



OFFICE OF ALUMNI & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

May 2024 eNews

Reunion! Reunion! Reunion!



Some alumni from the Class of 2008 enjoying Reunion 2023 in the 3s field.



Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

I am thrilled to join the Saint Michael's College leadership team during this exciting time of transition as President Plumb lays out a new vision for the future, as enrollment is increasing, and as the school is being recognized nationally for excellence in academics and athletics.

Nothing can eclipse my first day, April 8, on the library lawn cheering with students and faculty while witnessing the Totality in one of the best places to view the Solar Eclipse.

I have been fortunate to encounter many alumni in my 20-year career in Vermont. Whether I was working at the COTS Walk, volunteering at the local food shelf or serving on the board of the United Way, there was always a Saint Michael's alum lending a hand. I think it is the Edmundite tradition of service-leadership that alumni embody in the workplace and in the community that makes the school so special.

In my most recent role as Executive Director of the Vermont Catholic Community Foundation, I helped establish the first Catholic community foundation in the state and raised \$23 million to create funds that support school scholarships, charitable causes, and ministries. I understand how important it is to build a strong foundation for the future by growing endowments that allow individuals to leave a legacy that will support students today and tomorrow. I am eager to help the College increase endowments as well as engage more alumni in the Saint Michael's Fund which is vital for the daily operations of the College's academic, athletic, and community service programs.

I have learned that people support what they love, and it is obvious to me that there is so much love for Saint Michael's College from staff, students, parents, and alumni. I look forward to getting to know you and learn why you love Saint Michael's College. And what better way to witness this in action than at the upcoming Reunion? I feel fortunate to be joining such a loyal community just in

time for such an event! For further details about the Reunion, you can visit smcvt.edu/reunion.

With gratitude,

Ellen Kane
Vice President for Institutional Advancement



New York, NY

On April 18, President Plumb and his wife, Mary, attended an alumni event at the Hudson Yards in New York City. They were warmly welcomed by numerous members of the St. Mike's community that were in attendance, including current and former trustees as well as members of the alumni board. The evening was hosted by former trustee Pam Batalis '85 and current trustees Phil McGovern '80 and Brian Lacey '72.



All Things Reunion 2024!

We can't wait to welcome back our alumni celebrating reunions this year (classes ending in 4s and 9s), but every Purple Knight, regardless of graduation year, is invited to join the festivities. Sign up today so you don't miss out on the fun!

Visit the [reunion website](#) to:

- View the [schedule of events](#)
- Purchase tickets for paid events on the [Eventbrite ticketing platform](#)
- Make your [class gift](#)
- Check out [who's coming](#) back to campus

To add to the fun, **contribute to the Reunion playlist!** DJ Craig Mitchell '93 will be spinning tunes at the P-Knight party during Reunion and wants YOU to help build the playlist. [Fill out this form](#) with the songs from your college days and relive the memories when you hear them play.

Remember to also stay connected with us on social media. **Follow** [@smcvtalumni](#) on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) as Throwback Thursdays are in full swing and each class is getting its own feature!

Feel free to reach out with questions at any time at events@smcvt.edu or by contacting Stephanie Snell, ssnell2@smcvt.edu directly.



Totality On Campus

On April 8, the Saint Michael's community experienced the solar eclipse together on campus with astrophysicist Alain Brizard, Saint Michael's Professor of Physics, who guided the experience. The surreal, over-powering, jaw-dropping display was captured through multimedia by a team of people. See below for pictures and videos of the event!

[Read more>](#)

[Watch the video>](#)



2024 Commencement Speaker

Dr. Ansel Augustine, D. Min, an award-winning author and speaker, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Assistant Director of African American Affairs of the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, will deliver the Commencement address at Saint Michael's College to the Class of 2024.

[Read More>](#)



Military Career Resource Fair

Ken O'Connell, Director of Military Community Enrollment and Resources, stopped at the Wounded Warrior Education, Internship, and Career Resource Fair last month. O'Connell was invited to network with the Marines of the Wounded Warrior Regiment, where he was able to share the good news about Saint Michael's College with partners, service members, and the military family.

O'Connell spoke about the importance of SMC having immediate support and programming available to our Student Veterans and their families. He will be heading back to the DC area in May and plans to be available to NOVA's Military Connected Students throughout the day in their office at the Annandale Campus.

Interested in learning more about the resources available to students and the programs that we offer? Join us at the Military Heritage Reception during Reunion. [RSVP today.](#)



1984 Alumni Receives Praise on His Play "Herself"

"Herself" is the brainchild of Tim McGillicuddy '84, and is the 25th year anniversary production of the theatre company [The Drilling Company](#), which is also the producer of Shakespeare in the Parking Lot and Shakespeare in Bryant Park. [The play premiered in late March](#) and will run through April 20 at A.R.T's Gural Theater in New York City.

The play is already receiving some critical acclaim, including through a review by [Woman Around Town](#). The author Alix Cohen writes, "This is the kind of play you might assume rendered by Brian Friel – not a comparison of style, but rather one of nuanced character depiction, relatable situation and solid storytelling. A satisfying work of writing and production."

