



TRADITION

SPIRIT

COMMUNITY

THE SISTERS OF SAINT BASIL THE GREAT



VIEW ALL IN THE LIGHT OF ETERNITY

A WARM Welcome to...

Believing in Each Girl's Potential

We believe...

*These simple words are at the heart of the Saint Basil Academy philosophy. SBA's 15 **Belief Statements** are the goals of the Saint Basil community. Together they reveal what the school believes in most of all: the tremendous possibilities that await each Saint Basil girl. You'll see some of these Belief Statements in this booklet. For the rest, see the Admissions Information supplement in the back of this packet.*

Belief Statement #1

We commit ourselves to the education and development of the whole person: physically, intellectually, emotionally, and socially.

COME JOIN US at Saint Basil Academy, a **MULTIFACETED** school dedicated to helping girls discover the young women they can become. This independent Catholic, girls', college-preparatory high school blends a **SPIRITED** heart with a **SPIRITUAL** soul, a strong foundation in the liberal arts with traditional Christian values. It is a place of **OPEN** arms and **CLOSE** friends.

THANKS to a dedicated and caring faculty and genuine, friendly students, Saint Basil provides a supportive and nurturing environment where girls can explore their interests, become confident in their abilities, acquire leadership skills, and become prepared for college, career, and life. After you read about the benefits of an SBA education, please come visit to see this special community firsthand. **YOU'RE WELCOME** at Saint Basil Academy.



A WARM AND Welcoming Community

“Girls who go here
are some of the
friendliest girls I’ve
ever known.”

—student

Belief Statement #12

We believe in the importance of creating
a warm, family-like community, which is
at the heart of our school.

FROM THE EAGER GUIDES who take prospective students under their wing on shadow days to the Big Sisters who make each freshman’s transition an easy one, Saint Basil students are **FRIENDLY** and welcoming. So much so that “friendly” tops the list of words Basil girls use to describe one another, along with **GENUINE**, interested, polite, supportive, confident, down-to-earth, **ENTHUSIASTIC, AND HAPPY**.

The Saint Basil faculty has discovered a very simple recipe for helping teenage girls become friendly, confident, and successful young women: **CARE ABOUT EACH AND EVERY STUDENT** and let them know it. Dedicated teachers set a tone of concern and respect that is reflected back in the concern and respect students show, not only for the school community but for the world at large.

Because SBA is a girls’ school, girls take **CENTER STAGE**. They can try new challenges, be themselves, concentrate on learning, take advantage of the school’s many leadership opportunities, and focus on **WHAT’S IMPORTANT**, rather than on externals. Saint Basil’s socioeconomic and geographic **DIVERSITY** (students come from Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia counties as well as New Jersey) also helps keep the emphasis on substance over show. In this small environment, students learn not only to get along with people different from themselves but also to appreciate each other’s diverse backgrounds and talents. Ultimately, students agree that what’s most important are the life skills they learn and the lasting friendships they make.



the Inside Dish

Question:
What’s the best
lunch at SBA?

Enthusiastic answer:
Hot cheese on a roll.

Don’t know what that is? Don’t worry. If you come to SBA, you will, and you can decide for yourself if it’s your favorite, too. Hot cheese on a roll is just one of many “inside scoops.” What’s special about Saint Basil, though, is that everyone knows the inside scoop because everyone is on the inside.



PARENT PERSPECTIVES

Why a girls' school? Why Saint Basil Academy?

“It instills in the girls not to be afraid to try anything.”

“My daughter was very shy. When she came here she just blossomed. She opened up and has tons of friends.”

“Being in an all-girls school really helps your self-esteem. You gain confidence in your abilities, not in how you look. And that’s something you carry with you for life.”

A SPIRITUAL Tradition

SPIRITUALITY is woven throughout SBA, from each morning's all-school prayer to the quiet beauty of the chapel. Founded in 1931 by the **Sisters of Saint Basil the Great** (an order within the **Ukrainian Catholic Church**), this independent Catholic high school has been not just faith-based but **FAITH-FILLED** for over 75 years. Like a tree whose full branches owe their stability to strong roots, an SBA education offers 21st-century teaching methods, curriculum, and technology on a firm foundation of **TIMELESS** Christian values. The resulting atmosphere is one of kindness and respect. Expectations for behavior are clear, and students live up to those expectations. A focus on **CHRISTIAN SERVICE** (required in all grades and totaling 70 hours) lets Basil girls give of themselves to help others, exemplifying Christian values. The religious spirit of SBA helps ground and **CENTER** students.

