



PRIORY
PREPARATION FOR
AN EXCEPTIONAL LIFE

Saint Louis Priory School

6-12 grades, all-boys school

150 acres

47 different ZIP codes of students

40%+ students receive tuition assistance

#1 Catholic School in Missouri*



"Priory is a place where you can choose your own adventure and discover your unique talents."

David Swallow, Class of 2026



* as ranked by Niche

WELCOME TO PRIORY

The mission of Saint Louis Priory School is to provide a Catholic, Benedictine, college preparatory education of the highest excellence so as to help talented and motivated young men develop their full potential as children of God.





"Priory's college counseling program not only helped me choose the right college but also prepared me for future opportunities while keeping the stress low."

Davis Weas '25



COLLEGE PREPARATORY

The mission of Saint Louis Priory School is further defined as providing a college preparatory education that develops the key characteristics selective colleges and universities are looking for in students, including intellectual skills, service, leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, and collaboration.

Priory's curriculum is focused on five academic areas:

- Humanities • Modern and Classical Languages
- Science, Math, and Technology • Theology
- Visual and Performing Arts



30 is the average ACT score in the class years of 2023-2025 (three-year average)

4 years of dedicated college counseling programming beginning in 9th grade

100% of Priory students take at least one AP class before graduating

25:1 student-to-counselor ratio allows for a personalized approach throughout the college application process

90% of our faculty have advanced degrees



COLLEGE COUNSELING

Our college counselors have more than **25 years of experience** working with students and families on the college application and decision-making process.

The process of learning about each student and his family – their hopes and dreams, their wants and needs – begins in 8th grade at Priory.

In 9th grade, Priory's college counselors offer group presentations to students and parents. Sophomores attend a **weekly college counseling seminar**. Juniors begin meeting with the counselors frequently as they begin test preparation for the official PSAT, ACT, and SAT.

Rising seniors can participate in a summer workshop at Priory focused on **college application essay writing**. In the fall, they take a college counseling class during which they work to complete their college applications.

Each year more than 100 colleges and universities visit Priory to speak with our students. Priory's college counselors provide the highest level of support to families during this important time. Expert advocacy combined with our amazing students yields outstanding results.





“Our students work hard throughout their time at Priory. It’s why they go on to lead exceptional lives.”

Nikki Hostnik, Director of College Counseling

CATHOLIC FAITH

In 1956, a group of St. Louis families and three Benedictine monks from Ampleforth Abbey in Yorkshire, England, founded an all-boys, college preparatory school for the education of local students in the Catholic faith.

Today, a full community of **Benedictine monks** continue their commitment to teach, lead, and guide students in their spiritual, moral, intellectual, and physical development. The monks are active in all aspects of school life, both inside and outside the classroom.

Priory supports the spiritual, moral, and sacramental formation of our students through a **comprehensive theology curriculum**, weekly Masses and prayer assemblies, the sacrament of reconciliation, off-campus community service, annual retreats for each form, and Tutoria, which is a student-led **spiritual mentorship program**.

Priory students graduate prepared for advanced study and aspire to leadership in their communities through humble service and love of God and neighbor.





"What we teach needs
to be life-giving. It needs
to be preparation for life."

Father Cuthbert Elliott, O.S.B., '02





BENEDICTINE TRADITION

For a young man, education should inspire a lifetime of excellence. **But not just any education.** One that encourages a balance of disciplines that challenge the whole person.

At Priory, students join a **brotherhood of young men**, alongside whom they will learn and mature. They join a community of students, highly qualified faculty, and Benedictine monks who live and work directly on campus.

It's in this rich and diverse environment that we offer our unique approach to education: integrating the tradition of Catholic, Benedictine values with a **classical liberal arts curriculum** for a wholly formative and individual experience.



HUMAN FORMATION

Students live out the 12 Hallmarks of a Benedictine school not only in the classroom, but also on athletic fields and through participation in clubs, organizations, and in service to others.

These opportunities allow students to develop as servant leaders as they pursue interests that extend beyond the classroom.

Form Masters

Each grade level (Form) is assigned a Form Master, part of a comprehensive program that helps guide those students' understanding of what it means to be a member of a **Christ-centered community**. Form Masters work closely with school counselors and monk chaplains, handle disciplinary issues, and communicate directly with teachers in order to best support their students.

