



10th Annual State of the School January 27, 2026

Faith + Family¹ + Excellence



Agenda

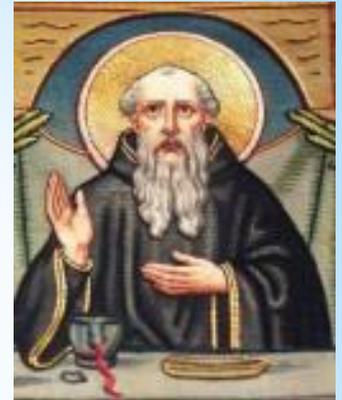
- Prayer
- Introductions
- Catholic Schools Week!
- Foundational Documents Review
- What We've Done
- Where We Are Going
- Questions and Closing Prayer



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Our Parish Staff



Father Tom Lilly (Pastor)

Katherine Mitchell (Administrative Assistant)

Jaimie Sultenfuss (Business Manager)**

Gabe O'Lena (Youth and Young Adult Minister)

John and Shelby Burger (Super Sunday Coordinators)

Elaine Potter (Church Housekeeper)

Steve Ring (Director of Music)

****Supports Lumen Christi as well**



LUMEN + CHRISTI
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Our School Board

School Board

2025-2026 Actions



- Building for Our Future—Portable Classrooms!
 - Purpose: Reclaim the library as student multi-use space
 - Goal: Raise \$100k in 6 weeks to include at the Gala
 - School Board
 - Alumni and families
 - Grandparents
 - Friends of Lumen

Portables Committee

Mike Murkowski

Ryan Stanley

Bry Turner

Anne Gore

Fr. Tom Lilly

School Board Spring Speaker Series



Tuesday, April 7, 7-9pm

Facilitator: Kate Bazin

Topic: Watch the powerful new documentary exploring the life and legacy of Saint Carlo Acutis and the impact of technology on young people today.

Bring the whole family!



SAT. - SUN. JAN 24-25TH

Celebrate Our Parish:

- Students who attend Saturday Vigil or Sunday Mass in uniform will earn **DOUBLE FIA** hours.

MON. JAN 26TH

Celebrate Our Students:

- Teachers will pray for **ALL** students
- "Souper Bowl" Drive Kick-Off
- Student Award Ceremony (1pm)

TUES. JAN 27TH

Celebrate Our Community/Family:

- Day spent at Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Mass at 10am (3900 Wisconsin St)
- Wonderfully Made, 10th - 11th girls, 5pm
- State of the School Meeting, 7pm
(Both events at Lumen)

WED. JAN 28TH

Celebrate Our Vocations:

- Vocation Panel celebrating marriage, religious and single life, 1pm

FRI. JAN 30TH

Celebrate Our Staff and Volunteers:

- Doughnuts and Coffee delivered curbside to parents and staff during morning drop off

2026 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

THURS. JAN 29TH

Celebrate Our Nation:

- Nation Prayer
- Spirit Day (Red, White & Blue)
- Chili for Lunch
- House Snacks



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Discover Catholic Schools Week
November 16 - 22, 2025

Catholic Schools Week (CSW)
January 25 - 31, 2026



2026 Fall “...And Then Some” Award

“He who confers benefits will be amply enriched, and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:25

This award recognizes one male or female (juniors or senior high school) who makes a significant and positive impact during the semester. To be considered, the nominee must go above and beyond that which is normally expected of a Lumen student. Student accomplishments should set them apart from their peers and should have a noticeable contribution to the school and community at large.

This award is not an academic ability award nor is it an athletic award. Rather, this award showcases a student that best exemplifies and lives daily core values of Faith, Family, and Excellence... and then some. The award citation reads:



Kolten D. Thimsen
Class of 2026

“These three little words are the secret to success.
They are the difference between you and the average people.
You always do what it is expected... and then some.
You are kind, considerate, and thoughtful of others...and then some.
You meet your obligations and responsibilities daily and squarely...and then some.
We are thankful for people like you, for you go above and beyond
to make the world a better place.”



Celebrating our Students!

