

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
Matthew 5:16



 **ST. EDWARD**
The Confessor
PARISH SCHOOL



Inside

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 3 Letter from the Principal | 18 Monarch Theatre | 34 Celebrating Community |
| 4 It Takes a Team | 19 Makerspace | 36 Catholic Education - The Legacy Continues |
| 6 Faith and Service | 22 STREAM Night | 38 Sunset Families |
| 8 Supporting Our Neighbors | 24 Battle of the Books | 40 Monarch Class of 2025 |
| 10 Monarch Giving Day | 25 Monarch Mock Trial | 42 Celebrating Milestones- Mr. Tim Fitzgerald |
| 12 By the Numbers | 26 We Are Family | |
| 13 St.EdFest | 28 Making a Difference | |
| 14 Monarch Athletics | 30 Responsible Stewardship | |
| 16 Academic Decathlon | 32 Monarch Main Event | |



Every gift to the
Monarch Annual Fund
 makes an impact at
 St. Edward.



Let Your Light Shine Before Others

Matthew 5:16

As I reflect on the 2024–2025 school year, my heart is full. This past year marked my first year as Principal of St. Edward the Confessor Parish School, and I am deeply thankful for the warmth, trust, and partnership shown by our students, families, faculty, staff, parish leadership, and supporters. Together, you make St. Edward's the extraordinary, faith-filled community that it is.

Throughout the year, our theme—"Let your light shine before others"—came to life in countless ways. From our classrooms and playgrounds to service projects, liturgies, and daily interactions, our students shined brightly through kindness, leadership, curiosity, and faith. Guided by dedicated educators and supported by engaged families, our Monarchs continue to grow as scholars and disciples of Christ.

Thank you for being part of our story. Together, we continue to shine His light—today and into the future.

With gratitude,

Suzanne Edwards

Suzanne Edwards
Principal



Always Learning

It takes a team

St. Edward the Confessor Parish School is the remarkable community it is because of the people who serve it with dedication, faith, and heart. Our Pastor, school leadership team, and faculty guide our mission with purpose, while the Consultative School Board provides thoughtful leadership and strategic vision that help move our school forward.

Equally vital is the Parent Guild Organization, whose tireless efforts bring our community together through meaningful events, service opportunities, and generous support that enrich student life beyond the classroom. Behind the scenes, our front office team, Wellness Center staff, and IT support ensure that each day runs smoothly, safely, and efficiently, creating an environment where students can learn, grow, and thrive.

Together, these dedicated individuals form a strong partnership rooted in collaboration, service, and faith. Their commitment allows St. Edward's to shine brightly as a place where excellence, community, and Catholic values come together—because truly, it takes a team.



2024-2025 BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS

Fr. Mike Rizzo <i>Parish Administrator</i>	Mrs. Annie Phan-Luong <i>Director of Advancement</i>
Mrs. Suzanne Edwards <i>Principal</i>	Ms. Jean Paulson <i>Registrar</i>
Mrs. Ashleigh Vachon <i>Assistant Principal, Upper School</i>	Mrs. Susan Robles <i>Front Office Coordinator</i>
Mrs. Angie Willburn <i>Assistant Principal, Lower School</i>	Mrs. Audrey Rodriguez <i>Wellness Center Coordinator</i>
Ms. Nicole Bader <i>Early Childhood Education Director</i>	Ms. Nicole Weinberger <i>Director of Marketing</i>
Ms. Cindy Celotto <i>Director of Admissions</i>	Mr. Jason Wesley <i>IT Manager</i>

2024-2025 CONSULTATIVE SCHOOL BOARD

Andrew Gray	Christie Garko	Amy Miller
Jennifer Kearney	Chris McCormick	Miranda Taft
Lisa Mercurio	Annie Micco	Bridget Zand
Laura Donovan		

2024-2025 PARENT GUILD ORGANIZATION (PGO)

Nicole Bader <i>Administrative Leadership Team Liaison</i>	Ali Edgcomb & Kelly Quinones <i>Ambassador Co-Coordinators</i>
Christy Garko & Amy Miller <i>Co-Presidents</i>	Lynsey McCarthy <i>Spirit Wear Coordinator</i>
Ashleigh Ora & Melissa Hagstrom <i>Co-Vice Presidents</i>	Megan Flores & Danielle Babbington <i>Welcome Day Co-Coordinators</i>
Kate Kim <i>Secretary</i>	Aurora Cote, Rosalee Hormuth, Brooke Huey & Jennifer Lenzen <i>Lost and Found/Uniform Exchange Co-Coordinators</i>
Whitney Tioleco <i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	Jessica Avery, Silvia Fukunaga, Wendy Pierce & Megan Stone <i>Family Movie Night Co-Coordinators</i>
Allison Musetich <i>Treasurer</i>	Angie Stafford <i>Parent-Child Events Chair</i>
Laura Donovan & Bridget Zand <i>Hospitality Co-Coordinators</i>	Rebecca Shore & Andrea Demma <i>Box Tops Chair</i>
Ashleigh Ora & Melissa Hagstrom <i>PGO Perks Co-Chairs</i>	Anne Hedges <i>First Grade Donut Chair</i>
Danielle Pagano <i>Room Parent Coordinator</i>	



We  our
St. Edward
Faculty
and Staff



The 2024-2025 PGO
would like to say

Thank You

to all 2024-2025
Parent Volunteers



Faith & Service

St. Edward students not only celebrate their faith by joining Father Mike at weekly mass, but serve the community through numerous outreach efforts. This year the St. Edward community donated enough pajamas to give a new pair to every military family student at the San Onofre Camp Pendelton School. When disaster struck Altadena, the Monarch Community came together to raise more than \$8,700 with numerous boxes of new books for St. Elizabeth of Hungary School. There are many more acts of kindness and generosity from our community this year and they are featured in our online annual report.