Advisory

Advisory is a small community within the school, consisting of students in Forms I through VI. Advisories have about 15 members who meet together multiple times each week. The small size of these groups and the regular meetings help **foster brotherhood** and a **supportive environment**. Faculty advisors keep track of the progress of their advisees from enrollment through graduation. Form A Advisory is designed to help 6th grade students transition smoothly into middle school. It offers a separate space where students can connect with classmates, build a strong sense of community, and develop a relationship with a dedicated advisor who supports them throughout the year.





"I developed my full potential at Priory. My friends from 7th and 8th grade Advisory are my friends to this day."

Michael Nickolai '03, Associate Headmaster

"Tutoria allows you to
grow closer to God
and your classmates."

Ryan Witkowski, Class of 2029





SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Tutoria

Priory's weekly **Tutoria** program allows students from upper grades to meet with younger students and reflect on how readings from scripture apply in their own lives. Then they go outside and play together to further their bonds.

The program creates opportunities for **valuable mentorship** and **meaningful friendships** that can last a lifetime. Tutoria is a relationship that boys experience from the very first moment they step onto campus. Every one of the tutors makes the decision to get to know younger students and help them out.

Retreats

Although the spiritual atmosphere permeates the campus and experience of a Priory student, we know that the Lord's injunction to his disciples, *"Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a little while"* (Mark 6:31), is a fruitful path for growth.

Students participate in **annual overnight retreats** during their time at Priory. Retreats allow the students to get away from the distractions of their day-to-day lives and spend time strengthening their relationships with God and one another.

Community Service

Priory students are called to serve others as a part of the school's community service program. All students are invited to participate in regular service opportunities throughout the school year.



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

At Priory, learning and growing goes beyond the classroom. A student's journey includes hands-on experiences, field trips, and lots of opportunities for growth.

Academic Tutoria

Student tutors mentor younger students in their academic coursework, development of study skills, and test preparation.

Clubs and Activities

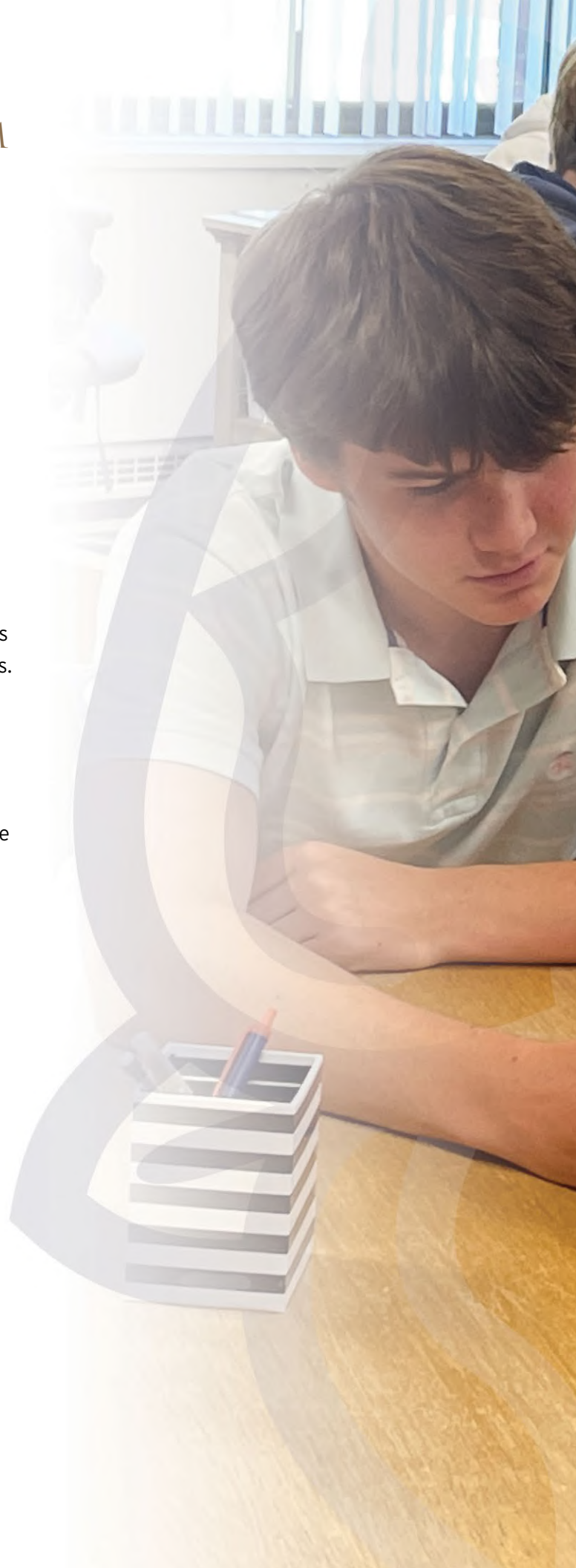
Priory's **clubs and student organizations** are a great way to make new friends, learn or expand skills and knowledge, and explore leadership opportunities. From robotics to fishing club to Scholar Bowl, there is something for every student.