Our School Staff



Brian Ross (Principal)
Kimberly Guzman (Front Office)
Anne Gore (Director of Advancement/Enrollment)
John Warren (Athletic Director)
Chris Tooman (Asst Athletic Director/PE/Health)
Doug Berry (Campus Minister/Theology)
Debbie Brewer (Dean of Academics/Math/Science)
Marcea Tjaden (Math/LA/Social Studies)
Carolyn Baldessari (English/LA)
Rebecca Gerke (Math/Science)
Alison Craig (Math/Science)
Audrie Williams/Morgan Herschberger (LA)
Nikira Lane (Social Studies/Science)
Catherine Haslett (Social Studies/Theology)
Lea Bouton (Science/Theology)
Deacon Gustavo Azpilcueta (Spanish/Theology)
Father Tom (Theology)*

***Part Time**



Review of our Foundational Documents

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Mission Statement

(What we are called to do)

**As a ministry of St. Benedict Parish,
Lumen Christi High School provides a
rigorous Catholic education in a
Christ-like environment**

Faith + Family¹¹ + Excellence



Our Philosophy and Core Values (What we are called to be)

**We are called to proclaim the
Gospel of Jesus Christ,
to build community,
and to serve our brothers and sisters.**

**We are united in our Core Values of
*Living Faith, Celebrating Family,
and Achieving Excellence***

6 Attributes of Lumen Christi Graduates



“Mind” (Academics)
“Body” (Athletics)
“Spirit” (Faith Life)

Our Graduates:

- **Have a worldview centered in the teachings of Jesus Christ**
- **Respect the value and dignity of others as made in God’s image**
- **Are servant leaders in the Church, community, and society**
- **Strive to live justly and value service to others before self**
- **Communicate effectively, think critically, and solve problems**
- **Are confident and prepared for life’s challenges**



What We've Done

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Our State Champion

2025 Co-Ed Soccer Team



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Our Fleet-footed XC Running Team



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Our Amazing Band



Steller Secondary Band Winter Concert Program

In Collaboration with Lumen Christi
Band
Featuring Steller All-State Flautists



Faith + Family + Excellence

Speaking of bands... we banned Energy Drinks!



Our Studious NHS Chapter



**Congrats to new
inductees:
Lukas, Isabella, Clara,
Owen, and Tatum**

Our Snazzy Gym Hallway Mural



75% of total cost paid for by our Student Leadership Board activities (dances, etc.)

Faith Activities

Did you know...



- Every Lumen Christi class starts and/or ends in prayer?
- We provide themed grade level retreats for high schoolers in addition to our all school retreat in Sept?
 - 9th grade: “Servant Leadership 101”
 - 10th grade: St. Ben’s Winter Retreat
 - 11th grade: “The Least of These”
 - 12th grade: “Servant Leadership 201”
- Father Tom offers daily Mass 3x a week and Reconciliation 1x week during the school day in addition to our Friday school Mass?
- We have almost 80 students receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and 5 students entering the Catholic Church this spring?

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The Gift of Prayer and Reflection



- In December, students and staff received a FREE 3-year membership to the Hallow Catholic prayer app!
- Parents and families can use their child's login!

701

Prayers Completed

5,306

Total Minutes Prayed

Hallow

That's 90 hours of prayer time!

Most Popular



Morning Prayer ...

