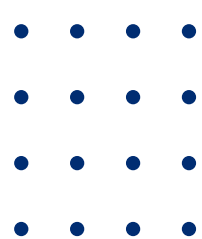
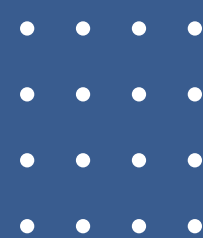




stmonicaschool.org

First Day of School
Tuesday, August 9, 2022



**St. Monica
Back to School
Guide
2022-2023**



4140 Walnut Hill Lane
Dallas, TX 75229
214.351.5688



Welcome

Dear St. Monica Families,

St. Monica Catholic School Mission: "To develop a life-long passion for learning through the teachings of the Catholic Church, fostering in each child their fullest spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social growth."

We are excited to welcome our new Bearcat families this year and welcome back our dedicated families. Together we are UNITED IN FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE. Together we work to develop programs and activities that move St. Monica Catholic School forward. Together we succeed and thrive for the direct benefit of our students, your children.

We present to you this Back to School Guide to help you begin to plan for opening day, August 9, 2022. This is the beginning of our varying back-to-school communication; it is a detailed guide and one you can use throughout the school year. As you read through this guide, all efforts have been made to bring back schedules, activities, and policies that were very successful and traditional to St. Monica Pre-COVID. The guide also has some new policies that aid us in our goal of Siempre Adelante...Always Forward.

St. Monica Catholic School is blessed with the presence and gift of each student, family, and staff member. Gratitude abounds at your commitment to our school.

God is good...all the time...all the time...God is good,

Mrs. Angeline Trudell,
President



**ST. MONICA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

UNITED IN FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE...
SIEMPRE ADELANTE-ALWAYS FORWARD
LEARN BELIEVE SERVE ACHIEVE

Dates to Remember

Mon., Aug. 8th

New Family Orientation

PK : 9-10 AM- *Family Center*

K-8 : 10-11 AM- *Family Center*

Meet the Teacher***

12-2 PM: Classrooms

**Parents and students attend*

****Chromebook pick up**

Tues, Aug. 9th

8AM Welcome Back Mass

After Mass Coffee - Family Center

Sat., Aug. 13th

Back to School Picnic

6-9 PM - Dave Gross Field

First All School Mass

Mon., Aug. 15th

Weekly Mass Begins

Mon., Aug. 22nd

Grades K-2nd

8 AM

Tues., Aug. 23rd

Grades 3rd-5th

8 AM

Fri., Aug. 26th

Grades 6th-8th

8 AM



Back to School Nights

Mark your calendars for our Back to School Nights and learn more about the upcoming school year.

These nights are for parents only.

Mon., Aug. 15th

Preschool PK3 - DK

6:30 PM-8 PM

Tues., Aug. 16th

Kinder - 2nd Grade

6:30 PM-8 PM

Wed., Aug. 17th

3rd - 5th Grade

6:30 PM-8 PM

Thurs., Aug. 18th

6th - 8th Grade

6:30 PM-9 PM

Fall School Pictures*

Wed., Aug. 24th

5th - 8th Grade

Thurs., Aug. 25th

K - 4th Grade

Tues., Sept. 6th

Preschool

General Information

School Hours

Preschool

8:00 am – 3:00 PM

Kindergarten-4th

7:55 am – 3:15 PM

5th-8th

7:55 am – 3:30 PM

Early Dismissal

Preschool

12:00 PM

Lower School* (K-4th)

12:15 PM

Upper School* (5th-8th)

12:30 PM

*No lunch is served for
K-8th grade students

Lunch Program K-8

Students have the option to bring their lunch or purchase lunch from our food service vendor, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. Please [click here](#) to get more information about our lunch program.

Late Arrival

Procedures

Tardies will be marked for students that arrive after 7:55 AM. Gates will close at 7:50 AM. For K-8 if you arrive after 7:50 AM, your student will need to enter through McManus. For PK if you arrive after 7:55 AM, you will need to walk your child to the north door of the Family Center and we will walk your child to class.

