



Catholic Schools Week



*Catholic Communities of Faith,
Knowledge and Service*

JANUARY 29, 2016

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE CATHOLIC STAR HERALD

Pope Francis meets with Catholic educators

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The educational alliance among families, schools and states is broken, causing a serious situation that leads to selecting to educate only “supermen” chosen solely based on intelligence or wealth, Pope Francis said.

“Behind this, there is always the ghost of money — always,” he said. Education has become “too selective and elitist. It seems that only those people or persons who are at a certain level or have a certain capacity have the right to an education.”

The pope held an impromptu question-and-answer session Nov. 21 during an audience with more than 2,000 participants in a conference marking the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council’s Declaration on Christian Education and the 25th anniversary of “*Ex Corde Ecclesiae*,” St. John Paul II’s apostolic constitution on Catholic universities.

Among the participant were two educators from the Diocese of Camden, Mary Boyle, superintendent of schools, and Rosa Maria Ojeda, principal of St. Peter’s School in Merchantville. (See story below.)

Taking questions from administrators and faculty members, the pope spoke about Catholic identity in education and warned about the dangers of exclusion and educating within “the walls” of a selective and safe culture.

Roberto Zappala, headmaster of Milan’s Gonzaga Institute, asked the pope what makes a school “truly Christian.” Christian education, the pope responded, is not just about providing catechesis, but requires educating children and young people “in human values,” particularly the value of transcendence.



CNS photo/Stefano Rellandini, Reuters

People take pictures with mobile phones and tablets as Pope Francis arrives to lead a Nov. 21 audience for participants in a world congress sponsored by the Congregation for Catholic Education in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican.

“Is mercy just about giving alms or how can I do the works of mercy in education?”

— Pope Francis

Educating that is too focused on the tangible and ignores the spiritual dimension of existence is “the biggest crisis” facing Christian education, he said. “We must prepare hearts so the Lord can manifest himself,” which requires an education that strives to reflect “the fullness of humanity that has this dimension of transcendence,” he said.

Spanish Lasallian Christian Brother Juan Antonio Ojeda, a professor at the University of Malaga, asked the pope how educators can foster a culture of encounter and restore the broken bonds among schools, families and society.

The pope said Catholic educators must overcome a tendency of being

selective and must work to restore the broken “educational alliance” among families, schools and society, which tends to place profit over people.

“This is a shameful global reality,” the pope said. “It is a reality that leads us toward a human selectivity that, instead of bringing people together, it distances them; it distances the rich from the poor; it distances one culture from another.”

Educators, he continued, “are among the worst-paid workers: what does this mean? It means that the state simply has no interest. If it did, things wouldn’t go that way. The educational alliance is broken. And this is our job, to find new paths.”

The pope called on both families and educators to take “reasonable risks” in educating children and youth, helping them to grow.

When asked how Catholic schools could contribute to building peace in the world, the pope called on them to educate the poor and the marginalized even if that meant cutting the staff at some of their schools in wealthier neighborhoods.

“They have something that youth from rich neighborhoods do not through no fault of their own, but it is a sociological reality: they have the experience of survival, of cruelty, of hunger, of injustice. They have a wounded humanity. And I think about the fact that our salvation comes from the wounds of a man injured on the cross,” he said.

Pope Francis also gave the participants a homework assignment: to think about how to fulfill the corporal and spiritual works of mercy through education.

“Think about it in this Year of Mercy: is mercy just about giving alms or how can I do the works of mercy in education?” he said.

Local educators attend Vatican conference

Two administrators from the Diocese of Camden were among thousands of Catholic educators from throughout the world who participated in a conference held at the Vatican in November.

Mary Boyle, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Camden, and Sister Rosa Maria Ojeda, principal of St. Peter’s School in Merchantville, (representing her religious congregation of The Sisters of the Most Pure Virgin Mary) attended the World Congress on Catholic Education.

The congress was organized by the Sacred Congregation on Catholic Education to celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Gravissimum Educationis*, the

Vatican Council II document on Catholic education. The congress was also celebrating the 25th anniversary of *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*, St. John Paul II’s apostolic constitution on Catholic universities.

“It was a perfect opportunity to renew our passion for Catholic school education,” Boyle said of the experience.

“This passion was re-ignited through sharing with over 2,000 fellow Catholic educators from all continents. We have a tendency to think in terms of the experience of Catholic school education in the context of the United States. While some of our challenges are unique to us, there are many universal themes and concerns.”