Hallow Lofi

13 sessions



Victory Over Vice

Victory Over Vice

48 sessions



Daily Homily

Readings & Reflections

27 sessions



Men's Devotional

Chris Stefanick

90 sessions



Daily Rosary

Daily Mysteries

7 sessions

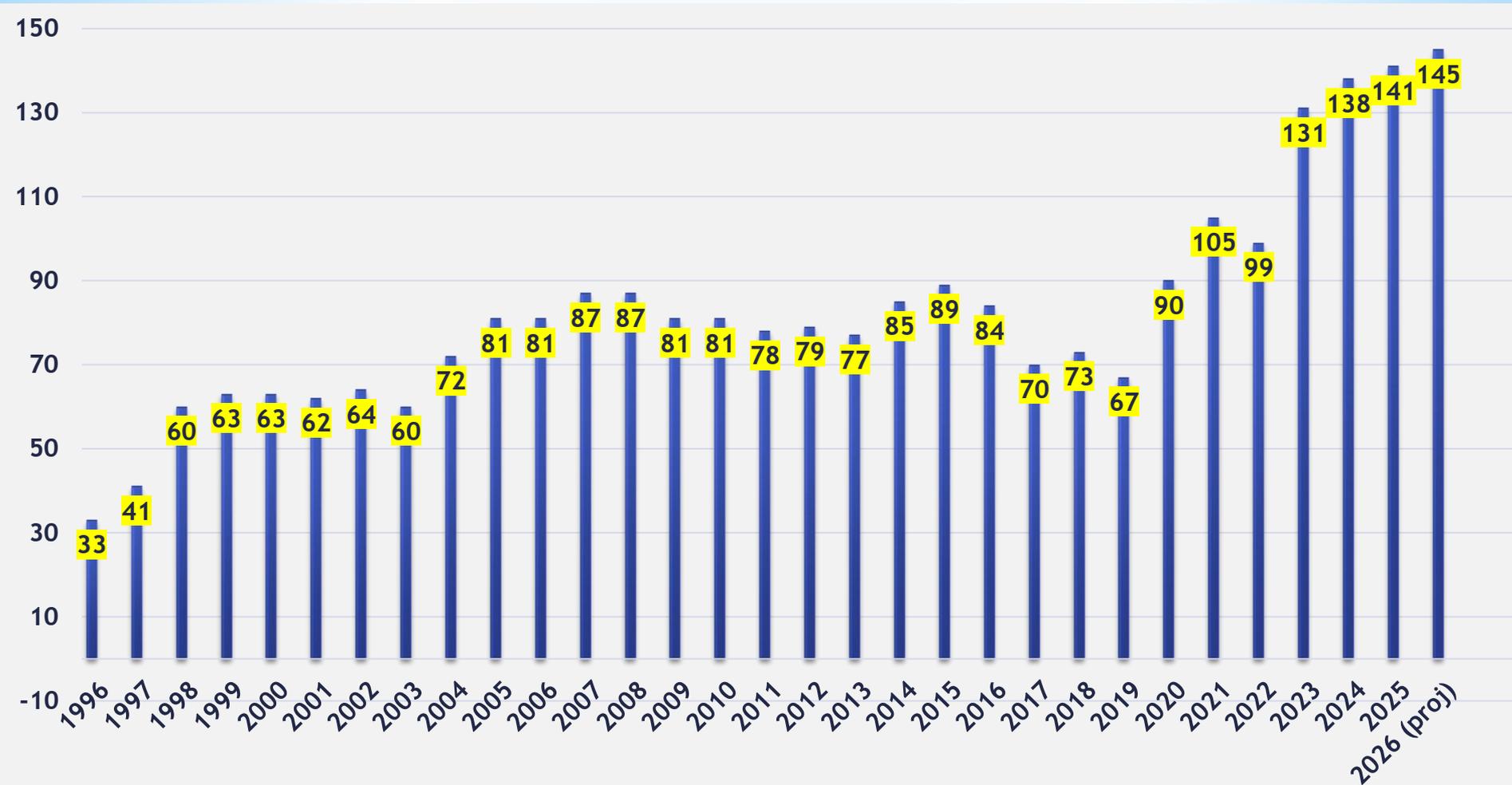
Big A/little a... Repurposed



- Started in 2010 by a Lumen Christi student
- After staff review last summer, ALL high school students will now be a “Big A” at least once during their time at Lumen.
- Big A’s facilitate the transition of 7th and 8th graders to Lumen Christi, provide peer mentoring, academic assistance, and lessons learned on stress/time management, etc.



Enrollment Update



Increased enrollment has helped reduce financial “burden” on St. Benedict’s from high of \$199k/yr in 2017 to \$0 since 2023!



Where We Are Going

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Annual Gala



Trade February ICE for PARADISE!

Trade your bunny boots for flip flops and parkas for palm trees on Feb 13!