Supporting Our Neighbors

Community service teaches empathy, gratitude, leadership, and compassion, and how even small acts of kindness can make a big impact.

MISSION BASILICA SERRA'S PANTRY

November 8, 2024, was a truly memorable morning. It was a joyful and inspiring sight to watch a caravan of St. Edward's parents pull up along the curb, ready to help. With pantry shelves running low, the arrival of food was a blessing—not only to the families in need, but also to the volunteers who serve them.

The morning was filled with neighborly love as Mission parents and St. Edward's parents greeted one another. Bag after bag was unloaded, weighed, and sorted with care. By the end of the day, the impact was clear: **13,450 pounds of food collected in 2024—an incredible 6.73 tons.**



TRICK-OR-TREATING AT SEA BLUFFS

Our eighth graders and TYKEs established a meaningful tradition of visiting our senior neighbors at the Sea Bluffs retirement community. Their Halloween visit brought smiles to everyone's faces, and they returned at Christmas to continue the tradition by spreading holiday cheer.

SUPPORT IN A TIME OF RECOVERY

Thank you Monarchs for your generosity in raising more than \$8,700, along with multiple boxes of new books for students at St. Elizabeth of Hungary School, Altadena. Principal Phyllis Cramer was deeply moved by your generosity and kindness, as these funds and supplies helped the school rebuild after the devastating wildfire.



PAJAMAS FOR A CAUSE

This year the St. Edward community donated enough pajamas to give a new pair to every military family student at the San Onofre Camp Pendelton School.

Cheering for Kindness

The Monarch cheer team spread joy and gratitude over the holiday season by making treat bags and handmade crossed for the Dana Point Aegis Senior Living Community and the Dana Point Police Department. Each bag was assembled with intention, care, and love.

Both the police department and the senior living community were beyond appreciative and deeply touched by the girls' efforts. Their joy and gratitude made the experience even more meaningful. Monarch pride shines in the efforts of these girls - not just for what they do on the sidelines, but for the hearts they show in serving others and representing our school with such love and integrity.

"Thank you for your continued support of our program and for helping us raise strong, kind, and service-minded young leaders."

Lauren Carpenter
Parent, Cheerleading Coach



One Day. One *Tremendous* Impact



33 hours and
59 minutes of
giving support

100% Participation

TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED!

\$86,489

71% Percentage of **Monarch**
families who participated

70 Rounds of **BINGO** played
during Monarch Giving Night

2nd
Grade Class with the **highest**
participation overall

Winner Kristen Bemis won the
Grand Finale MME Tickets!





Bingo night and Spaghetti Dinner, a recipe for success!

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus who served 172 pasta meals.
The Monarch community showed up with over

220 participants

800 bingo cards sold

70 prizes raffled off

What do *your gifts* provide?

Your 2024-2025 Monarch Giving Day donations support student enrichment, campus safety and security, tuition assistance, and professional development.



Thank you for
supporting us

Save the date!
The 2026 Monarch
Giving Day is
November 17



2024-2025 By the Numbers

788
STUDENTS
TOTAL ENROLLMENT



12:1
AVERAGE
STUDENT-TO-TEACHER RATIO:
KINDERGARTEN - 4th GRADE

47% of St. Edward graduates
(Class of 2024) who enter
into the honors program
in 9th grade



54% of St. Edward alumni that have
a **4.0 or higher** in high school

87%
of the class of 2025 attends a
Catholic High School



310
number of students who participated in
after school sports (Spring 2025 season)



80%
St. Edward students at
or above benchmark in
MATH



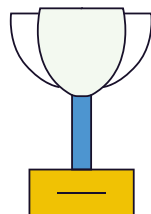
80%
St. Edward students at
or above benchmark in
READING



63%
of instructional staff
have been here at least
5 YEARS

42%
of instructional staff
have been here at least
10 YEARS

15x
OC DIOCESE
Academic Decathlon
Champions



10x
NATIONAL
Academic Decathlon
Champions





St. EdFest

The 2024-2025 school year celebrated the inaugural St. EdFest. We had the joy of coming together as a community for a day filled with carnival games, delicious food, live music, and the best part was, it all centered around Christ and our shared love for the Lord.

As we reflect on this great event, we are reminded of the words from Matthew 18:20: *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."* This scripture speaks to the heart of what makes our gatherings so special—not just the activities and entertainment, but the fact that we come together as one body in Christ. His presence was felt in every moment and we look forward to making this event a yearly gathering.





The 2024–2025 Monarch athletes finished the year strong achieving numerous team accomplishments. Guided by dedicated volunteer coaches and fueled by the roar of supportive teammates, families, and friends, this was a year defined by hard work, athletic excellence, and Monarch pride.