Early Release

Procedures

All early release notes should be emailed to

earlydismissalnotes@stmonicaschool.org

and the student's homeroom teacher. K-8 students must be picked up before 2:30 PM in McManus. PK students must be picked up before 2 PM at the north door of the Family Center.

Absence Notification

Regular attendance is an important component to the success of your child's school learning experience. Absences must be reported by email to absences@stmonicaschool.org on or before 8:45 AM.

School Clinic Info

Patricia Rodriguez R.N., - prodriguez@stmonicaschool.org

The clinic is located in C-wing near the playground.

Services provided by the clinic include first aid, managing medical emergencies, administration of prescribed medication, and monitoring ill students until a parent arrives to pick them up.

All forms can be found under the "Parents" tab and downloaded from the school website.

- Asthma Action Plan or Allergy Action Plan: If your child has Asthma or a severe Allergy (food, insects, etc.) an Asthma or Allergy Action Plan must be completed by your physician and submitted to the clinic along with the prescribed medication and the Medication Request Form.
- The Diocese of Dallas Health History
- Immunization Requirements for the current school year. The immunization record provided by your physician is an acceptable substitute. As required by the Texas Department of Health, immunizations must be current for your child to attend class.
- Documenting History of Illness: Varicella (Chickenpox) this form should be submitted only if your child had Chickenpox disease.
- Medication Permit Form – This form is to be submitted if your child will be taking a prescription medication at school. This form requires both parent and physician signatures.

We can administer Over the Counter (OTC) Medications (Advil, Tylenol, etc.). The permission form is not available online. Contact the Nurse if you need a copy of the form. OTC medication must be in the original container. Please send the smallest bottle available, storage space in the clinic is limited.

Please see handbook for additional information.

General Information

After School Program

St. Monica offers optional after school programs on days when school is in session except for the last day of school. After School programs are offered at an additional cost to students who are registered in St. Monica After School Program for Preschool through 8th grade. Drop-in care is not available and families must register each student that will be using the program and pay a \$25 registration fee per student. The program directors are on-site and available to staff, children and parents.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

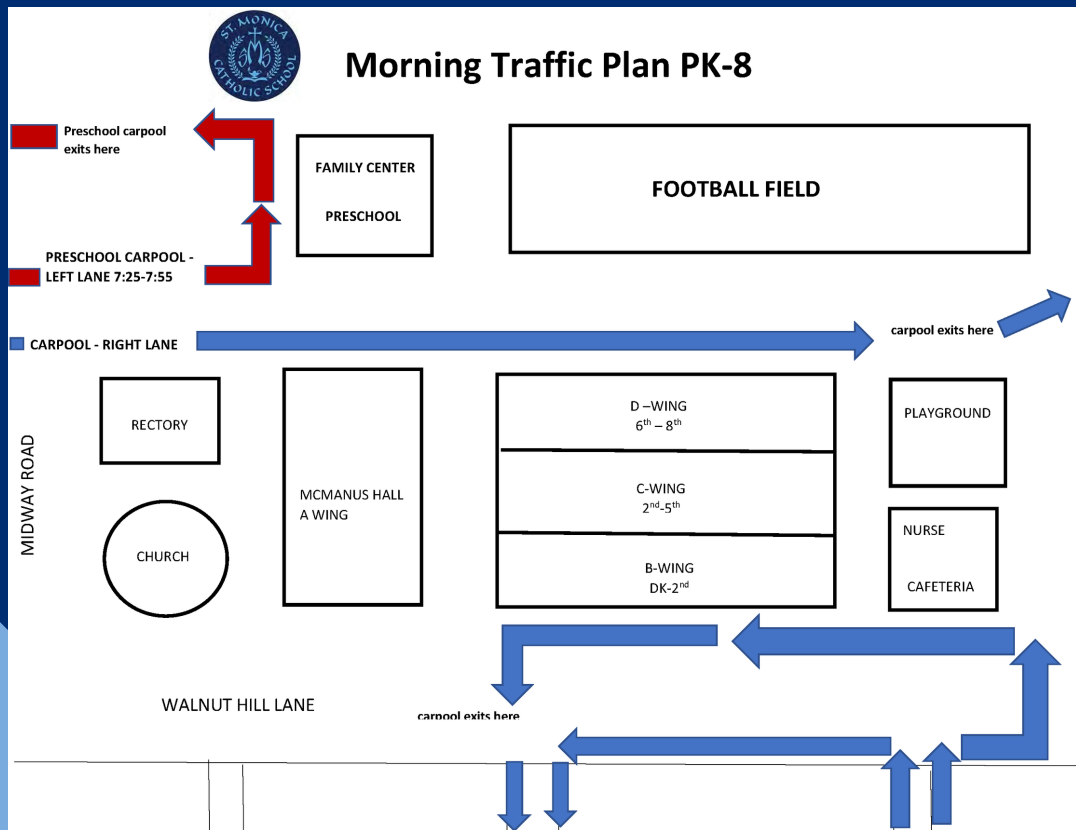
Questions? Lesley Jordan, Director of After School Program
ljordan@stmonicaschool.org

