

Dear Saint Michael's Community,

Here on campus, we are celebrating a successful, joy-filled opening to the school year. I am deeply grateful for all on campus who planned and implemented such an exciting welcome for our new students and their families. The weather was absolutely perfect for such a day on campus!

As is the tradition at Saint Michael's, our incredible Orientation Leaders used every ounce of their energy to welcome the first-year students and move them into their new homes in the residence halls. Our Residential Staff prepared the residence halls for a warm and intentional welcome of our new students. Our International Students were welcomed a few days earlier

with an orientation that was focused on their individual needs. This international orientation was planned and implemented under the leadership of Rosemary Yargici, Saint Michael's Director of International Students and Scholarship. Prior to both of these orientations, our campus was quite lively with our preseason athletes and our Fire & Rescue student volunteers on campus. Additionally, Graduate Resident Directors and Resident Advisors were trained for their roles for the upcoming year. Campus, for sure, was already brimming with the Purple Knight pride by the time move-in day arrived.

We hope to see you here for some of the wonderful events during [Alumni & Family Weekend](#) from September 19-22, when you can experience the excitement on campus firsthand. All in all, it's shaping up to be an exciting fall semester! I can't wait to see what else our incredible Saint Michael's community has in store.

With gratitude,

Dawn Ellinwood

Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

[Check out photos from Move-In Day!](#)



The Purple Knight Challenge is back, and we need you!

This year's Purple Knight Challenge will be held Monday, September 15, through Sunday, September 21! This annual week-long fundraising event provides vital support to our 22 varsity athletic programs. Your support makes the experiences of our 476 student athletes possible. Make a contribution to your favorite program today by visiting smcvt.edu/pkc25. All gifts made between now and September 21 will count toward the totals. Thank you for your support of our incredible student-athletes and teams. We are One Team – UKnighted!

Make A Gift



Alumni & Family Weekend is just one week away — September 19-21!

We're counting down to one of the most spirited weekends of the year at St. Mike's! From the Hall of Fame induction to campus tours and the Welcome Back Bash, there's something for everyone.

Don't forget to RSVP for these special events with limited space:

- 🌸 *Pick-Your-Own Bouquet at The Farm* (Friday at 3 & 4 PM)
- 🌿 *Natural Area & Outdoor Classrooms Tour* (Saturday, 9:30–11:00 AM)
- 🥗 *Salad Lunch Celebrating 10 Years of The Farm* (Saturday 12-2 PM)
- 🎓 *President's State of the College Address* (Saturday, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM)
- ☕ *SMC Family Breakfast* (Sunday, 9:30–11:00 AM)

RSVP and reserve your spot today!



National Make-A-Will Month Thank You!

Thank you to the many alumni, parents and friends who participated in “National Make-A-Will-Month” in August. Following this effort, Saint Michael’s is pleased to welcome five new members to the Heritage Circle, the College’s legacy society. They join over 300 others who have included Saint Michael’s College in wills and estate plans.

Start your will for free today



Keep Learning with St. Mike's: *Online, Self-Paced Professional Courses*

Looking to upskill, explore new career paths, or stack credentials? Saint Michael’s College has partnered with [MindEdge Learning](#) to offer flexible, affordable professional development courses and certificates—on your time, at your pace. Founded in 1998 by Harvard and MIT educations, MindEdge offers top shelf online courses at your fingertips! And now through end of 2025 enjoy a 10% discount on all registrations. Enter "**SMC10**" at check out.

Click to today and learn more - literally! Because learning doesn’t stop at graduation.



Calling All Alumni: Your Service Story Matters!

Alumni, we want to hear from you! We're exploring the legacy of volunteerism at Saint Michael's College. As a student, did you do volunteer service work through MOVE, as part of a class, team or club or as a post-graduate year (Peace Corps, etc)? If so, how did those experiences shape how you view volunteering now? Do you still actively volunteer? If so, why?

Please complete the form below. We may reach out to some to ask if your responses can be used for marketing purposes.

Fill out the survey



Support Admissions by Welcoming Future Purple Knights to Campus!

We're excited to try something new in Admissions—inviting our proud alumni and parents to be the first friendly faces visitors see when they arrive on campus.

As some of our best brand advocates, you know firsthand what makes Saint Michael's so special. We'd love to have you join us for a shift (or two!) at the Admissions Welcome Desk to greet prospective students and families, share your SMC story, and help create a warm, memorable experience.

As we test out this idea, we ask those interested to fill out our availability using [THIS FORM](#). A member of the Admissions team will be in touch with next steps for those who sign up.