[Read more about McGillicuddy '84>](#)



Five Men's Lacrosse Players and Coach Smith Named All-Conference and Coach of the Year award

Five Saint Michael's College men's lacrosse players were named Northeast-10 Conference All-Conference on Monday, when two first-years landed on the NE10 All-Rookie Team and seventh-year head coach [Alex Smith](#) garnered NE10 Coach of the Year accolades.

Senior [Nathan Woods](#) (Ottawa, Ontario/Kent School) and junior [Sebastian Simonson](#) (Spruce Grove, Alberta/Spruce Grove Composite) were the Purple Knights' initial first team selections since 2007, senior [Cam Steuer](#) (Saratoga Springs, N.Y./Saratoga Springs) and junior [Sean Regan](#) (Pittsford, N.Y./Pittsford Sutherland) earned spots on the second team, and graduate student [Alex Chirwin](#) (Queensbury, N.Y./Queensbury) was named to the third team. First-years [Thomas Cahill](#) (Georgetown, Mass./Georgetown) and [Taylor Wiercinski](#) (Groton, Mass./Lawrence Academy) claimed positions on the NE10 All-Rookie Team.

[Read more on the awardees>](#)



Please remember in your prayers Michael D. Samara, a longtime member of our community and former Dean of Students/Vice President for Student Affairs, who passed away two weeks ago. In the week before he died, Mike was on campus having lunch in our student dining room, greeting colleagues and enjoying a visit to campus. Mike served our community well, and many of us are grateful for his time spent at the College where he established many friendships among us. Mike's deep faith in God is our consolation as we grieve his passing knowing that he is now with the risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

[Read the full obituary>](#)





Tax-Wise Ways to Make Your Annual Gift

Pay it forward and help support today's students to do well and do good by making a gift to Saint Michael's before June 30th.

Looking for tax-wise and convenient ways to give? Visit [Ways to Give](#) for more information about gifts of appreciated securities, giving through your DAF, from your IRA, online giving, mailing a check, and more.

Schedule of Events:

In addition to the events highlighted below, we have plans in the works in a city near you! Keep an eye on our [events calendar](#) as details are confirmed. Interested in planning an event in your area? Email events@smcvt.edu.

Non-Reunion:

May 20th: In the Connecticut River Valley area? Join the 'Lunch Bunch' for the first ever Connecticut Purple Knights Golf Outing! The event will be held at Keney Park Golf Course in Hartford, CT, and begins at **10:30 AM with a shotgun start**. If you are interested in participating, please reach out to Andy McElroy '71, andymcelroyjr@gmail.com, **by May 14th**.

June 4th: Get your tickets for the Durham Bulls! [RSVP](#) for tickets to the game with the first pitch at 6:35 PM.

June 15th: Join Michaela Rivers '14 in a volunteer day at Cradle to Crayons in Newtonville, MA, from 10 AM - 12 PM. [Learn more and RSVP](#).

June 19th: Calling all Yankees fans! [RSVP](#) for tickets to watch the Yankees take on the Orioles at 7:05 PM.

June 27th: The Lake Monsters are back! Purple Knights are invited to watch the Lake Monsters take on the Brockton Rox at 6:35 PM. [RSVP](#).

August 11th: Time for the Red Sox! Join us for the Sox Vs. Astros game. More details to come.

August 27th: Join us for a Phillies Vs. Astros game on Tuesday, August 27! More details to come.

September 20th-22th: Save the date for Alumni & Family Weekend 2024! More info to come.

REUNION

Unless noted below, Reunion tickets can be purchased on our [Eventbrite platform](#)

May 31st - June 2nd

Below are a few highlighted events that we would love to see you at! For a more comprehensive list including class socials please, **visit the [Reunion website](#)**.

Friday, May 31:

Golf Outing at Williston Golf Club: 10 AM. Price per player is \$100, which includes 18 holes, cart fees, and brown bag lunch! Open to ALL Purple Knights. **[Please RSVP by May 20th!](#)**

Saturday, June 1:

Purple & Gold Brunch: 11 AM. Join us in honoring our [Alumni of the Year award recipients](#) and celebrate the contributions of our Reunion classes. Brunch will include a bloody mary and mimosa bar!

Glee Club Sing-Along and Workshop: 1 PM. Join Dr. Bill Tortolano (retired) and current Chorale director Professor Nat Lew in song at Reunion 2024! All former members of both Glee Club and Chorale are invited; **[RSVP today!](#)**

Military Heritage Reception: 2 PM. Celebrate the military heritage of Saint Michael's students and alumni at our annual event. This event is open to the entire SMC military community; whether an alumni, family, student, or even a

community member, everyone affiliated with the military is invited to attend. [RSVP today!](#)

P-Knight Party: 5:30 PM. Come and enjoy a curated selection of Vermont breweries and food trucks, DJ Craig Mitchell '93 spinning tunes, lawn games and much more! Join us for this not-to-be-missed, signature event of Reunion weekend!

Sunday, June 2:

Mass: 11 AM.

Farewell Breakfast: 9 AM.

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