

A New Home, A New Beginning

In January 1942, Saint Michael Catholic school was born. It was humble and modest beginning. One energetic Benedictine, Fr. Alphonse Buss, two Sisters of Mercy, 22 students, and a 5-room house on the corner of Jackson and York made up the entire school. To open this little schoolhouse demanded deep faith. Facing challenges head-on, it began to grow. Years later, pastor Fr. Gregory Eichenlaub purchased the land on which we stand today. On February 10, 1952, the new school building was dedicated. Fr. Gregory was known for saying that St. Michael was “where we do not do what we want to do, but what we *ought* [to do]!” The parish and school entered the new millennium with Project 2000. Under the guidance of pastor, Fr. John Allen, the school received a new addition and the church a brand-new building.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, the school was greatly blessed to receive a large grant from a private donor and significant grant from the Diocese of Charlotte, which launched a \$1.6 million overhaul of the current school facility.

It is our deep faith in God, the sacrificial generosity of His people, and our rich history which has led us to these front steps today. We stand before a new school entrance which leads into a totally renovated building, filled with state-of-the-art enhancements enriching academic life. We enter as people of deep faith. Our school’s history has many chapters, but its mission is the same: to bring children to Jesus.

Pope Saint John Paul II said that Catholic education is above all about communicating Christ, of helping form Christ in the lives of others. This mission would be impossible without dedicated educators. We are blessed to have our devoted principal, Mrs. Sheila Levesque, and our outstanding faculty. All of them have exercised great faith and unrelenting patience as we faced challenges during this summer’s construction. Even with a delayed start to the school year, the Tiger Family united. We prayed and worked hard together. Now God has brought us to this happy day. October 17, 2019 is the day when God blesses his school with a new beginning. The new school entrance symbolizes that we are entering a different era. We are being entrusted once again with the great mission of bringing souls to Christ. This is the sole purpose of the beautifully renovated Saint Michael Catholic School. It is both a center of learning and a family for God’s children. The large cross and shield above is symbolizes the protection of Saint Michael, God’s defender. We ask Saint Michael to defend and protect us as we embrace with renewed zeal the mission of bringing children to encounter Christ. Mary, help of Christians, pray for us!