



September 20 2024

Quarter 1 Edition No. 6

Dear Viking Families,

We are excited to offer a new avenue to connect our outstanding faculty and staff with our cherished community. We have dedicated a new space on the NCHS website for faculty and staff to blog about their experiences — both in and out of education.

To kick off this new series, we are extremely fortunate that the incomparable Mr. Rick Garnett '99 has gifted us with his insights into the Costa Rican ecosystem and how the smallest of creatures can captivate, educate, and humble us.

Mr. Garnett shares that his passion for ecology began right here — as a student! — in the halls of Nolan Catholic High School, and he embraces his own role in shaping the passions of the next generation. Every person who touches the lives of our students are not unlike the leafcutter ants Mr. Garnett admires. While our day-to-day interactions may not be as exciting as a close-up encounter with a sloth or spider monkey, we all share the common goal of shaping our students intellectually and spiritually.

As Mr. Garnett writes, “Every creature here has a job, a purpose. If you take one out of the equation, the entire system can start to unravel.”

Thank you to Mr. Garnett for beginning this series, and we are so excited to continue sharing the wisdom and insight of our faculty and staff.

NCHS Administration



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Follow Nolan Catholic





**OCTOBER 11**  
Friday | 2024

**THE GOLF CLUB AT FOSSIL CREEK**  
3401 Clubgate Dr, Fort Worth 76137

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**REGISTRATION**

Registration	11:30am
Lunch	12:00pm
Shotgun Start	1:30pm

Team Registration	\$700
Individual Registration	\$175

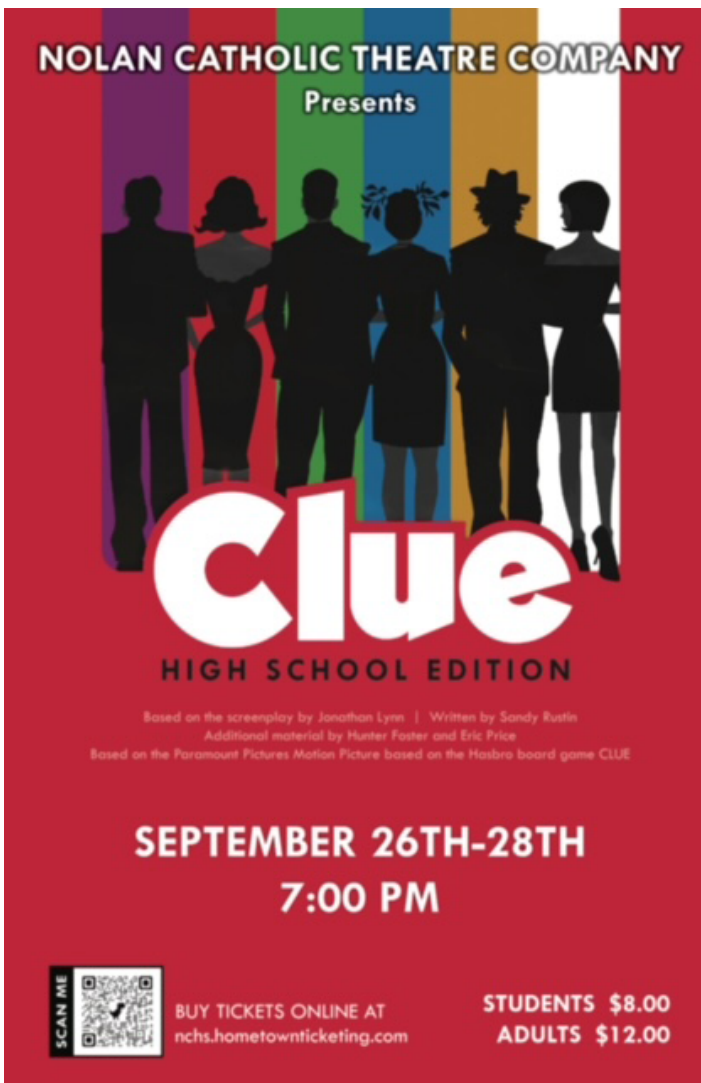
Click the link to  
**REGISTER**  
and for info on  
Sponsorship  
Opportunities

*Benefitting the Nolan Catholic Students & Community*

Get ready for the 5th Annual Viking Club Classic for Nolan Catholic! Join us for an unforgettable day of golf, great company, lunch, and incredible prizes. This is always an awesome event for our community! Test your skills, and you could walk away with:

- Hole-in-One on #5 – Up to \$20,000 toward a new car!
- Hole-in-One on #2 or #13 – Your choice of a Yeti Cooler, Apple iPad, or Cameron Scotty Putter!

Plus, we've got prizes for the longest drive, closest to the pin, and more! You don't want to miss this! Mark your calendars for Friday, Oct. 11, at the Golf Club at Fossil Creek. Spots are filling up fast! [Click here to register today.](#) For more information, please contact Viking Club President [Chris Cannon at ccannon@outlook.com](mailto:ccannon@outlook.com).