Safe Environment

In compliance with our Diocese, St. Monica has a comprehensive Safe Environment Plan in place for our volunteers. In order to volunteer, you are required to be Safe Environment cleared. More information about our Safe Environment Program can be found **[here](#)**. If you are a new family to St. Monica, please make sure to visit the Parents tab on the school website. The process for new families takes a little longer and should be started before school begins. Safe Environment badges must be worn on school premises at all times. Please know that for the safety of our students this policy is strictly enforced. All Safe Environment badges from the previous school year expire in August. Please contact Misty Gilmore **mgilmore@stmonicachurch.org** with any questions.



Carpool



Morning Carpool:

Arrival Times:

Grades K- 8th use the

Walnut Hill Lane or

Midway Entrance

K-8: 7:30-7:50 AM

PK: 7:35-7:55 AM

Preschool use the

Midway Road Entrance.

Form One Line (*stay to the left*). Pull up to Double Doors (*facing Midway*)

Early Arrival Times*:

PK: 7:00-7:30 AM

K-8: 7:00-7:30 AM

*PK must be walked into the Family Center

*K-8 will wait in the cafeteria until they are dismissed to classrooms

Afternoon Carpool:

Grades K- 8th:

Last Name A-L (*use the Midway entrance, form 2 lines, & line closest to the school*)

Last Name M-Z (*use the Midway entrance, form 2 lines, & line closest to the field*)

*Siblings will dismiss at the specified time for their oldest sibling.

Preschool follows morning carpool pattern for afternoon dismissal.

Early Dismissal Times:

