



Saint Joseph Academy National Honor Society Information

Dear Members of the Class of 2026 and Class of 2027,

The **National Honor Society (NHS)** was founded in 1921 “to recognize and foster academic achievement while developing other characteristics essential to citizens in a democracy” (*NHS Handbook*). At Saint Joseph Academy, the **Fr. Mychal Judge, O.F.M. Chapter** of the NHS seeks to create enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, promote leadership, and develop character.

Our chapter is modeled after **Fr. Mychal Judge, O.F.M.**, a Franciscan Friar Minor who served as chaplain to the New York City Fire Department, Engine Company 1. Fr. Mychal’s life of service and sacrifice—he was the first fatality of the World Trade Center attacks—serves as an example of faith, leadership, and commitment to others.

Selection of Members

As outlined in the **Saint Joseph Academy Student Handbook (page 10)**, students who meet the following requirements at the end of **Semester 1** *will be invited* to move forward in the NHS process:

1. Must be a member of the Junior or Senior Class.
2. Must have attended Saint Joseph Academy for at least one year.
3. Must hold a cumulative weighted average of **93.00 or higher**.
4. Must be enrolled in at least one **Honors** or **Advanced Placement** level course.
5. Must have **documented service hours** completed during the student’s high school career.

Candidates who qualify will be notified by mail and invited to submit a **Student Information Form**. Please note that this form is **not an application** and does not guarantee acceptance. In addition, candidates will be asked to submit a **350-word essay** reflecting on and defining their character.

Applications are reviewed by the **Faculty Review Council**, appointed annually by the NHS Moderator. Final approval of membership is granted by the Principal.

We encourage all students to remember that the NHS recognizes not only strong academic achievement, but also **leadership, character, and service**. With regard to service, students are encouraged to go beyond the minimum requirements of the Servant Leadership Institute to demonstrate a genuine, self-motivated commitment to helping others.

We look forward to celebrating your accomplishments and the many ways you contribute to the life of our school community.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer LaRosa | NHS Moderator

Jennifer W. LaRosa