The SBA faculty includes the teaching Sisters of Saint Basil the Great and lay members. (Saint Basil was himself a great educator in the third century.) Most students are Roman Catholic, and many other religions are represented and welcomed at the school. Religious studies, one of the school's core departments, focuses on **UNIVERSAL** aspects of Christian education. Courses range from "Prayer and Sacraments" and "the Christian Faith" to "Love and Relationships" and "Peace through Justice." Though most students arrive unaware of the rich **BASILIAN** heritage, they ultimately learn about, enjoy, and become enriched by the traditions of the Ukrainian Catholic church.

Belief Statement #2

We believe in providing an atmosphere for spiritual growth rich in the Gospel values of Jesus Christ.

Belief Statement #3

We believe in fostering an appreciation for the richness and diversity of the Catholic Church through liturgical celebration and studies of the Byzantine Church.



A TRADITION OF Spirit

YOU GET YOUR FIRST taste of it at an open house, when you spot all those **BASIL GIRLS** who've come to welcome prospective students. You see it in the gym's packed stands, which **ROCK** during Panthers basketball games. You hear it loud and clear on Spirit Day, when sophomores **CHEER** for juniors and seniors cheer for freshmen. You feel it everywhere—in hallways and classrooms, on the playing field and the stage, in the chapel, and in your soul. The **SPIRIT** of Saint Basil Academy touches all of school life.

Where does this school spirit come from? Naturally, it comes from **SUCCESSFUL** sports teams and **AWARD-WINNING** extracurriculars, such as the forensics club. It comes from the group effort it takes to put on a stirring band concert or an exuberant musical. It's the result of the extra time a teacher spends helping a student or watching her shine. It springs from unique SBA **TRADITIONS**, such as the Victorian Tea, Kairos retreat, Forgiveness Service, School Blessing, Feast of Saint Nicholas, Class Liturgies, and Community Day, which bond Basil girls together through their high school years and beyond. And mostly it comes from a deliberate focus on building **COMMUNITY**. In an atmosphere where every girl's **GIFTS** are valued, everyone values—and celebrates—each other's gifts.



PAWPRINT Spirit Day

"It's like an extreme pep rally."

"It's a competition that isn't really a competition."

"It's a day when everyone goes wild and has fun."

It's Spirit Day, the day when each class puts on skits, dresses up in class colors, paints their faces, and "competes" for the glory of their grade and the spirit of their school.



PARENT PERSPECTIVES

“When our daughter graduated from SBA, she was strong academically. She finished Villanova in three years and is now in a Ph.D. program. SBA gave her the confidence to do that.”

“My daughter went through her freshman year in college with no problem at all. Other girls were struggling, but she was ready. It’s hard here, and the girls are challenged. But then they feel confident and prepared when they get to college.”



A COLLEGE-PREP EDUCATION THAT Prepares Girls for Life



A SAINT BASIL EDUCATION asks a lot of students, but it gives a lot in return. Following a **BALANCED CURRICULUM** taught by demanding teachers and supported by up-to-date **TECHNOLOGY** such as Smart Boards, students work hard at developing critical reasoning skills, writing clearly and coherently, becoming able public speakers, and **THINKING INDEPENDENTLY**. In exchange, students receive an excellent, well-rounded education and gain the self-confidence and healthy perspective on life that together prepare them for the rigors of college and the **CHALLENGES OF FUTURE CAREERS**.

The broad Saint Basil curriculum encompasses English, math, social studies/history, science, five foreign languages (French, German, Spanish, Latin, and Ukrainian), business, art, music, health and physical education, and religious studies. Departments offer core courses as well as electives, for students with interests they'd like to **EXPLORE** or skills they'd like to acquire. So, for example, girls can opt for British literature or desktop publishing, environmental science or madrigals. For additional challenge, students may choose from 11 honors courses, 10 Advanced Placement courses, and, for seniors who've maintained a GPA of at least 3.5, classes at Manor College, just across the road from SBA. **OUTSTANDING STUDENTS** are recognized on the Principal's List and through the Diocesan Scholars Program.

At Saint Basil Academy, the number of **CHOICES** is great. The academic experience is even greater.



Belief Statement #6

We believe in offering a well-rounded curriculum, which utilizes modern technology, so that students may meet the challenges of a global community with a solid educational foundation and self-confidence.



“It was everything that they said it was—challenging, but it was also fun.”

