



PRIORY

St. Louis, Missouri

Headmaster

Search Prospectus

July 2027



**323
STUDENTS**



**6:1 STUDENT-TO-
FACULTY RATIO**



**GRADES
6-12**



**CLASSICAL LIBERAL
ARTS CURRICULUM**



**#1 CATHOLIC SCHOOL
IN MISSOURI**



**\$8M ANNUAL
OPERATING BUDGET**



**BENEDICTINE
TRADITION**



**SINCE 2004: 17 STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



**150 CAMPUS
ACRES**



**90% FACULTY W/
ADVANCED DEGREES**



**50+ STUDENT
CLUBS**



**47 ZIP CODES
REPRESENTED**



About Saint Louis Priory School

Saint Louis Priory School was founded in Saint Louis, MO in 1956 by Benedictine monks from Ampleforth Abbey, United Kingdom, with the support of a group of committed Catholic families who desired the kind of education typical of an English 'public' school. The monastery was founded in 1955 and the School began a year later. Today, there are 18 monks in the monastery who own and operate the School, which has more than 320 students in grades 6 through 12. The School and monastery sit on 150 acres in West Saint Louis County. The natural setting enhances both the academic and monastic culture of the institution.

The mission of Saint Louis Priory School is to provide a Catholic, Benedictine, college preparatory education of the highest excellence so as to help talented and motivated young men develop their full potential as children of God. Core to its mission is a traditional liberal arts curriculum, an integrated competitive sports program required for all students, and holistic spiritual formation that includes weekly Mass and prayer assemblies, regular opportunities for Confession, an annual overnight retreat for each grade, integrated service opportunities, and a rigorous Theology curriculum. The intentional small-size and low student-teacher ratio, enable students to grow in their full potential as children of God.



Vision and Values

Education should inspire a lifetime of excellence. Priory encourages a balance of disciplines that challenge mind, body, and spirit—from a strong academic program to deeply rooted values that are supported by a vibrant community.

At Priory, our students join a brotherhood of young men, growing together throughout their educational journey. They join a community of highly qualified lay faculty and monks who work together to achieve the School's mission.

Class sizes are kept small to ensure each student receives focused attention and support. The beautiful campus includes a broad range of facilities that are available to students.

It is in this rich and diverse environment that Priory offers a unique approach to education, integrating the tradition of Catholic, Benedictine values with a classical liberal arts curriculum. As part of a holistic approach to development, all students select from and participate in a number of our many athletic opportunities.

The School lays the foundation for students to become faith-centered, virtuous, and well educated young men—supported by a lifelong community which will endure long beyond their years at Priory.



12 Hallmarks of a Benedictine Education

Love of God and Neighbor

The love of God and neighbor is at the heart of the Gospel, and every aspect of life in a Benedictine school should stem from and aim towards it. It should direct every encounter between students and faculty, among all the constituents of the School, and in all the ways in which the School relates to the wider community.

Prayer and Worship

Prayer is the fundamental human response to the Creator. Saint Benedict realized that prayer and worship are the most important practices in fostering the love of God and neighbor. It is, therefore, an essential feature of school life.

Listening

Saint Benedict begins his Rule with the word 'listen', and he makes clear that listening, "with the ear of the heart" is the primary task of all those who truly seek God.

Discipline

Self-discipline is essential for the cultivation of 'excellence', whether academic, athletic, artistic, moral, or spiritual.

Moral and Spiritual Development

The fostering of the moral and spiritual life goes hand-in-hand with the academic program as an essential part of the School's mission.

Community and Stability

Stability in Benedictine schools affords each individual the sense of being accepted and valued as a vital part of the community.

Hospitality

The practice of hospitality is rooted in Saint Benedict's belief that Christ is encountered in the stranger and the guest, which the School extends to all visitors.

Stewardship

Saint Benedict valued both frugality and good stewardship of his monastery's resources. A Benedictine school will shepherd its resources with the same attitude and impart to all members a sense of obligation to good stewardship.

Humility

The virtue of humility is cultivated in the community by fostering the life-long habit of self-reflection in the light of the Gospel.