Thank you for supporting our athletic programs—whether by volunteering as a coach or by encouraging your children to fully engage in activities that help them learn, grow, and shine. Your commitment makes a meaningful difference. Let us continue to strive to do God’s will, trusting that He works through us in all that we do.



Track and Field set 10 school records





Girls beach Volleyball Won League



Boys 8th grade Volleyball Won League



Girl's 8th Grade Volleyball Co-League Champs (with St. Margarets) and **2nd place** in the Diocesan Wide Tournament League

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW SHOOTOUT

Last spring Monarch athletes celebrated the Knights of Columbus annual free throw event for students in grades 4th - 8th. It was a day of basket throwing excitement with Blake G. making 11 out of 15 baskets to win the girls title and a tie in the boys category with Copper S. and Xavier L. both making 12 out of 15 baskets.

Get your toss ready for the Spring 2026 event!





Academic Decathlon Wins National Championship

Academic Excellence continues to shine for our Monarchs as our decathletes bring home big wins in 2025, placing first overall in the Diocese of Orange Academic Decathlon. Then advancing to the Junior High Academic Decathlon National Championship, where they placed first overall.

Following months of hard work, dedication, and team studying events, the St. Edward decathletes competed with at least one dozen other Diocesan schools at Santa Margarita Catholic High School where they came out on top as champions in the Orange County Diocesan Decathlon.

Congratulations to all of our Monarch Decathletes and especially to our parent volunteers!





In addition to first place team wins, several **individual subject** competitions celebrated success including:

Current Events	2nd place	Gavin E.
Religion	3rd place	Molly H.
Science	1st place	Wyatt C.

After a regional win, the decathletes advanced to the national level where they competed with diocese teams from across the country, their hard work, intellect and determination paid off with a first place overall national title.

National victories won:

1st in Logic and 3rd in Super Quiz - team

2nd in science - Wyatt C.

3rd in English - Lexi B.