## Nolan Catholic Theatre Company

Come support our Nolan Catholic Theatre Company as they perform their production of *Clue!* The show will run Thursday, Sept. 26 until Saturday, Sept. 28. Each show begins at 7 p.m.

Purchase tickets on [the Nolan Catholic website](#), or scan the QR code on the flyer. Reserve your seats today, and “let the game begin!”

## Swiss Guard Visit

Students were fortunate to hear a presentation from a member of the Vatican’s Swiss Guard on Friday, Sept. 20, during Collegium.



## Weekly Lunch Menu

[Lunch Menu for the week of Sept. 20 - 24](#)

[Click here](#) to add funds to student accounts



## UPCOMING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS MEETINGS

### Book Club Meeting

The NCHS Book Club will meet Monday, Sept. 23. Meetings will be held before school and after school. This week, students will discuss chapters one through eight of *Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*.

### European Summer with the World Language Department



Hurry! Spots are limited for the Summer 2025 European trip. This trip consists of 13 days to four different countries! The first stop is London, then Paris, off to Barcelona, and the final landing in Rome. Take advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime trip! Visit the EF Tour Enrollment page for more information. For questions, [contact Faviola Ojeda](#).



### 4H Club

Join the 4H Club! The Diocese of Fort Worth's 4H Club's upcoming meetings will be held Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12. All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at St. George Catholic School gym. Come learn about exciting club activities, including shooting sports, animal projects, horticulture, robotics, the youth fair, art, and more! It's a fantastic opportunity for students to explore new interests and develop valuable skills. For more information, [contact Leah Rios](#). We hope to see you there!



### Robotics Club

Robotics Club is still open to accepting new members until the end of September. Those interested in learning more about FIRST Robotics and the Robo Vikes, please reach out to [Coach Varnell at jvarnell@nchstx.org](#). The deadline to join Robotics is Friday, Sept. 27, 2024.



## Lady Viking Varsity Cross Country Meet

On a tough course against a steep field of runners, your Lady Viking Varsity Cross Country team brought home 3rd place at the Paschal Invitational on Fri., Sept. 13! Well done, Lady Vikings!



## ATSSB Area Jazz Band

Congratulations to Gabe Villarreal and Sebastian Duane-Tessier for making the Association of Texas Small School Bands Area Jazz Band! Arthur Allison also received honorable mention for earning first alternate in the ATSSB Region Jazz Band. Way to go, Vikings!



## How Small Creatures Teach Big Lessons

Every November, as the Nolan Ecology class treks through the Costa Rican rainforest, I often find myself at the back of the group. Not because I'm slowing down, but because I can't resist the urge to crouch down and get a closer look at the forest's intricate workers—the leafcutter ants. While the students charge ahead, eager to spot a sloth or spider monkey in the canopy, I linger, watching the ants methodically carve their paths through the jungle. I'm usually several paces behind, bent over, marveling at the precision of their work, often oblivious to the fact that I've been

left behind until someone shouts, "Are you coming?" It's moments like these that remind me just how much these tiny creatures have captivated my attention over the years.

My fascination with ecology and the delicate balance of natural systems didn't start here, though. It began much earlier, during my time as a student at Nolan Catholic, where Dr. Joe Kuban—creator of the school's ecology program—first inspired me. Dr. Kuban had a way of making the natural world come alive. He was the one who taught me to look beyond the surface and see the intricate connections that exist in ecosystems. Whether we were out in the field or in the classroom, he showed me how even the smallest organism plays a role in the grand design of nature. His passion for ecology was infectious, and it wasn't long before I knew that I wanted to dedicate my life to studying these systems and sharing that knowledge with others.

### [Continue Mr. Garnett's Blog Post](#)

#### **Rick Garnett '99**

*Faculty*

Ecology Honors and Earth & Space Science

Bridge Street Brotherhood

The Bridge Street Brotherhood is meeting again next Thursday, Sept. 26. We're meeting at 7 a.m. at the Chapel. Fr. Metzler and Mr. Hathaway are leading this group where our young men pray together, learn about our faith, and build something together. The plan is to meet every two weeks, alternating between mornings and afternoons. Come on out! Pray! Learn! Build and work with your hands!

Be a Catholic man!

# St. Andrew Breakfast

HOLY MASS, BREAKFAST, PRAYER & DISCUSSION

This event is for high school and college men in the Diocese of Fort Worth

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024

St. Patrick Cathedral  
1206 Throckmorton Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