—student

EXTRA-SPECIAL Extracurriculars



THE SAINT BASIL COMMUNITY takes enormous pride in the **SUCCESS** and **VIBRANCY** of its extracurricular activities. In recent years, the softball and soccer teams have had winning seasons. The cross-country team won the state championship, and the forensics team traveled to Texas for a national competition.

But a successful extracurricular program is not measured just by numbers on scoreboards and trophies in cases. It's measured by the large number of students who get involved in activities as well as by the equally large number of fellow students, teachers, and parents who pack the bleachers to cheer on Panther sports and pack the auditorium to applaud school performances. It's measured in the **CAMARADERIE** that's shared by athletes, actors, and club members and by the skills mastered, the self-esteem acquired, the talents displayed, and the **EXPERIENCES SHARED**. Saint Basil's extracurricular activities provide opportunities for **LEADERSHIP, PERSONAL GROWTH, AND FUN**.



Belief Statement #7

We believe in encouraging students to develop an appreciation of the aesthetic—the arts, music, and nature—thereby developing their innate talents and God-given need for artistic expression and experience.



BasilBasics

Sports

- 🐾 Basketball
- 🐾 Cheerleading
- 🐾 Cross-country
- 🐾 Field hockey
- 🐾 Soccer
- 🐾 Softball
- 🐾 Tennis
- 🐾 Track (indoor and outdoor)
- 🐾 Volleyball

Clubs

- 🐾 Art Club
- 🐾 Athletic Association
- 🐾 Basilianette (yearbook)
- 🐾 Basilian Pillar (newspaper)
- 🐾 Book Club
- 🐾 Business Club
- 🐾 Chemistry Club
- 🐾 Community Service Corps
- 🐾 Drama Club
- 🐾 Ensemble (band)
- 🐾 Environmental Club
- 🐾 Forensics
- 🐾 French Club
- 🐾 Laureate (literary magazine)
- 🐾 SADD
- 🐾 Spanish Club
- 🐾 Student Council
- 🐾 Tech Club
- 🐾 Ukrainian Club
- 🐾 Youth Ministry



PARENT PERSPECTIVES



“The athletic program is great and just getting better. The plays are phenomenal, and so is the music program. There are just so many things going on outside the academic school day.”

“Everybody’s special in their own way, whether they’re in the band, a cheerleader, an athlete... No matter what you do, you feel good about yourself.”

BasilBasics

Where SBA Grads Go to College

Albright College	Mount St. Mary's University
Arcadia University	New York University
Arizona State University	Pace University
Boston University	Pennsylvania State University (Abington, Altoona, University Park)
Cabrini College	Philadelphia University
Cedar Crest College	Rider University
Chatham College	Rosemont College
Chestnut Hill College	Saint Joseph's University
College of New Jersey	Seton Hall University
College of Notre Dame of Maryland	Susquehanna University
College of New Jersey	Temple University
College of William and Mary	University of Delaware
Cornell University	University of Hartford
DeSales University	University of Maryland
Drexel University	University of New England
Duquesne University	University of Pennsylvania
Elizabethtown College	University of Pittsburgh
Georgian Court University	University of Scranton
Gwynedd-Mercy College	University of Tampa
Hawaii Pacific University	University of the Arts
Hofstra University	University of the Sciences in Philadelphia
Holy Family University	Ursinus College
Immaculata University	Villanova University
La Salle University	West Chester University
Lehigh University	Widener University
Lycoming College	York College
Manhattan College	
Manor College	
Marquette University	
Moravian College	



PARENT PERSPECTIVES



“My daughter was accepted into every college that she applied to, and they were all the top schools in the area.”

“Academically, this school prepares students as well as any other, but it’s not just academics that make me send my children here. They’re able to grow personally in a way I don’t see in other schools.”

—parent

Moving On...

WHILE A SAINT BASIL EDUCATION prepares students for college and career, the Counseling Services Department helps ensure that the transition from SBA is both successful and smooth. The sophomore year brings the start of **CAREER EXPLORATION** through interest inventories, seminars, and other resources. The **COLLEGE SEARCH** begins in the junior year, and Saint Basil supports students and their families throughout the process. Through seminars, workshops, and one-on-one sessions, the college counselor helps students develop a list of colleges, prepare for standardized tests, write an effective essay, and complete all aspects of the process on time—from college visits to scholarship and financial aid applications to the decision on where to enroll.

Saint Basil’s college-placement record is **REMARKABLE**: 100% of students go on to college, significant numbers of seniors are accepted by their first choice, and Basil girls are offered an astounding amount of **MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS** for their college education (typically totaling \$8 to \$10 million for each SBA class). Success continues after graduates leave Saint Basil Academy. As one alumna put it, “So many people get into all of the schools they apply to, and they’re all doing well.”