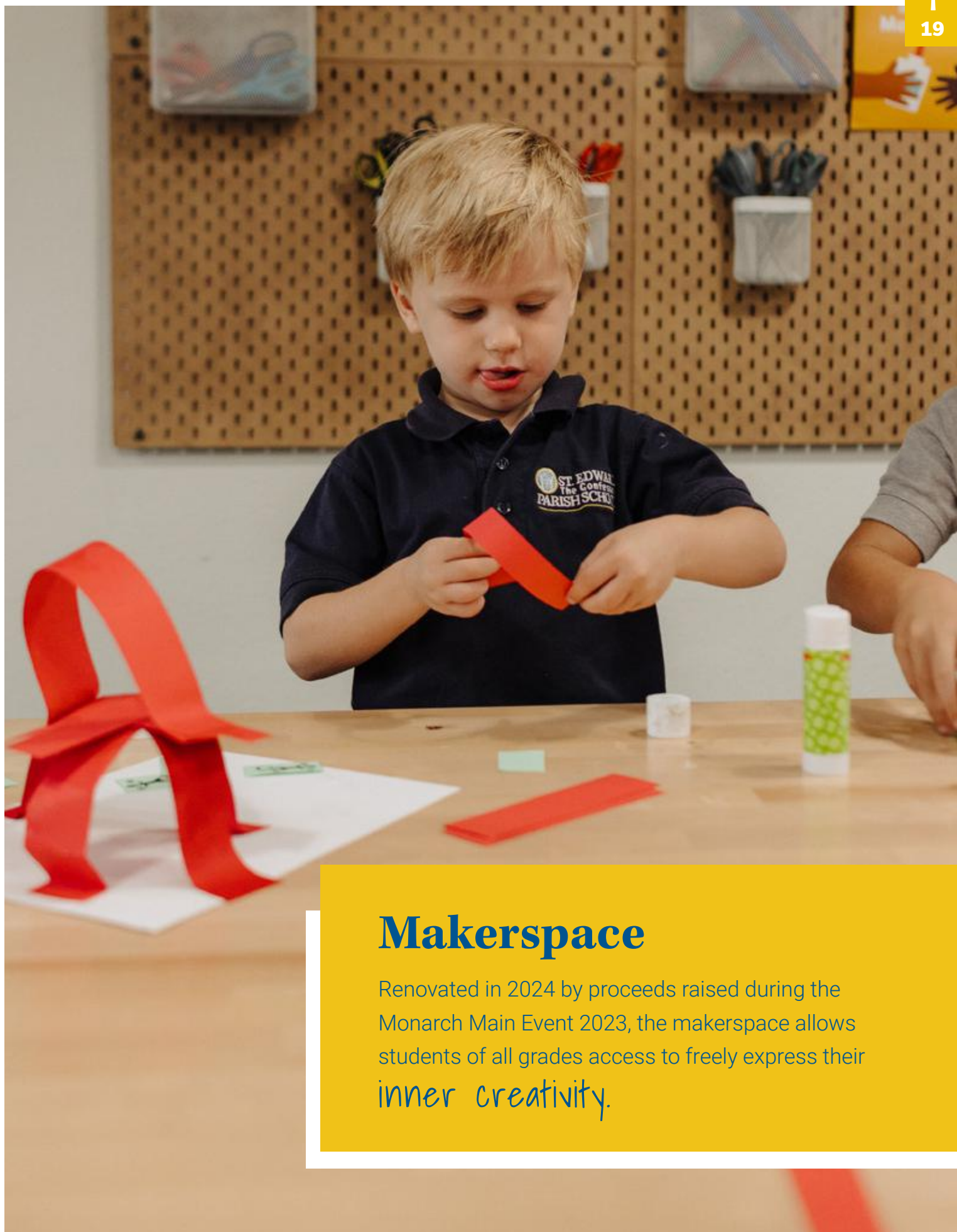


Monarch Theatre

The Monarch theatre delighted the community with two performances. In November 2024, the Wizard of Oz, and in March 2025, The Beast and His Beauty. Both performances brought together students from first through eighth grade to experience the excitement of large-scale theatre productions. Young performers worked diligently for months leading up to performances, perfecting their roles, and developing new skills in acting, singing and stage presence. We thank the many parent volunteers who assisted in crafting costumes and creating sets. Both performances were celebrated with sold out shows and delighted the actors with enthusiastic applause from supportive friends and families.



The arts are a vital part of St. Edward's holistic approach to education, and the 2024-2025 productions were a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing the unique God-given talents of every student.



Makerspace

Renovated in 2024 by proceeds raised during the Monarch Main Event 2023, the makerspace allows students of all grades access to freely express their inner creativity.

Makerspace



The TYKE Raceway is a beloved end-of-year tradition celebrating the special bond between our eighth graders and their TYKE buddies. Eighth graders design and build cardboard race cars, transforming the asphalt into a joyful, chalk-lined racetrack filled with laughter, friendship, and celebration.





Fifth graders showcased their creativity and engineering skills by designing and building roller coasters, exploring concepts such as height, drops, speed, and motion. This hands-on project brought learning to life as students combined imagination with real-world problem-solving.



Third graders brought stories to life by designing and building sets for their stop-motion videos. Through planning, creativity, and collaboration, students learned how design, sequencing, and storytelling work together in digital media.



STREAM Night Intergalactic Liftoff

St. Edward was thrilled to host once again its annual STREAM night, an evening of hands-on science, math, art, and engineering activities for families to complete together. Focused on the theme "Space," the community event included science classroom activities, and student science projects that explored our solar system such as the phases of the moon, rockets, constellations, orbits, and planets. Projects included windsocks, rain sticks, lightning in a jar, baking soda rainbows, and magic snow.



SAVE THE DATE

STREAM Night 2026 March 11, 2025
Food for Thought 5:00 - 7:00 pm



Join the fun of STREAM by entering one of the four categories and a chance to win an award. Categories include:

Cooking
Art/Design
Science/Math
Technology/Engineering

Battle of the Books



Battle of the Books is a literacy program that encourages students to enjoy reading, book discussions, and analyses. Fourth and Fifth graders are invited to participate by forming competitive teams and competing in a one day event hosted by St. Margarets Episcopal School. During this tournament students are faced with over 40 questions covering 20 books and authors. Books are selected by librarians, teachers and parents from all participating schools.

All participants read close to **1 million words** for this program.



In 2025, St. Edwards Music for Monarchs team placed **third** out of 14 teams and 6 schools.

Congratulations and keep on reading!





2024 -2025 Monarchs mock trial teams are comprised of 31 students from grades six through eighth.



BLUE TEAM

Individual Tournament Trial MVP Awards

Garret B.
Stella D.
Parker F.
Lucia L.

Overall Team MVP Award

Garret B.

GOLD TEAM

Individual Tournament Trial MVP Awards

Ashley B.
Nikita G.
Georgia P.

Overall Team MVP Award

Georgia P.

Mock Trial

Monarch mock trial teams participated in the Junior High Mock Trial Competition, hosted by the JSerra Catholic High School Law Magnet Program. It was a day filled with spirited competition, engaging debate and teamwork among all fourteen participating teams. Monarchs won several of their trials. Go Lions!

The 2024-2025 team, saw twelve returning members and thirteen new members, forming two teams. We would like to thank our parent volunteers, coach Steve Rosen, Esq. and Carol Brummel, along with our teacher representative Kathy Wood (grade 7) for their dedication and team commitment, and generosity of sharing their legal expertise with our students.

WE ARE FAMILY

Each year, St. Edward's Parent Guild Organization (PGO) organizes two community events dedicated just to mothers and fathers, giving them special one-on-one time with their children.



MOTHER-SON LASER TAG AND FIELD GAMES

The Mother-Son Laser Tag and Field Games event provided a fun-filled opportunity for mothers and sons to connect through active play. Laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition filled the afternoon as families enjoyed quality time together, celebrating the gift of community and the talents God has given each child.

FATHER-DAUGHTER A NIGHT IN PARIS

Guests were transported to the streets of Paris during our Father-Daughter Dance, *A Night in Paris*. From beautiful floral touches and Parisian pastries to dancing under twinkling lights, the evening was a celebration of love, connection, and special moments shared together.



MONARCHS CELEBRATED NATIONAL BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

A community bike ride departing from two central locations converging on the San Juan Creek Trail, taking it to the Dana Point Community Center. The students and families then walked their bikes on the sidewalk up the steep Calle La Primavera hill, finishing at St. Edward school just in time for school.