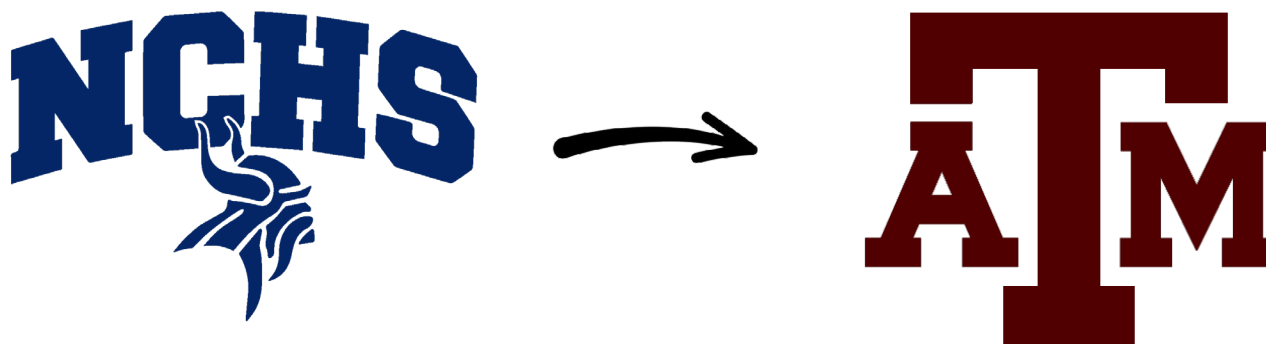
Mass starts at 8:00 am followed by breakfast in the Parish Formation Building

Please reserve your spot by October 10, 2024, through email at [Vocations@fwdioc.org](mailto:Vocations@fwdioc.org)

**Thinking of attending Texas A&M University?**

Juniors and Seniors are invited to attend this free informational night on Sept. 30, at 6:30 p.m. in Southlake.

[Click here to learn more](#) about this event.



<b>UPCOMING COLLEGE VISITS</b>			
<b>COLLEGE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
University of Mississippi	9/25/24	9:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
Spring Hill College	9/26/24	12:40 p.m.	Guidance Center
University of Oklahoma - Norman	10/2/24	9:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
University of San Francisco	10/3/24	8:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
Wabash College	10/3/24	2 p.m.	Guidance Center
Gettysburg College	10/8/24	8:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
Marist College	10/8/24	9:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
Catholic University of America	10/10/24	2 p.m.	Guidance Center
Dartmouth College	10/14/24	8:15 a.m.	Guidance Center
Mississippi State University	10/15/24	8:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
University of Alabama	10/15/24	9:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
University of Arkansas	10/17/24	8:45 a.m.	Guidance Center
Savannah College of Art and Design	10/17/24	2 p.m.	Guidance Center

## 2024 NOLAN CATHOLIC HOMECOMING INFORMATION



**Nolan Catholic High School**  
**HOMECOMING 2024**  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**17 OCT** ALUMNI AND ALL SCHOOL MASS  
Celebrated by Fr. Eric Flores '14

**18 OCT** ALUMNI DINNER, FOOTBALL GAME,  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

**Homecoming Events:****Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024**9:25 a.m. | *Hartnett Arena*

- Alumni/All School Mass
- Following Mass in the Chapel Courtyard there will be a tree dedication for Brother Al

**Friday, October 18, 2024**5 - 7 p.m. | *Hartnett Arena*

- Alumni BBQ Dinner
- Hall of Fame Introduction
- Campus Tours

7 p.m. | *Doskocil Stadium*

- Nolan Catholic Vikings vs Bishop Lynch Friars

Halftime | *Doskocil Stadium*

- Hall of Fame Induction

**Support the Viking Marching Band!**

A beloved Homecoming tradition is the Homecoming Mum, symbolizing pride, spirit, and the bonds that unite our community. Our award-winning Viking Marching Band will be selling Homecoming Mums, and the school administration is proud to support this important fundraiser! We encourage all parents and families to purchase their mums through them.

By choosing to buy your mum from the Viking Marching Band, you are helping to ensure that all funds directly benefit our students. These funds are vital in providing new equipment, uniforms, and opportunities for our band members. Your support allows them to grow as musicians and performers, bringing back invaluable skills and inspiration to our school community.

[Order a Mum Here](#)



VOLUNTEER

SHOUTOUT!



NCHS VIKING CLUB

## Safe Environment Certification for Employees and Adult Volunteers

This is a requirement **prior to** serving in ministry and must be renewed every two years. Volunteers must create a profile [at www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) and add Nolan Catholic as a volunteer site.

If you have any questions, [contact Michelle Wessel](mailto:Michelle.Wessel@nolan.org), Nolan Catholic Safe Environment Coordinator; or search for a session at [www.fwdioc.org/training-sessions](http://www.fwdioc.org/training-sessions).

## ADMISSIONS EVENTS

*Coffee Talk with the  
Head of School*

**STUDENT TESTIMONIALS  
AND CAMPUS TOUR**

**TUES., OCT. 4  
9 - 11:30 A.M.  
IDEA BLDG. UPPER TERRACE**

### Parent Coffee Talk and Tours

Meet with Mr. Oscar Ortiz, Head of School, and hear student testimonials on Tuesday, Oct. 4, from 9 until 11:30 a.m. Student testimonials will begin at 9:15 a.m. A tour of the campus will begin at approximately 9:45 a.m. The informal gathering will meet on the Upper Terrace of the IDEA Building.

**APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2025-2026  
SCHOOL YEAR WILL OPEN ON OCT. 1!**

Contact us today to schedule a tour  
Donna O'Malley | Director of Admissions and Enrollment  
817-395-0245 | [domalley@nchstx.org](mailto:domalley@nchstx.org)