She noted that Pope Francis highlighted these themes when he met with the participants, saying that education involves introducing students to the fullness of truth.

“Pope Francis challenged us to open new horizons; that education has become too elitist, that no one should be denied. In response to the question, ‘What is the biggest temptation today for education?’ he replied, ‘It is walls.’ The greatest failure for an education is to educate within the walls: the walls of selective culture, the walls of a culture ‘of security, the walls of a social class.’”

Cardinal Zani, the secretary of the Sacred Congregation, said the mission

of Catholic education consists of three parts. First, Catholic educating is love: it is an issue of the heart which involves knowledge and relationship. Second, Catholic education is dialogue: it is an open house, a project that has Christ at its center. Third, Catholic education is service: offered in the search for truth, beauty, and what is right and good.

“As we strive to sustain and grow Catholic schools, we must work to insure that they remain true to their mission, providing a secular society with the Gospel of Jesus as a voice in the education of the whole person,” Boyle said. “In essence, may our schools become witnesses of charity and mercy.”

Vineland principal receives National NCEA Excellence Award

Dr. Patrice DeMartino of Bishop Schad Regional School in Vineland will receive the 2016 Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award from the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA). The annual award honors those who have demonstrated a strong Catholic educational philosophy as well as exceptional ability, dedication and academic results.

Dr. DeMartino will be recognized during the annual NCEA 2016 Convention & Expo that will take place March 29 – 31 in San Diego, Ca.

Locally, she will be honored at a special prayer service on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at

9 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church in Vineland. Bishop of Camden Dennis Sullivan will be in attendance at the service.

Dr. DeMartino has served as principal of Bishop Schad Regional School for 15 years and has launched a successful enrollment outreach to the Latino community. She supports the faculty professional development through collaboration with higher education. As an instructional leader, her strength is in the area of ongoing curriculum development, as well as continual improvement in teaching practices and student learning.

“Long-term planning involves a deep commitment to the vision and mission of the school. Along with a collaborative partnership among the community of stakeholders,” said Dr. DeMartino.

“NCEA commends the outstanding efforts, contributions and achievements of exceptional leaders in Catholic education,” said NCEA Interim President Dr. Thomas W. Burnford. “We are grateful for the leadership of Dr. Patrice DeMartino who serves as an ambassador of faith formation and academic excellence, and inspires Catholic educators across the country.”



DR. PATRICE DEMARTINO

An excellent school works to ensure its future

By Peter G. Sánchez

Marketing, student ambassadors, outreach to the Latino community, new technology. Saint Mary School in Vineland has been working hard to ensure that its day-to-day achievements have a future.

“We need a group of people who are passionate about the mission and vision of the school,” said principal Steve Hogan. “It’s very important to remain positive and to realize that everyone is part of advancement — not just the person in the advancement director’s office. We all work together and need to take ownership of the school’s advancement goals.”

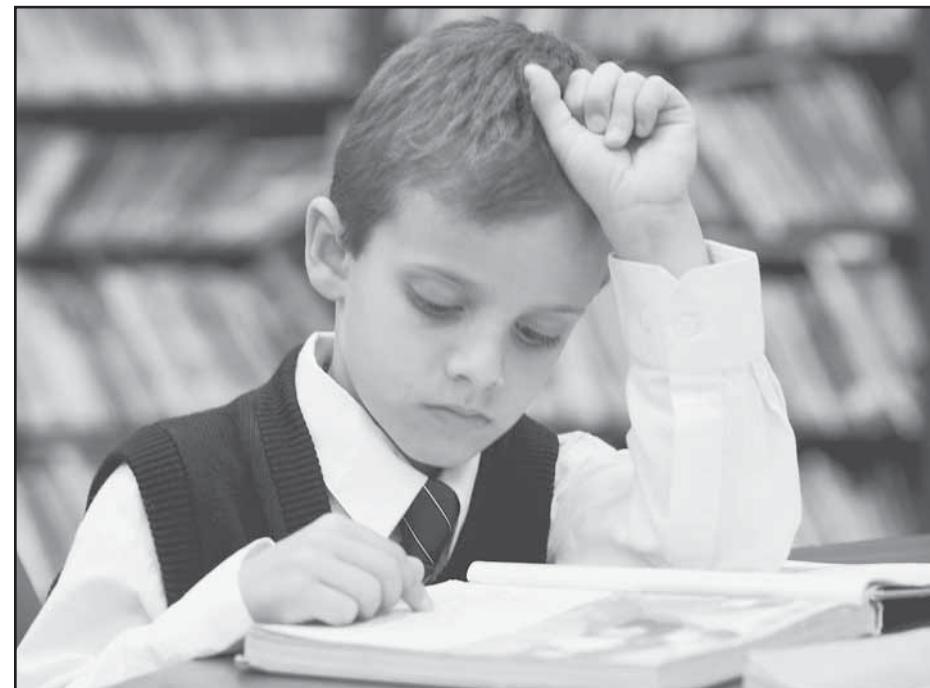
In October 2015, the Healey Education Foundation held its third annual award ceremony, the School Advancement Grants for Excellence (SAGE) in Philadelphia. The foundation works closely with Catholic elementary and high schools, providing grants, coaching, and strategies to help schools help themselves in creating mission-driven and sustainable communities of learning.