No doubt it'll be cold outside but we'll be basking in tropical vibes, a Hawaiian inspired meal and libations, and of course, the incredible spirit of our Lumen community.

Doors will open at 5:30pm. Check your coat, sip a complimentary MaiTai and help₂us make waves for our school!



Transition to FACTS



Transition from legacy systems (PowerSchool Student Information System and Blackbaud Tuition Management) to FACTS happening NOW!

- 1) Aligns us with St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**
- 2) Provides “one stop shop” for grades, tuition, attendance, financial aid, etc.**



blackbaud

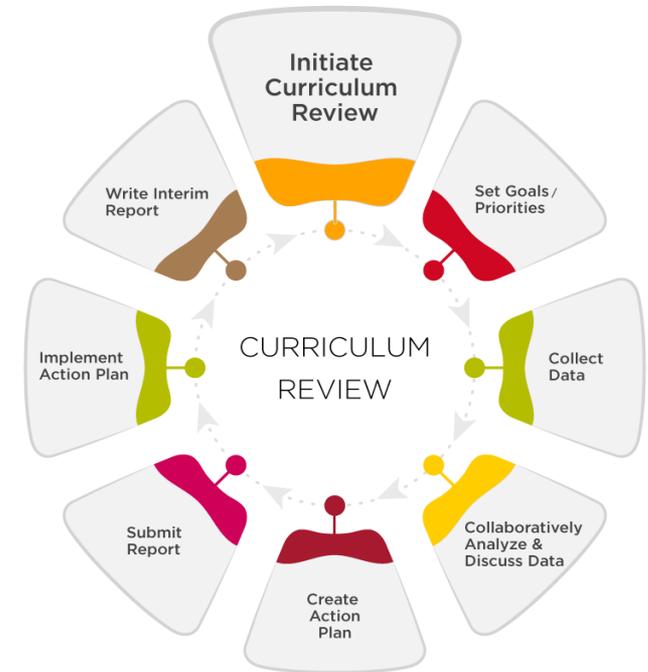


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Language Arts Curriculum Review



- **Spring 2026: Review standards, content, textbooks, learning outcomes, PSAT results, and student and alumni surveys**
- **Courses to be Reviewed:**
 - LA 7 and 8
 - Composition
 - World Literature
 - US Literature
 - Fiction
 - Research Writing



“Investing in Our Teachers = Investing in Our Students”



- Three of our teachers currently working towards Masters of Education in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment and/or state teaching licensure through partnership with UMary
- Prayers for all our teachers, but especially Mrs. Herschberger, Baldessari, and Haslett!



UNIVERSITY
of MARY

for Life.

Close Up 2026



- Week (+) experience in Washington DC
- April 17-25, 2026
- 35 students
- **Final Parent Meeting:
Tuesday, Mar 3 @ 6:30pm**
- **Thanks Mrs. Spillers for coordinating!**