PK: 11:45 AM

K-4: 12:15 PM*

5-8: 12:30 PM*

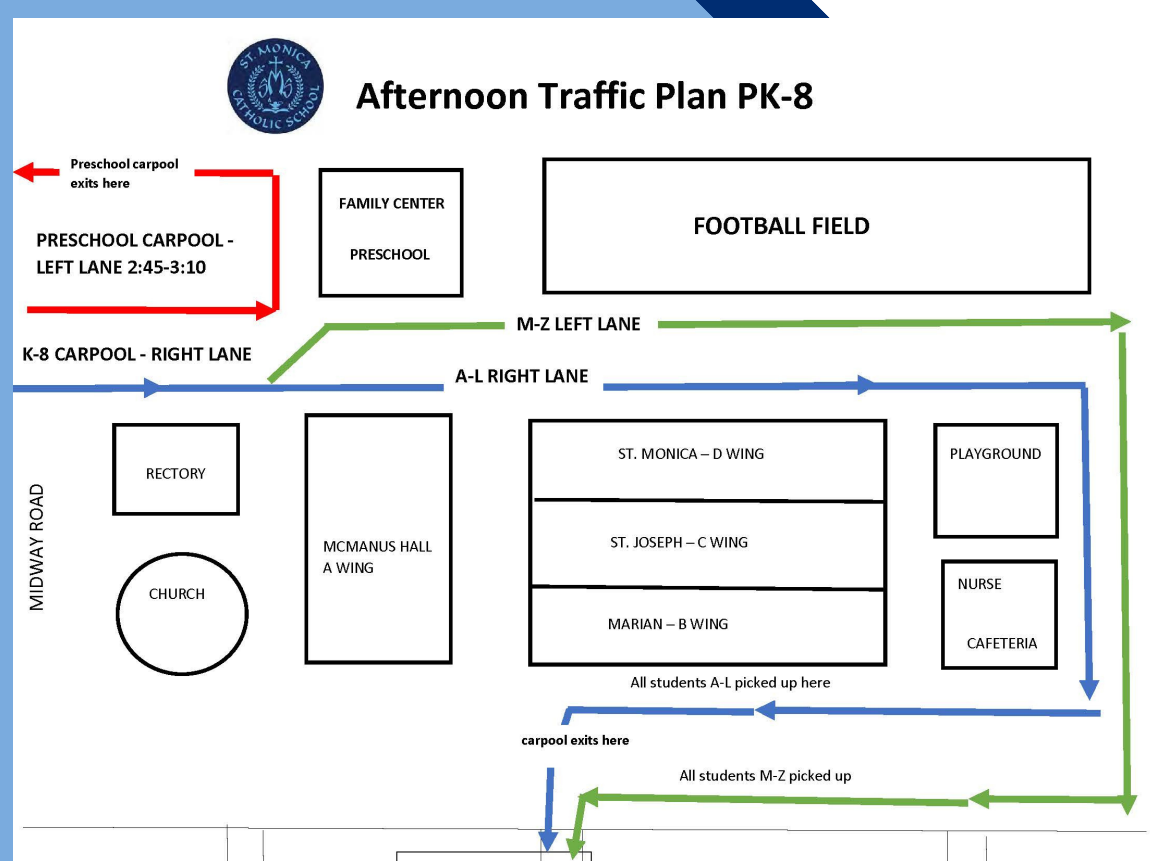
Regular Dismissal

Times:

PK: 2:45 PM

K-4: 3:15 PM*

5-8: 3:30 PM*



Walker Forms will be available by mid-August .

Communications

Be In The Know...

FACTS

St. Monica utilizes FACTS/Family Portal to communicate to you about your student. In FACTS/Family Portal you can:

- Access and update the school-wide directory
- See your school tuition/fee account information
- Check your student's grades

Bearcat Byte & President's Corner

On Fridays, you will receive the school's weekly e-newsletter called "Bearcat Byte" and the President's Corner will be sent out on Tuesdays. These are your primary sources of information for the upcoming week. Archived Bearcat Bytes and President's Corners can be found under "[Quicklinks](#)" on our website.

Emails

You may receive email reminders from your teachers & homeroom parents for volunteer opportunities, upcoming events, or changes in already scheduled events. Please check your email regularly & keep your contact information in FACTS/Family Portal up to date.

Parent Alert

Our Parent Alert system sends text messages directly to your phone. Parent Alert is for emergency purposes, including severe weather alerts, changes in carpool, or any urgent communications.

We're Social – Follow Us



[@stmonicacatholicschool](#)



[@stmonicaschooldallas](#)



[@stmonicabearcat](#)

Need More Information??

Catherine Hull
Director of Communications
chull@stmonicaschool.org
214-351-5688 Ext. 5174

Sally Wengierski
Manager of Tuition & Budget
swengierski@stmonicaschool.org
214-351-5688 Ext. 5178

Kelly Lynch
Office Manager
klynch@stmonicaschool.org
214-351-5688 Ext. 5688

Calendars

Perpetual Calendar
[Click here for Perpetual Calendar](#)

Mass Times**

for Students

Mondays @ 8 AM*

Kinder-2nd grade

Tuesdays @ 8 AM

3rd-5th grade

Fridays @ 8AM

6th-8th grade

All School Masses
will be listed on the
School Calendar

*Preschool will attend on
Mondays later in the year.

**Any changes to the Mass
schedule will be noted on the
school calendar.

Events Calendar

Our Google Calendar can be found on the home page of
stmonicaschool.org

[Click here](#) for the link to subscribe to our calendar.