Join the Alumni Board of Directors—Applications for 2026 Now Open!

Are you passionate about strengthening connections within our alumni community and shaping the future of alumni engagement? We're now accepting applications for the **Alumni Board of Directors**! This is a unique opportunity to collaborate with fellow alumni, support meaningful initiatives, and make a lasting impact.

Whether you're near or far, your voice matters.

Apply today and help us build a vibrant, inclusive alumni network!



Celebrating the Feast of Saint Michael

Join us in honoring the College's name day on the Feast of Saint Michael! The main celebration will take place at **4:00 p.m. on September 29** in the **Saint Michael the Archangel Chapel** on campus. **Bishop John McDermott** of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington will preside and offer the homily during this special Mass.

Following the service, the **SMC Edmundite Community** will host a social and dinner with invited guests, including members of the newly formed Faculty Senate. Additional details about Campus Ministry's plans for the day will be shared as they become available.

To stay spiritually connected with campus life, be sure to check out [Fr. David Theroux's weekly blog](#), where he shares reflections, updates, and insights from the Edmundite community.

[Read Fr. David's weekly blog](#)





Spiders, Neurons, & the Fight Against Alzheimer's

One of the things that makes the Saint Michael's experience special is that undergraduates have a number of opportunities to work alongside their professors on research. Dozens of students, including four this summer, have worked with Biology and Neuroscience Professors Ruth Fabian-Fine and Adam Weaver to uncover the way Alzheimer's disease develops in the human brain. [Watch here>](#)

Exploring Social Unrest Abroad

Senior **Ava Lavigne '26** transformed her study abroad experience in Grenoble, France into a compelling research project on political activism and social unrest. Her work reflects the global awareness and critical thinking fostered at Saint Michael's College.

[Read more>](#)

Fulbright Fellows & the Freeman Internship Difference

Two recent graduates, **Jarrett Sweet '25** and **Patrick McGloine '25**, were awarded Fulbright fellowships to teach English in Vietnam and the Czech Republic. Both credit their transformative Freeman Foundation internships in Asia for shaping their global perspectives and professional goals.

[Read more>](#)

Summer of Creativity

Five student artists spent their summer immersed in creative work, now featured in Saint Michael's fall art exhibits. Their pieces span photography, sculpture, and mixed media, showcasing the depth of talent and expression within the campus community.

[Read 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.

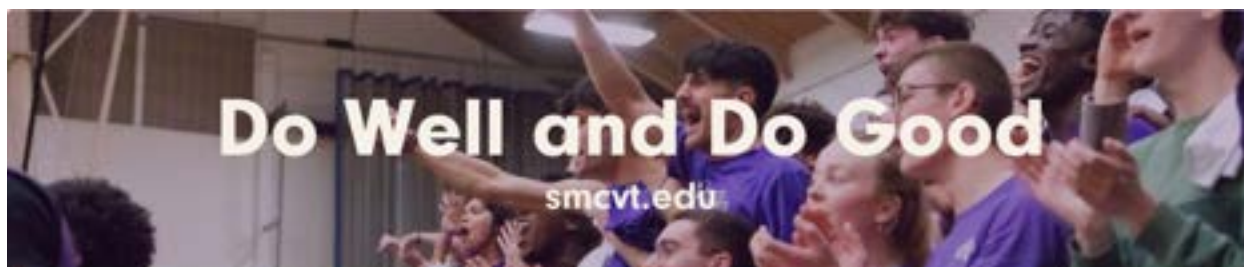
September 18: Save the Date for the 75th Annual CT Lunch Bunch Barbecue at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, CT from 3:30-7 PM! More details to follow.

September 30: The White Peril: A Conversation with Omo Moses exploring race, identity, and legacy through his multigenerational memoir *The White Peril*, interweaving his own journey with the voices of his father, civil rights icon Bob Moses, and his great-grandfather. Recital Hall at McCarthy Arts Center from 6-7:30 PM.

September 18: Join students from UVM and SMC in a debate; Environmental Justice: Whose Side Are You On? Starting at 6:00 PM in the McCarthy Recital Hall.

October 23: Looking to build your network and meet current SMC students and alumni? Join us for an evening of conversation and connections at OnLogic in South Burlington, VT from 4-6 PM! **RSVP to save your spot.**

June 4-7, 2026: Mark your calendars for Reunion 2026! We'll be celebrating classes ending in 1's and 6's, but as always, all alumni are welcome!



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Saint Michael's College

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