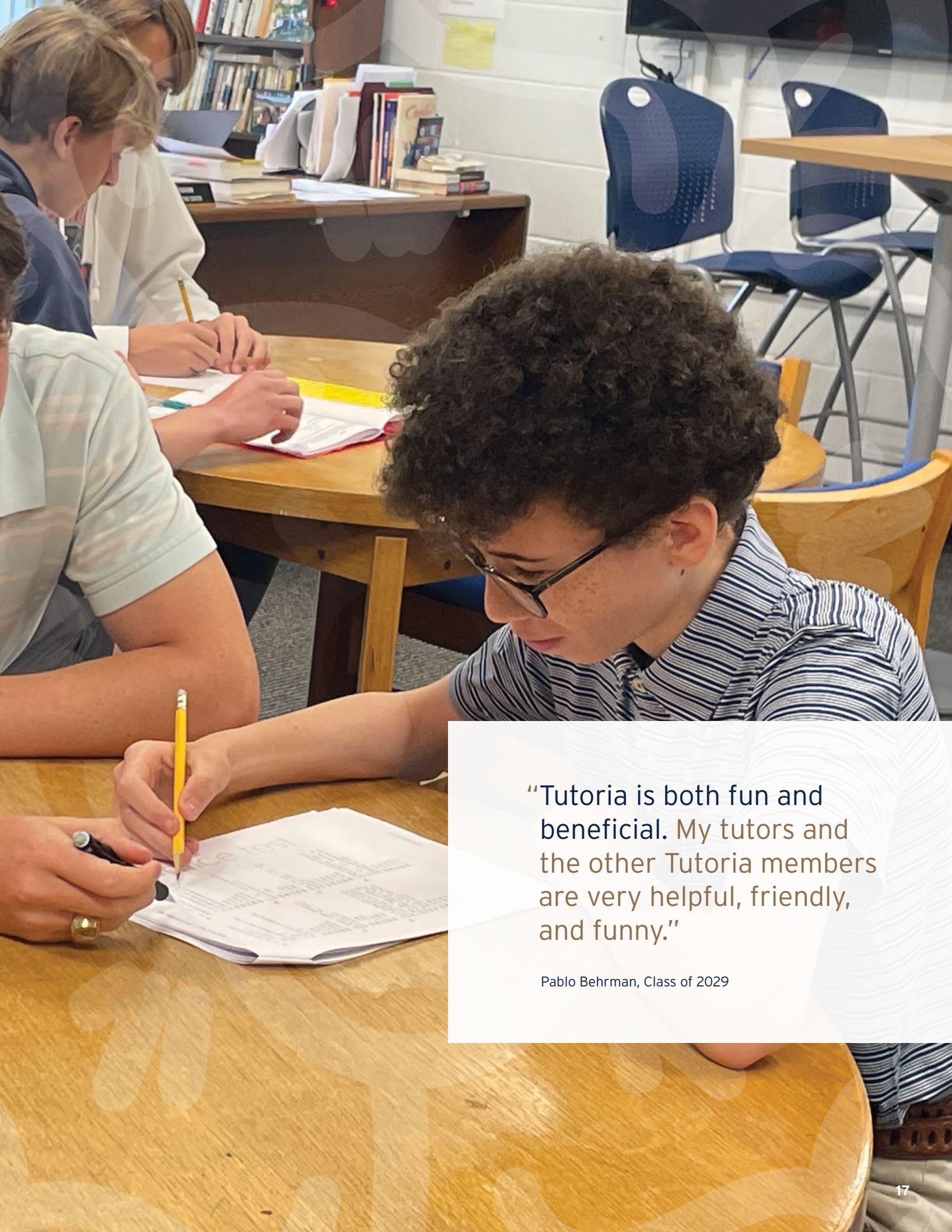
Senior Thesis

One of the things that sets Priory apart is our unique **Senior Thesis program**. Since the school's early days, Priory has required seniors to produce a senior thesis – a product of scholarly, scientific, or artistic work of high academic quality. It's a two-trimester project.