Obedience

All members of the School community need to be open and responsive to the will of God being made manifest through the words and actions of others. Thus, the obedience that is required for the good order of the School should never be solely an imposition of power, but rather, should gladly be given in an expression of trust and fraternal charity.

Work

Work is central to the mission of a Benedictine school, for its whole purpose is devoted to the 'work' of education and the formation of young people in the faith.

Conversion

For Benedictine schools, 'conversion' sums up in one word the whole set of values and practices that establish the school's culture as 'Benedictine'. It comprises all those things which make us who we are.





Community Engagement

At Saint Louis Priory School, community engagement is a lived expression of the Benedictine mission, calling students to serve others as Christ. All students are invited to participate in regular service opportunities throughout the school year. Service is further embedded within the broader framework of human formation, where students live out the 12 Hallmarks of a Benedictine school “in service to others,” developing as servant-leaders beyond the classroom. Through structured community service, spiritual mentorship programs like Tutoria, and retreats that strengthen bonds with God and one another, Priory cultivates a culture of humble service, leadership, and love of neighbor as central to the Christian vocation.

Academics

Priory’s college preparatory classical liberal arts education forms young men intellectually and morally. Priory focuses on developing intellectual skills, service, leadership, and collaboration, across five core academic areas: Humanities; Modern and Classical Languages; Science, Math and Technology; Theology; and Visual and Performing Arts. Academic rigor is reflected in outcomes such as a three-year average ACT score of 30, 100% of students taking at least one AP course, and 90% of faculty holding advanced degrees. A hallmark of the curriculum is the Senior Thesis, a two-trimester scholarly, scientific, or artistic project, which further demonstrates Priory’s commitment to high academic standards and independent inquiry. All this ensures that students are prepared for higher education.



Extracurricular

Student life extends well beyond the classroom, offering students meaningful opportunities for growth, leadership, and brotherhood. Priory's clubs and student organizations provide diverse avenues for involvement, from robotics and fishing club to Scholar Bowl and Mock Trial, enabling students to build friendships, expand their skills, and explore leadership opportunities.



Athletics

Athletics are an integral component of each student's overall formation, with organized team sports embedded in the curriculum for Forms I through VI. Since 2004, Priory teams have won 17 State Championships, reflecting both competitiveness and commitment. Beyond wins and championships, the athletic program is designed to foster teamwork, leadership, self-discipline, respect, and school spirit, strengthening the broader community of students, faculty, parents, and alumni.



Position Overview

The Headmaster works in close collaboration with the Co-Chair of the Board of Governors and under the direction of the Abbot. This position is responsible for advancing the mission of Saint Louis Priory School by:

Practicing Benedictine Spirituality

The Headmaster will lead the School in discipleship to Christ and the Rule of Saint Benedict by taking a prominent role in community acts of worship, prayer, Lectio Divina, and testimonies of faith. He/she will seek to embody, in the ways appropriate to his/her state of life, the hallmarks of Benedictine spirituality: humility, stability, and the common life.

Vision

The Headmaster will articulate Priory's vision, ensuring that it is clear, compelling, and that it inspires action.

Community Building

The Headmaster will actively participate and contribute to the broader Priory community's well-being and growth including students, families, alumni, alumni parents, monastic community, and members of the Board. This includes promoting open communication, creating opportunities for connection, and establishing a shared sense of enthusiasm and responsibility to our mission. The Headmaster will work with the leadership of the monastery to support the ongoing ministry of the monks to the students, parents, alumni, and faculty.

Developing and Implementing Strategy

With the advice of the Board and guidance from the Abbot and his Monastic Council, the Headmaster will set objectives for the School and create actionable plans to achieve them. The School's Leadership Council will share the responsibility of creating and executing these plans.

Managing Daily Operations

The Headmaster is accountable for the overall operations of the School. Under the oversight of the Headmaster, the Leadership Council members will manage the day-to-day operations of the School. The Headmaster will appoint all school officials, hire all school employees, approve their compensation, and approve their separations. The Headmaster will chair the Financial Aid committee and work collegially with the CFO/Assistant Head of School for Finance and Facilities in developing and implementing the School's budget.