2022-2023

August 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2022

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2023

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Date

Event or Holiday

Aug 2-8

Professional Development

Aug 09

First Day of School

Sep 05

No School - Labor Day

Sep 23

Early Dismissal

Sep 30

Early Dismissal - Fair Day

Oct 10

2nd Quarter Begins

Oct 10-14

IOWA Testing

Oct 14

Early Dismissal - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Oct 17

No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Oct 21

No School - Teacher In-Service

Nov 21-25

Thanksgiving Break

Dec 16

Early Dismissal - Christmas Break

Dec 19-30

Christmas Break

Jan 02

No School - Teacher In-Service

Jan 03

Classes Resume - 3rd Quarter Begins

Jan 16

No School - MLK Day

Feb 20

No School - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Mar 10

Early Dismissal - Spring Break

Mar 13-17

Spring Break

Mar 20

4th Quarter Begins

Apr 07

No School - Good Friday

Apr 10

No School - Easter Monday

Apr 11-14

No School - NCEA Teacher In-Service

May 19

Early Dismissal - Graduation

May 26

Last Day of School

22

Calendar

Today

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August 2022

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⚙️

Month

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SUN 31	MON Aug 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
			● 6pm Summer Used Uniform Se			
7	8 Meet the Teacher	9 First Day of School ● 8am Back to School Coffee	10	11 ● 7pm Dads' Club General Meeti	12	13 Back to School Picnic
14	15 Preschool Back to School Night The Assumption of the Blessed V	16 K-2nd Grade Back to School Nigh	17 3rd-5th Grade Back to School Nig	18 6th-8th Grade Back to School Nig	19	20
21	22	23	24 School Pictures: 5th-8th Grade	25 School Pictures: K-4th Grade	26 All School Mass	27
28	29	30	31	Sep 1 ● 7:30pm PTO General Meeting	2	3

Bearcat Athletics

Daniel Neves, Athletic Director-dneves@stmonicaschool.org
St. Monica competes in the Dallas Parochial League (*DPL*)
with 29 other Catholic Middle Schools in DFW and
participates in athletics throughout the calendar school year
for those students in 5th-8th Grades.

Students who would like
to participate in athletics
at SMS need to do the
following:

- 1. Register for your sport and
pay the fee on the [SMS
Athletics page](#).
- 2. Complete the [Athletic
Physical Form](#).
- 3. Pass all classes in order to
participate in athletics per
SMS and DPL policies.

St. Monica Sports

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cheerleading
- Cross Country
- Football
- Futsal
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Track & Field
- Volleyball

VOLUNTEERS??

Just a reminder volunteers are needed for
every home game. This includes basketball, football, futsal,
and volleyball. Want to help out?
dneves@stmonicschool.org



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Want to Coach??

It is mandatory for coaches to
attend the DPL sponsored “[Play Like
a Champion](#)” workshop before they are
permitted to coach. To sign-up for the
coaching workshop you must email
Daniel Neves, SMS Athletic Director.
August 31, 6pm - SMS Upper Lounge
September 11 8am - St. Thomas

Parent Involvement

Community

St. Monica is blessed to have a very active parent community. We have two organizations for parents and all you have to do is show up and participate. For families new to our community, volunteering with these organizations will really give you a sense of what St. Monica is all about.

Parent Teacher Organization

The PTO is committed to providing programs carefully coordinated in a close partnership with the school and our over 400 parent and community volunteers. To learn more go to the [PTO Website](#). All parents & staff at St. Monica Catholic School, are members. Meetings are usually on the 1st Thursday of every month (*Sept.-May*) in the Family Center Upper Lounge.

Dads' Club

Each year St. Monica Dads' Club leads the charge for fundraising, sweat equity, and many other events that support the community and school. To learn more go to the [Dads' Club Website](#). If you're a dad, you're in the club. Meetings are usually held on the 2nd Thursday of every month (*Aug.-May*) at SparkmanClubhouse.

Want to Volunteer?

The PTO and Dads' Club are always looking for moms and dads to serve as committee chairs or help out with committees.



Katie Ackels
PTO President

Katie.n.maxwell@gmail.com



Aaron Peterson
Dads' Club
President

ap11indians@gmail.com

Dates to Remember

Thurs., Aug. 11th
1st Dads' Club Meeting

Sat., Aug. 13th
Back to School Picnic

Thurs., Sept. 1st
1st PTO Meeting

Sun., Sept. 25th
Spaghetti Dinner

Sat., Oct. 15th
Autumnfest

Thurs., Dec. 1st
Christmas Market

Spring 2023
Dads' Club Gala