Writing Center

Priory's Writing Center offers a variety of **resources for students** including tutoring services, assistance with research and public speaking, and Thesis and college essay writing guidance.





"Tutoria is both fun and beneficial. My tutors and the other Tutoria members are very helpful, friendly, and funny."

Pablo Behrman, Class of 2029

"At Priory, leadership means pushing ourselves on the field, in the classroom, and beyond."

Tyler Witkowski '25





ATHLETICS

Participation in sports is an integral component of the overall formation of each student at Priory. Students in Forms I through VI participate in organized team sports as part of our curricular athletic program. A physical education program is built into the school day for Form A.

Since 2004, Priory's sports teams have won 16 State Team Championships – an impressive accomplishment for a school of our size.

Our sports program:

Introduces athletes to a variety of different sports

Helps students reach their full physical and mental potential

Fosters a bond of teamwork and friendship

Encourages the development of leadership, commitment, cooperation, self-discipline, respect, and good sportsmanship

Cultivates school spirit and strengthens the community of Priory students, faculty, parents, and alumni







UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY

A variety of visual and performing arts courses cultivates Priory students' appreciation of the arts, which continues into adulthood.

Theater Arts

All Priory students have the opportunity to perform in plays and musicals performed in the school's Kevin Kline Theater, named for actor Kevin Kline, a 1965 Priory alumnus.

Vocal Music

Priory offers a series of vocal music classes and sponsors a school music club. A progressing curriculum introduces concepts in music, music reading skills, and diverse literature to foster students' understanding and enjoyment of music. Students' growth in musical skill is expressed through leadership in Mass and participation in special events and choral concerts.

Visual Arts

Priory's Studio Art environment enables students to develop observation skills and flex their imaginations through projects in linear perspective and modular sculpture. The program teaches students to persevere in activities in which they may not feel innately skilled, and rewards effort, tenacity, and curiosity.




MEDIEVAL ARTS

Students at Priory can learn the art of stained glass, mosaics, iconography, and calligraphy through the only Medieval Arts program of its kind in the U.S. All students learn the history and beauty of the Medieval Arts, including the art of calligraphy – a mainstay at Priory since the school's founding.

In addition, students can join a Medieval Arts Guild, known officially as **The Guild of Saint Columkille**. Students can progress through the Guild system, learning even more about the ancient art forms of stained glass, mosaics, banners, icons, and illuminated manuscripts from upperclassmen, until they achieve the status of **Master in the Guild**.





"Students from 6th grade to 12th work on long-term projects for the glory of God and for the purpose of bringing their community to God through beauty."

Mary Claire MacDonald, Medieval Arts Instructor

ALUMNI & STUDENT REFLECTIONS

"Many schools can prepare a kid academically for college, but not many schools have the people to shape the students into the best versions of themselves... Priory did both for me."

Sami Haddad '21

"The faculty and staff are extremely supportive, and they want to make sure each student succeeds."

Nick Parafiniuk '22

"At Priory, I learned and lived the Hallmarks of a Benedictine community, from hospitality, to humility, to listening. Reflecting on these Hallmarks in my daily actions and interactions helps me stay focused on my greater purpose."

Luke McLaughlin '24

"Our 7th grade retreat was one of the highlights of the year. I felt like it was the turning point from when we were just classmates to now being brothers."

Ryan Witkowski, Class of 2029





LIFE AT PRIORY

Priory is situated on a picturesque 150-acre campus located in West St. Louis County. The campus is also home to the Monastery and Church of Saint Louis Abbey and to Saint Anselm Parish, part of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.



CAMPUS MAP

Saint Louis Priory School is located on a picturesque 150-acre campus in West St. Louis County. The campus is bordered on the west by Mason Road and on the north by Conway Road. It is accessible from both Mason Road and Conway Road.

Visitors should enter at our main entrance on the east side of Mason Road, mid-way between I-64/Highway 40 and Conway Road.