The annual Bike to School Day event aims to emphasize the importance of physical activity among children, cyclist, and pedestrian safety, strengthening family and community connections.

GRANDPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

In January, we open our doors and invite special friends and grandparents to share in a day filled with love, learning and Christ. From the Art Room to the Book Fair, we open our doors and allow God's great work to shine.



DONUTS WITH DADS

Our Donuts with Dad celebration offers fathers and students a joyful start to the day—sharing a donut, a hug, and a few moments together before heading off to class, strengthening the bond between home and school.



2024 SADDLE UP TO A GOOD BOOK

The Book Fair was made possible by the incredible generosity of our families, raising over \$6,000. Your support continues to enrich our school, classroom libraries, and nurturing curious and confident readers.



Making a difference



Tuition

Makes our School Exist

Operating
Expenses

Classroom
Supplies

Faculty & Staff Salaries
and Benefits

Facility Costs

Utilities



Monarch Main Event

Promotes Community & Raises
Money for a Specific Project

Project Specific
Funds

Dedicated
Purpose

Adults Only

Themed Event



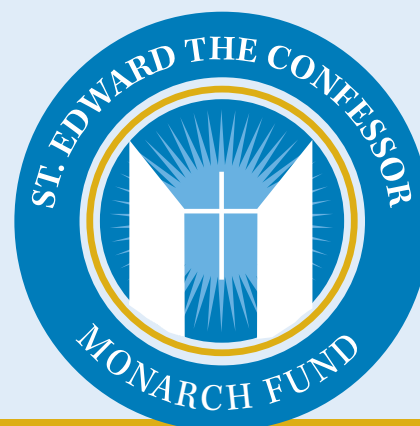
Monarch Annual Fund

Makes our School Exceptional

The Monarch Annual Fund is St. Edward Parish School's most important fundraising priority. The annual fund generates necessary funds for many critical areas, including tuition assistance, professional development, student experiences, and campus improvements. We are grateful to the many individuals, families, and corporations for their annual contributions during the fiscal year of July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. We recognize the generous donors and thank them for making Catholic education a philanthropic priority.

Every Year

Every Gift Makes an **Impact**



Addresses
Immediate
Needs

Funds
Available
to Use at
Anytime

Goal: 100% Parent Participation

Expenses
Not Covered
by Tuition

Supplements
Tuition

ALL Students Benefit
from the Annual Fund

Donations Used in Same Fiscal Year



Fr. Knight Circle

Established to honor St. Edward Parish School's founding year, the 1981 Fr. Knight Circle recognizes donors who have made a leadership gift of \$1,981 or more to the Monarch Annual Fund. Donors are invited to leadership events, and thanked for their commitment of supporting St. Edward Parish School's annual needs.

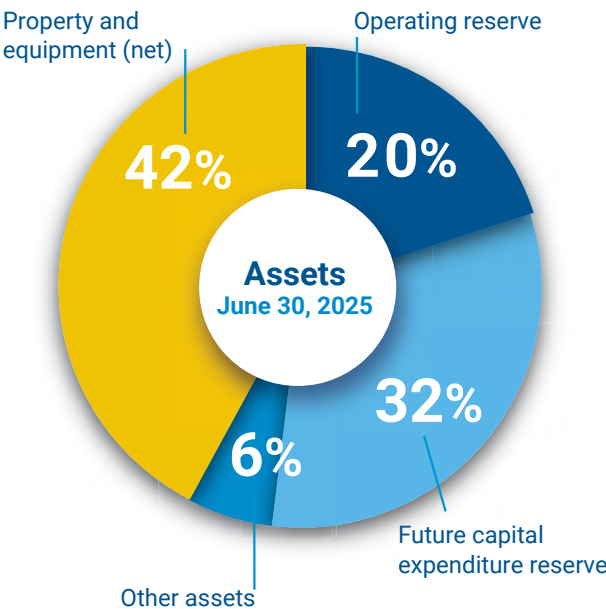
St. Edward the Confessor Catholic School

Statement of Financial Position for the Year End June 30, 2025

Assets

Operating reserve	\$2,282,218
Future capital expenditure reserve	3,654,502
Other assets	753,827
Property and equipment (net)	4,743,168

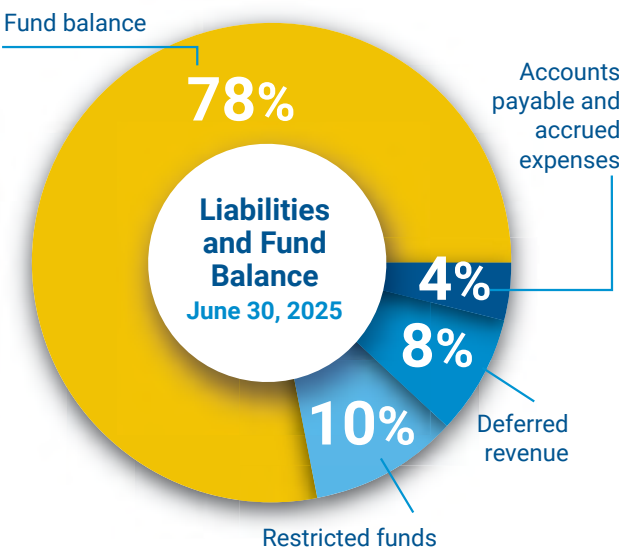
Total Assets **\$ 11,433,715**



Liabilities and Fund Balance

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 517,224
Deferred revenue	904,019
Restricted funds	1,111,854
Fund balance	8,900,618

