Kyle Farrar (1980)
Don Fisher (1973)
in memory of Rose Fisher
Ronald Gobert (1977)
Gordon/Miller/Flrotot Family
Rita Robison Grogan (1970)
Eric Hansen (1970)
Jeanine Hansen (1963)
Anita/Dwayne Hargroder (1979)

Charles/Beth Going Hebert (1974)
Keith/Kathy E. Hebert
Marty Heintz
in memory of Earl Heintz
Joseph H. Hidalgo, Sr. (1953)
Mike/Sharon Higginsbotham
Yvette Howard
Most Reverend Michael Jarrell (1958)
Bernard/Lois Joubert
Ray/Dolores Kleefisch
Kristin Lagrange (2001)
Rose Lalonde
Dwight/Pam Landreneau
Dwight/Christine Ledoux
in memory of Shane Christian Ledoux
Hurshel/Janette Leger
Herby Lormand
Michael Lucito (1997)
Richard/Judith Richard Lucito (1975)
Thelma Manuel
in memory of Tommy & Teddy Manuel
Ann Carol Comeaux McKinney (1966)
in memory of Dalton & Evelyn Comeaux
Bret/Liz Meche
Dale Ortego (1959)
Harold Ortego
in memory of Quin & Delores Ortego
Claire Nicholson Persich (1956)
Chris Richard (1975)
Lauren Richard (1999)
Sydney Herbert Schneider (1969)
in memory of Louis Fay
Albert/Irene Soileau
in memory of Magr. Louis Melancon
Dale/Catherine St. Cyr
Sal/Cristal Vazquez
Sandra Venable
Thomas Vidrine
Ann Prudhomme Warren (1988)

Angels of God (up to $99)
Anonymous
Tracy Armand
Jeanette Bailey
Frank Boudreaux (1957)
Brent/Summer Breaux
Butch/Joanne Briley
Mary M. Budd (1961)
Darren/Sara Cart
Peter/Pamela Caviness
Hope Charles
Kermit/JoAnn Christ
Matt Citron
Bonnie Herpin Darbonne (1982)
Jay/Berna Deshotel
in memory of Earl Heintz
Dwight/Pam Landreneau
Dwight/Christine Ledoux
in memory of Shane Christian Ledoux
Hurshel/Janette Leger
Herby Lormand
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Dale/Catherine St. Cyr
Sal/Cristal Vazquez
Sandra Venable
Thomas Vidrine
Ann Prudhomme Warren (1988)

#iGiveCatholic

Mark your calendars for “iGiveCatholic Day” on December 3! It is a global online giving day that kicks off the charitable season and brings the Catholic community together to give back to some of their favorite Catholic nonprofits. Secure, tax-deductible donations to eligible Catholic organizations in participating dioceses will be accepted at iGiveCatholic.org during the 24-hour period on December 3. Follow our OC Facebook page for updates as we get closer, and may God bless our Opelousas Catholic supporters!
PASTORS:
Msgr. Russell Harrington, Chancellor
Msgr. Keith DeRouen
Rev. Matthew Higginbotham
Rev. Lambert Lein
Rev. Gregory Simien

ADMINISTRATORS:
Marty Heintz, Principal
Matt Citron, Assistant Principal of Elementary Studies
Liz Meche, Assistant Principal of Academics (grades 6-12)
Willard Hanks, Dean of Students

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:
John Braham

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR:
Tommy Tate

SCHOOL COUNSELOR:
Cindy Lafleur

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR:
Beth G. Hebert (1974)

DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT:
Kathy Hebert

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL:
Sharon Ortego, President

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION:
Lindsey Reed, President

ACADEMIC COUNCIL:
Vickie Collins, President

ATHLETIC COUNCIL:
Steve Guidroz, President (1978)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
(2019 - 2020)

UPCOMING EVENTS 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

September 7-8 .......................................................... Alumni Softball Tourney, OC campus
September 17 .......................................................... Founder's Day Mass & Activities
September 20 .......................................................... High School Retreat-a-Palooza/Service Day
October 11 .............................................................. Academic Pep Rally
October 14-15 .......................................................... Fall Break
October 24 .............................................................. Homecoming Parade/Coronation
October 25 .............................................................. Homecoming Mass/Pep Rally/Game
November 20 .......................................................... Grandparents’ Day
November 25-29 ....................................................... Thanksgiving break
December 3 ............................................................ “iGiveCatholic Day”
December 23-January 3 ........................................... Christmas break
January 26-February 1 .............................................. Catholic Schools Week
February 7 ............................................................. Dinner, Auction & Music
THANK YOU to the five advertising sponsors throughout this newsletter! The Advancement Office appreciates your support in making this newsletter possible. Others who wish to advertise may call 337-942-5404 ext. 105.

OCS does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, creed or national origin in admissions or employment policies.