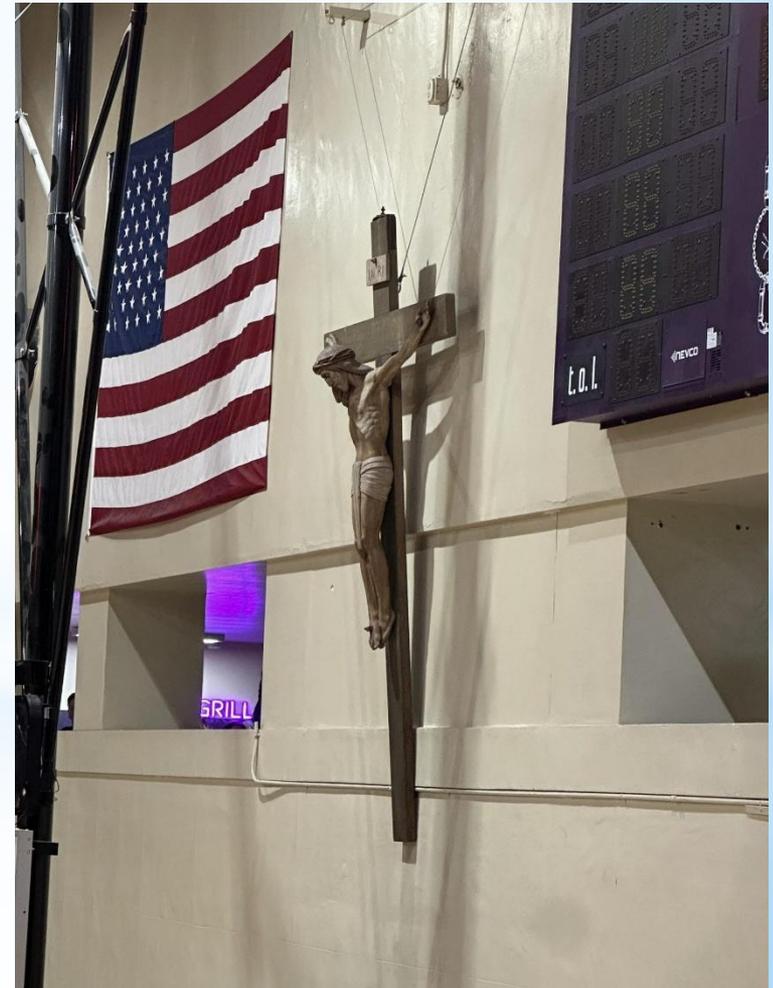


Close Up 2023

Other News...



- **Annual Garage Sale is May 29-30**
 - Since 2020, we have raised over \$50,000 for our school selling “treasures” in our parking lot
 - Fundraising goal: Large crucifix for the gym!
 - Think of us AND “THREE POINT” JESUS when you “spring clean”!





Cognia Reaccreditation



- Last accreditation engagement review was April 2022
- We are up for review in spring 2027
- Review of our school based on 31 performance standards broken down along four key characteristics:
 - 1) Culture of Learning
 - 2) Leadership for Learning
 - 3) Engagement of Learning
 - 4) Growth in Learning
- Mixture of self-assessment, data reviews, stakeholder interviews, and onsite visit
- Focus is on Continuous Improvement!

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Staff Transitions...

And Announcements



- **Mrs. Herschberger returned at semester!
Thank you Mrs. Williams!**
- **Mrs. Spillers will return full-time in fall 2026!
Thank you Ms. Lane!**
- **Mrs. Guzman will be leaving us in a few
months (late April)**
- **Ms. Brewer transitioning from full-time to
potentially part-time in May 2026**
- **And, finally, Mr. Ross will be transitioning from
Principal in May 2027**

Principal Search Plan



- Use a nationally recognized Catholic School Leadership Search Group
- Form a Search Committee of school stakeholders



OUR PROCESS

- School/Site Visit to better understand goals and institutional charism/mission
- Survey data and listening sessions to gather stakeholder feedback
- Candidate identification and screening
- Professional development for the Search Committee
- Assistance in designing search protocols and interview questions
- Access, presence, and support throughout the entire search and placement process

Audrie Williams	Liz Loeffler
Bryan Schroder	Debbie Brewer
Marcus Holmquist	Anne Gore
Jaimie Sultenfuss	Fr. Tom Lilly
Representative from St. Elizabeth's	

Other News... continued



- **Current parents: Please answer Anne's Re-Enrollment email—Grades are filling up fast!**
- **2026-2027 Tuition Amount will be announced end of April/early May once budget is approved**
 - **Expect 4-6% increase (inflation, teacher salaries, operating costs, professional development)**
 - **Financial aid applications through FACTS**
- **2026-2027 Annual Calendar will be published by Friday, Jan 30**
 - **Is aligned with ASD and St. Elizabeth's AND includes Thanksgiving Week off (like last year)**

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Questions?

Members of the Coed Junior High XC Running team!



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

**Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protector against the
wickedness and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him
we humbly pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the
Heavenly host, by the power of God,
Cast into hell, Satan and all the evil
spirits who prowl around the Earth
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.**

**LUMEN
CHRISTI**
HIGH **+** SCHOOL

Catechism of the Catholic Church (334-336): *“the whole life of the Church benefits from the mysterious and powerful help of angels. From its beginning until death, human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession.”*

Closing Prayer