Total Liabilities and Fund Balance **\$ 11,433,715**



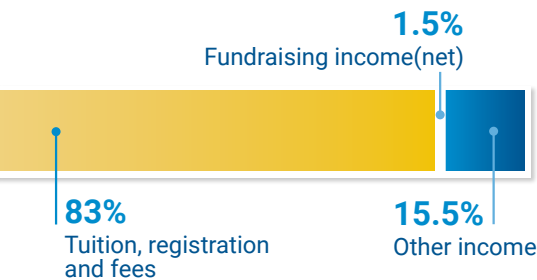
OPERATING CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Cash Inflows

Tuition, registration and fees	\$8,822,611
Fundraising income (net)	160,106
Other Income	1,653,758

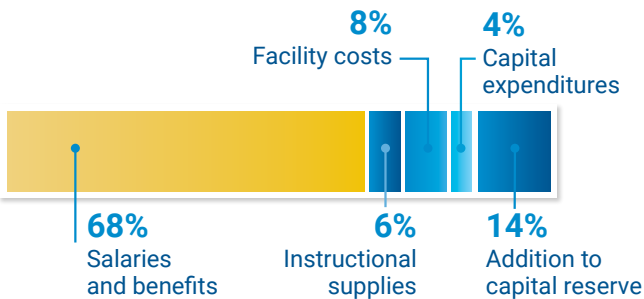
Total Cash Inflows \$10,636,475



Cash Outflows

Salaries and benefits	\$7,189,761
Instructional supplies	609,635
Facility costs	837,841
Capital expenditures	489,045
Addition to capital reserve	1,510,193

Total Cash Outflows \$10,636,475



OPERATING BUDGET

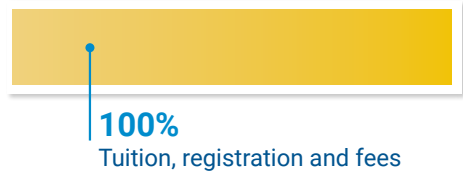
For the Year Ended June 30, 2026

Budget is for the upcoming fiscal year June 30, 2026

Budgeted Cash Inflows

Tuition, registration and fees	\$9,142,975
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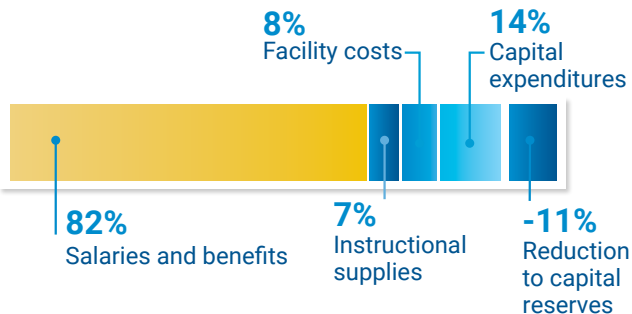
Total Cash Inflows \$9,142,975



Cash Outflows

Salaries and benefits	\$7,534,913
Instructional supplies	621,470
Facility costs	747,490
Capital expenditures	1,252,360
Reduction to capital reserves	-1,013,258

Total Cash Outflows \$9,142,975





Rhinestone RODEO

MONARCH MAIN EVENT 2025

St. Edward the Confessor Parish School supporters gathered on March 8, 2025, for the school's annual Monarch Main Event (MME). The Rhinestone Rodeo was held under the stars at St. Edward Parish Hall, where a sell-out crowd of more than 350 guests enjoyed a memorable country-glam evening.

THANK YOU

to everyone who supported the Monarch Main Event, certainly one of the highlights of the year.



Guests were treated to gourmet cuisine curated by Dave Hanna of Hanna's Bar & Steakhouse, along with live entertainment, dancing, and an energetic auction that kept the excitement high throughout the night.

The event exceeded expectations, netting just over \$185,000! Proceeds were used to fulfill the schools desire to modernize the classrooms throughout St. Edward's School.

Thank you to our MME volunteers and staff!

Event Chairs: Ashleigh Ora and Melissa Hagstrom

MME 2025 Committee: Hailey Beck-Turley, Kacey Brun, Tracy Gardea, Kevin Hutchinson, Kaelyn Leger, Tish Manganello, Carolyn Ruiz, Elizabeth Williams

Event Coordinator: Whitney Tioleco

Food and Decor Chairs: John Beran, Mayumi Kuttler

Event Program designer: Justin Kuttler & 5 Acre Design

Silent Auction Basket Photographer: Regina Gancar

WHAT IS THE MONARCH MAIN EVENT

Monarch Main Event (MME) is St. Edward Parish School's most well-known and beloved fundraiser. Each year, MME fundraises for a specific program or project for the school. Over the years, some of the programs that have benefited from the annual gala include campus-wide technology upgrades, a facilities maintenance cart, an on-field athletic scoreboard, campus security upgrades, the purchase of a ceramics kiln, and playground shade awnings. Since 2014, MME has raised more than \$1.7 million for St. Edward Parish School. The net proceeds of the event average \$160,000 per year.