Buildings

1. Abbey Church
2. Saint Louis Priory School
- Kevin Kline Theatre
- Library
3. Saint Anselm Parish Centre
4. Saint Anselm Parish House
5. Monastery
6. Monastery Guest Wing
7. Dining Hall
8. Switzer House
9. Art and Science Centre
10. Maintenance
11. Corley Gymnasium
Weight Room

Fields

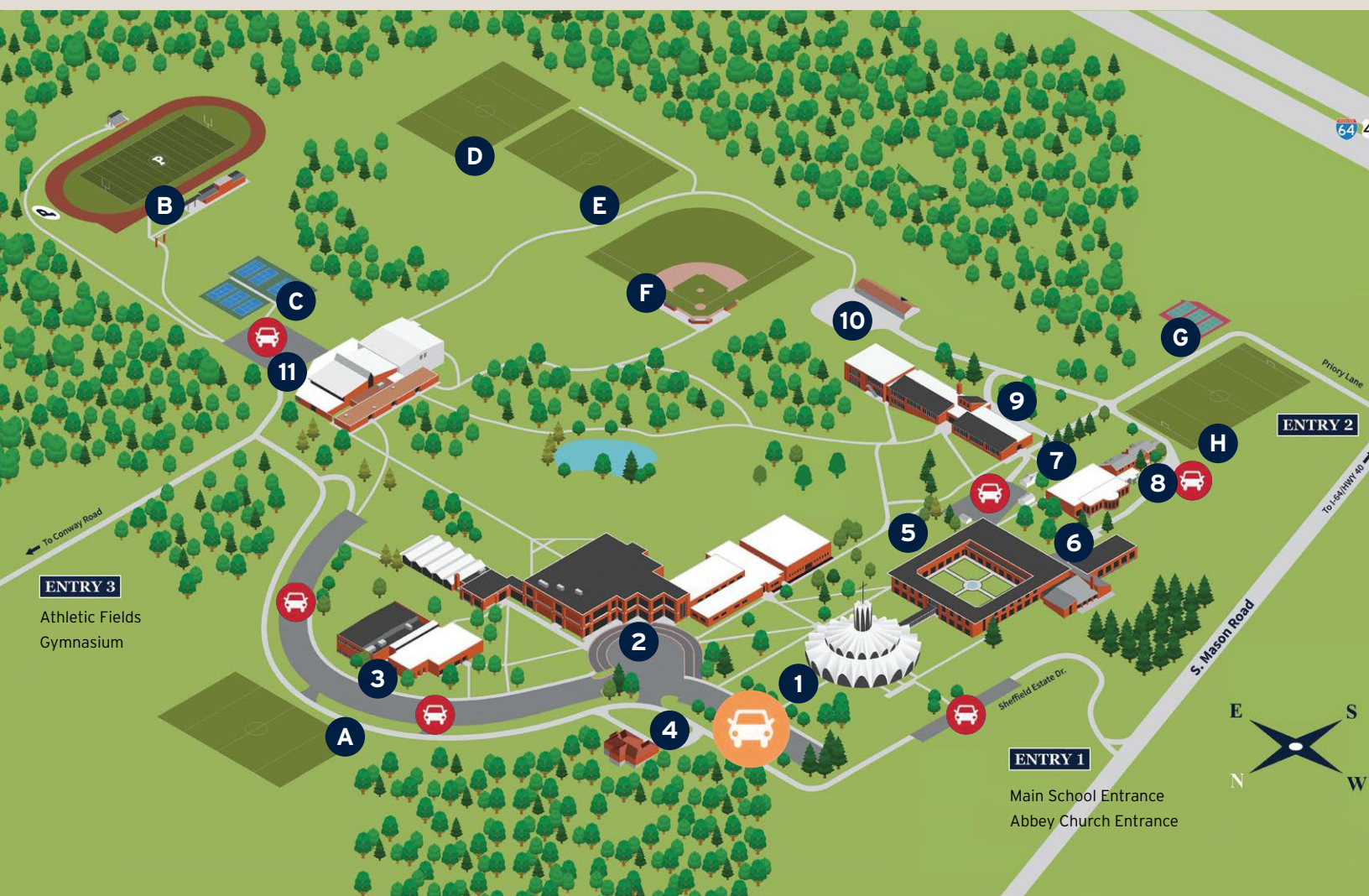
- A. North Field
- B. Todd Stadium
Busch Field
- C. Main Tennis Courts
- D. Varsity Soccer Field
- E. Practice Field
- F. McCabe Field
- G. South Tennis Courts
- H. Kline Field



Parking



Admissions Parking





500 South Mason Road
St. Louis, MO 63141-8522
www.priory.org