“If you’re a Basil girl, you’re a Basil girl for life.”

—graduate

But Never Away

During breaks, graduates return to Saint Basil Academy to see friends, to talk to teachers who **INSPIRED THEM**, and to be back at the school that meant—and still means—so much to them. But whether they live across town or across the country, SBA grads feel the same **WARMTH** for the school that they experienced when they first visited.

COME See for Yourself

PAWPRINT
Sunshine
and
Shadow

When did you realize you wanted to come to SBA?

When I came to the open house, I immediately fell in love with Saint Basil Academy. Everyone welcomed me, and I just felt part of the family.

When I shadowed, I had a really good time. I shadowed at other schools, but I just felt more comfortable here. The girls were just friendlier here.



NATURALLY, the best way to get a feel for Saint Basil Academy is to **COME VISIT**. We invite you to join us for an open house, to spend a day shadowing a Saint Basil student (a half day in spring for seventh graders, a full day in fall for eighth graders), and to take the seventh-grade practice test and the eighth-grade entrance/scholarship test. Once you experience Saint Basil's religious **TRADITION**, its energetic **SPIRIT**, and its warm **COMMUNITY**, we believe you may see yourself as a Basil girl.



Belief Statement #5

We believe in challenging students to form personal and moral values based on Christian teaching, thus deepening the students' understanding of Christ and their call to faith in Him.

“You become a better person in your four years.”

—student

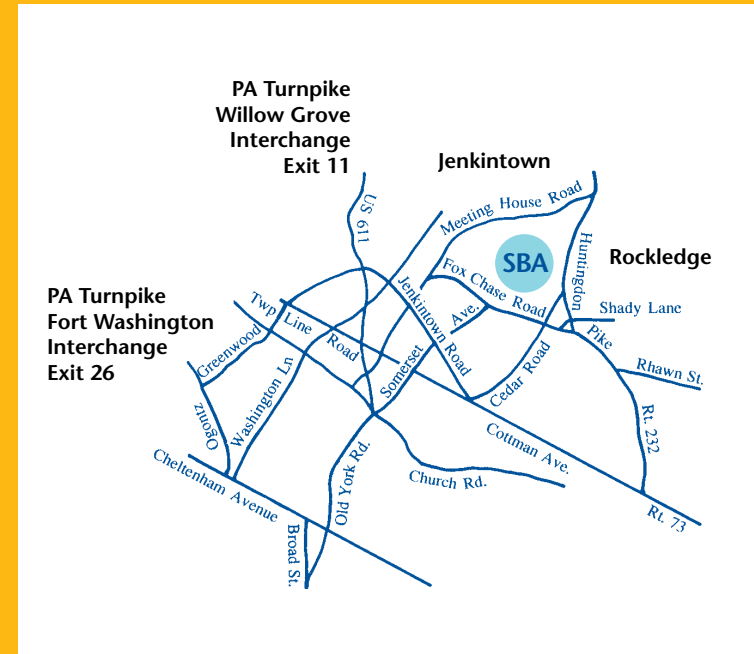


TRANSPORTATION

Saint Basil Academy is conveniently located in suburban Montgomery County. Students arrive each day from Montgomery and Bucks counties, Philadelphia, and New Jersey. Students from Philadelphia take the 24 or 28 bus line. If you need further information on the best route to take please contact the Admissions Office at 215.885.6952.

The following school districts provide transportation to Saint Basil Academy:

Abington	Hatboro–Horsham
Bensalem	Lower Moreland
Centennial	Neshaminy
Central Bucks	Springfield
Cheltenham	Upper Dublin
Colonial	Upper Moreland
Council Rock	Wissahickon



BasilBasics

One Year's Students

- 🐾 420 Basil girls
- 🐾 68 students on summer cultural immersion tour to Italy
- 🐾 26 awards of recognition at county science fair
- 🐾 14 Book Club members win blue ribbon at county-wide Reading Olympics
- 🐾 9 students per teacher

- 🐾 8 runners invited to state cross-country championships win team title
- 🐾 5 students compete in National Forensics Competition
- 🐾 4 All-American athletes
- 🐾 1 NASA award recipient for science

Admission to Saint Basil Academy is based on results of a competitive entrance examination and the elementary school record. Admission is open to any race, religion, nationality, or ethnic origin.

420
girls.
One
community.



Saint Basil Academy

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