Community

Community is at the heart of Catholic education—where faith, tradition, and relationships span generations. The families pictured here reflect the lasting bonds formed through Catholic schools.



Parents photographed in the picture above share a special bond of attending Santa Margarita Catholic High School and now their children attend St. Edward.



Every gift to the
Monarch Annual Fund
makes an impact at
St. Edward.

Catholic Education

The Legacy Continues

Many of our families carry a beautiful legacy of Catholic education—parents who once attended a Catholic school are now watching their own children grow in faith and knowledge within these same traditions. This generational connection is a true reflection of the strength and beauty of our faith community.



Kim Family

Aaron Bishop Amat High School in La Puente
Kate University of San Francisco Law School



Luppi Family

Tony St. Edward the Confessor Parish School
Emily St. Serra Catholic School and
Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Berry Family

BreAnn OLQA, St. Catherine, SMCHS,
LMU, and Seattle University



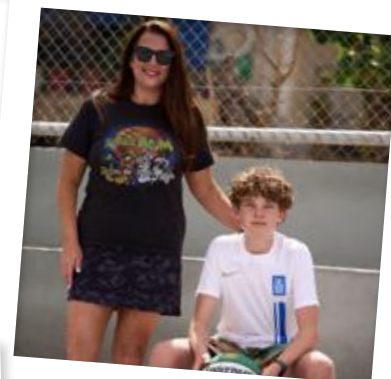
Guerrero Family

Chelsea St James Academy, Solana Beach



William Family

Brayton St. Bonaventure and Mater Dei



Marman Family

Donna St. Joan of Arc, Louisiana and
Mercy Academy Catholic High School, New Orleans



Collins Family

Grandparents: Sam & Dorie attended St. Philomena and
Sts. Peter & Paul Elementary, St. Anthony High School
Dads: Crispin & Samson attended St. Catherine and Mater Dei
Current students: Matthew, Poppy & Madden
Future student: Callie



Kearney Family

Jennifer St. Edward the Confessor Catholic School



Derby Family

Jacquelyn St. Edward the Confessor Parish School
and Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Early Family

Elisa Santa Margarita Catholic High School
Derek Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Hagstrom Family

Andrew Santa Margarita Catholic High School
Melissa Holy Family School, San Diego



Rudy Family



Bauer Family

Stephanie Mission School, San Juan Capistrano



Winters Family

Gina Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Blackburn Family

Tiffany St. Edward and SMCHS
Lauren St. Edward, JSerra,
and the Catholic University of America



Capek Family

Jessica Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Chambers Family

Atraya attended Catholic school from
third grade through college



Pinkerton Family

Michael Cook St. Edward the Confessor Parish School
Katherine Catholic School



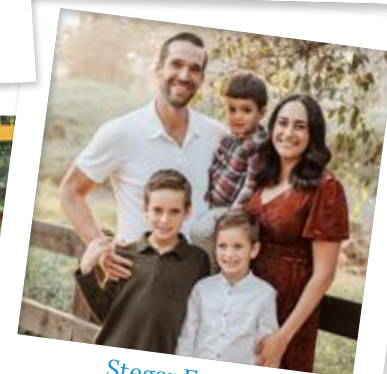
Sateri Family

Kim St. Norbert Catholic School



Shepherd Family

Margaret attended Catholic School



Steger Family

Tania St. Simon and Jude Catholic School, Huntington Beach
Scott Consolidated Catholic Lomira Theresa, Wisconsin



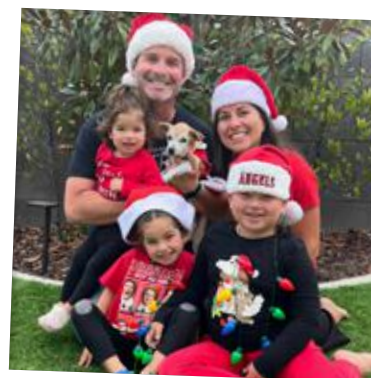
VerBurg Family

Nicole attended Catholic School
Brain Santa Margarita Catholic High School



Allen Family

Megan St. Serra, SMCHS and Santa Clara University



Willshire Family

Anthony St Joseph's, St Francis, Servite HS
Amber St. Juliana's, Rosary HS



Paredes Family

Stephanie St. Luke Catholic School,
Temple City, CA



SUNSET FAMILIES

2024-2025 Sunset Families

Each year we recognize the families who end their journey at St. Edward Parish School with their youngest child graduating from the school. We said farewell to 32 families from the Class of 2025. Many of these families spent more than 12 years together spanning multiple children at St. Edward.

The Sunset Parents were invited to a breakfast in May to celebrate the completion of their journey as Monarch parents. It was a beautiful morning full of stories from their time at the school.



Christian and Dawn Asis
Drew and Lauren Bordages
Carol Brummel
John and Heidi Buffington
Chad and Luisa Caroll
Abe and Casey Cook
Danica Curran
Carl and Suzanne Edwards
Andy and Denise Espineira
Michael and Nicole Foster
Rob and Trish Gwin
David and Lynn Hardman
DJ and Monique Harrison
Michael and Richelle Lavin
Carlos and Wendy Leon
Daniel and Allison Mattos

John and Tobi Matuz
Kevin and Lyndsey McCarthy
Daniel and Elizabeth McKenzie
David Michel
Tim and Laura Nelligan
Mike and Karly Nepp
Tom and Heidi Nicoll
Roy and Lori Reeves
Hilary Reuter
Richard and Jennifer Sage
Sebastian and Amy Triscari
Ashleigh Vachon
Nick and Anji Viscount
Phil and Gina Wendt
Robert and Mistie Whalen
Geoff and Maria Wilson

SUNSET FAMILY

The Nepppl Family

Kennedy Nepppl 2016

Seamus Nepppl 2019

Jude Nepppl 2025



How many years total was your family at St. Edward?