Stewarding Major Donors

In collaboration with the Abbot, the Headmaster will be responsible for the identification, cultivation, solicitation, and ongoing stewardship of major donors.

Leading Capital Projects

The Headmaster will have responsibility for the planning, execution and implementation, risk management, leadership, budgeting, and communication of all major capital projects.

Providing for the School's Accreditation

The Headmaster will ensure that all requirements are met to maintain the School's accreditation.

These are not to be construed as exclusive or all-inclusive. Other duties may be required and assigned.





Strategic Priorities

- Strengthen Priory's competitive position in a dynamic Saint Louis independent school market by promoting its distinct value proposition amid strong Catholic and non-sectarian competitors.
- Sustain and grow enrollment (quality and quantity) at key entry points while responding to regional demographic shifts and evolving parent expectations.
- Address affordability pressures as tuition increases while maintaining socioeconomic diversity and long-term financial sustainability.
- Energize advancement efforts, including continued growth in annual giving trends, increasing alumni participation, expanding major gifts, and engaging younger alumni.
- Prepare for and lead a future capital campaign, including thoughtful planning around athletic facilities.
- Promote effective collaboration in governance among the Headmaster, Abbot, Monastic Council, and Board of Governors.
- Strengthen internal and external communication by reinforcing consistent messaging across the School and Abbey.
- Support faculty recruitment, retention, evaluation, and professional growth.
- Continue articulating Benedictine identity deeply and authentically in a changing Catholic landscape.
- Balance academic rigor and co-curricular expectations with student and faculty well-being.



Skills, Competencies, and Mindset

- Commitment to excellence and love of learning
- Emotional and spiritual intelligence and a sense of humor
- Outstanding communication skills, both spoken and written
- Effectiveness in building strong, productive relationships that endure over time
- Strategic, analytical, and critical thinking skills
- Financial acumen
- Enthusiasm for and skill in fundraising and enrollment management

Professional and Personal Qualifications

- Postgraduate degree or equivalent expertise
- 10 years of experience working in a Catholic Independent School, or equivalent, Benedictine School preferred
- Catholic in good standing
- Commitment to supporting the mission of Saint Louis Priory School
- Successful completion of pre-employment and annual criminal background checks
- Successful completion of the Prevent and Protect STL Archdiocese program



About the Area

Located in West Saint Louis County, Creve Coeur, Missouri offers a lovely blend of suburban comfort and natural beauty. Known for its excellent public and private schools, well-maintained neighborhoods, and convenient access to major highways, the community is especially attractive to families seeking both tranquility and connectivity.

Residents enjoy proximity to Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park, one of the region's most popular outdoor destinations for walking, biking, rowing, and sailing, as well as easy access to downtown Saint Louis' cultural institutions, professional sports, and dining.

Creve Coeur sits within the vibrant and historic Archdiocese of Saint Louis, one of the largest and most established Catholic communities in the country. The Abbey serves the local parish of Saint Anselm, located on the campus. Together with other local parishes, Catholics are offered a rich sacramental life, faith formation, and community engagement.

Regular parish festivals, service initiatives, and intergenerational ministries create an active and visible Catholic presence. With nearby seminaries, religious communities, and Catholic healthcare and charitable ministries, living in Creve Coeur means being part of a deeply rooted Catholic culture that values education, service, and faithful witness in both parish and civic life.



Application Procedure

To apply, please submit the following four documents as separate PDF attachments.

- Cover letter that aligns your experiences and skill sets with the current needs of the school as you understand them.
- Current resume with all appropriate dates included.
- Statement of Catholic educational leadership philosophy.
- List of five references to include names, relationships, phone numbers, and email addresses (No references will be contacted without your knowledge and approval.)

 **APPLY NOW**



Interested in this opportunity? Contact:

Kyle Pietrantonio, Senior Partner

kpietrantonio@partnersinmission.com

Partners in Mission

202-390-0230

partnersinmission.com/search-and-recruitment