16 years

Why did you choose Catholic education for your family?

We knew that we wanted faith based education that would build our kids relationship with God and a moral compass rooted in Catholic beliefs.

Why did you choose St. Edward Parish School?

We chose St. Eds because of the Parish aspect. Having a school and a church is such a blessing, it builds a stronger and more cohesive community. Once we were in, leaving was just never a consideration! From the staff, administration and teachers, the school was amazing and the community around the school was the most loving and supportive family, we could have ever given to our children! There is no truer proverb that embodies St. Eds than "It takes a village to raise a child". The "Village" of St. Eds is filled with caring families and we are so blessed to be part of this community.

What activities were your children and your family involved in at St. Edward?

All of them!	Soccer	Cheer
Basketball	Track and field	Battle of the Books
Football	Cross Country	Musicals



What was the most memorable school moments for your family?

Far too many to choose from, but if I had to choose one, it would be when St. Edwards allowed Jude to have CAP Kids come to St. Eds and present for an hour. When Jude was in 4th grade his hair suddenly fell out. Within weeks he lost all of the hair on his body (head, eyelashes, eye brows...). It was a SHOCK and could have been crippling to a 9 year old, but St. Eds wrapped their loving arms around Jude and our family. I can NOT overstate how important this was for Jude and for our family. Jude felt that love and was able to continue to thrive and grow with confidence. One of the many ways St. Eds showed their love and support of Jude was to have Jude host the local chapter of Children's Alopecia Program (CAP Kids), to talk to his classmates. With a special shout out to Mrs. Vichon, who helped coordinate, Jude got to spend time with his class, explaining what Alopecia is. It was such a special moment that made Jude feel special.

What was your family's favorite school event?

Fiesta was always a highlight, the school was together for a weekend of fun and service!

What was your family's favorite school tradition?

I loved the Monarch Award for each sport, it wasn't given to the "best" athlete, instead it was given to the athlete that most embodied Christ (Serving other, being supportive and team focused), always such a joy to see the excited expressions on the young athletes!

What is most meaningful to you at St. Edward?

The community of St. Edwards. The staff, the teachers, the families, the priests...that is what made St. Edward so meaningful and special.



Congratulations Class of 2025

We are incredibly proud of our 82 outstanding graduates from the Class of 2025! Among them, we would like to give special recognition to three graduates who have demonstrated exceptional academic excellence and personal achievements.



'25 Valedictorian
Lexi Bemis



'25 Valedictorian
St. Edward
Award Winner
Laura Gray



'25 Salutatorian
Elle Oprian



WHERE *Our Graduates* ARE HEADED NEXT

36

SMCHS

35

JSerra

1

Mater Dei

1

TogetherShip

6

Dana Hills

2

San Clemente
High School

1

Aliso Niguel
High School



Celebrating Milestones

Tim Fitzgerald

Celebrating 25 years at St. Edward School



What drew you to Catholic education when you first started your career?

My brother and I were raised in the Catholic Faith from birth, attending Mass weekly throughout our childhood. Living in several different countries also gave us a unique perspective on Catholicism and its expression around the world. After earning my teaching credential, I had not yet secured a position when I noticed in the Sunday Bulletin that the Diocese of Orange was hosting a teacher job fair. I attended- and the rest is history.

Why is physical education a crucial part of the curriculum?

Physical education plays a vital role in promoting students' physical, mental, and social well-being. It fosters lifelong healthy habits, supports academic success, and helps develop essential motor skills while strengthening the body and improving overall fitness. PE also reduces stress, boosts confidence, and provides opportunities for teamwork and sportsmanship, allowing students to build cooperation, communication, and other important social skills.

What are your favorite units to teach and why?

I particularly enjoy teaching cooperative games, where students work together toward a shared goal rather than competing against one another. I also appreciate units that focus on striking with implements, such as pickleball, tennis, hockey, and baseball

What makes St. Edward the type of community that has kept you here for 25 years?

I am grateful for the teachers and staff who have become like family, as well as the St. Edward students who have profoundly shaped who I am today. I carry with me immense joy, lifelong friendships, and cherished memories from this special place I have been privileged to call home for so many years.

What are some of your favorite St. Edward memories?

One of my greatest highlights has been the East Coast trip with eighth graders over the past 20 years. Watching our middle school students grow, mature, and experience these moments firsthand has been incredibly rewarding.





LET YOUR
*Light
Shine*
BEFORE
OTHERS

MATTHEW 5:16



2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

January

- 23 Grandparents & Special Friends Day
- 25 Open House

February

- 28 Monarch Main Event

March

- 7 Academic Decathlon
- 11 STREAM Night

May

- 2 First Communion

June

- 3 8th Grade Graduation
- 10 Last Day of School



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