The biggest award of the night, the foundation’s \$10,000 Founder’s Grant named after Robert T. Healey, went to Saint Mary School. For three years, Saint Mary’s received counsel from the foundation, under its Catholic School Development Program.

Saint Mary’s applied for the Founder’s Grant because of the “exceptional results gained at Saint Mary School by implementing the Healey Education Foundation Methodology,” it said in its application, continuing that the school “is committed to sustaining the future and committed to the ideals and practices taught to us.”

The letter detailed several initiatives the school has undertaken.

A public awareness campaign was started, with teachers being urged to create twice-monthly press releases on



Jadon Guerrera cracks the books at Saint Mary School in Vineland. The photo on page S1 shows Saint Mary students in church.

“We all work together and need to take ownership of the school’s advancement goals.”

— Steve Hogan, principal

news in their classrooms, sent out through traditional or social media. One feature in a local paper alone resulted in 12 inquiries and nine new middle school enrollments.

The school now has student ambassadors, available to assist prospective students and their families at tours and open houses, and bringing their own school perspective to the enrollment committee.

In addition, there is a five-year plan to replace classroom Smartboards with large monitors that interact with iPads and Chromebooks, already in use.

The school board took two calculated risks. The first was to add a second fourth-grade classroom. (In prior years, by not accepting wait-listed students, the school lost the opportunity to register their siblings.) The second calculated risk was to change the age requirement from 3 to 2-and-a-half for the PK3 program.

Collaborating with the Diocese of Camden’s Field Consultant for the Schools Office’s Latino Enrollment Program, Marianela Nuñez, and Notre Dame University’s Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE), Saint

Mary’s has expanded its outreach to the surrounding Latino community, translating written documents into Spanish and communicating with prospective families.

Children “can’t get Catholic values anywhere else” but a Catholic school, said Nunez. “We’re making people aware that they are at Saint Mary’s.”

The approach has been effective. The school increased its Latino enrollment from 19 to 29 students.

“Catholic education is not a business; it is a ministry,” the school said in its report to the Healey Foundation. “We (Catholic schools) must open our doors to the Hispanic community and help pave the way for their future in the Catholic Church and the world.”

The new Latino students were part of an overall increase in enrollment of 70 new students this year.

Principal Hogan said the Founder’s Grant “is recognition that we have implemented (the Healey Education Foundation’s) methodology well,” and added that it’s great for “a little school, in the farmlands of South Jersey.”

Hogan added that the majority of the funds would be used to re-model the school’s existing science lab and enhance the implementation of the school’s STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Initiatives.

Father Robert Sinatra, pastor of the nearby Saint Padre Pio Parish, sees classes come once a week to his church’s 8:45 a.m. weekday Mass, and calls the connection between Saint Mary and Saint Padre Pio as a “unified vision — the school is an extension of the parish, and the parish is an extension of the school.”

“Everything Saint Mary’s does is mission-specific, and that mission is the Gospel,” he added. The school motto, “Minds at Work, Hearts with God, Lives of Service,” is “woven into the fabric of the community, for the formation of young hearts, souls, and minds, in how they learn, serve, and pray.”

Guardian Angels students and alumni attend International Pueri Cantores Congress in Rome

Students and alumni members of Guardian Angels Regional School Angelic Choir, under the direction of Karen Mercer, along with their families, recently returned from their trip to Rome, Italy, where over 5,000 students from around the world gathered for the 40th International Pueri Cantores Congress.

Pueri Cantores is an International Catholic choral organization that provides opportunities for school-aged youth choirs from all backgrounds to participate in liturgical music. The International Congress of Pueri Cantores was held in Rome from Dec. 26, 2015-Jan. 1, 2016.

The Angelic Choir has attended numerous American Federation Pueri Cantores festivals including the 38th International Congress, which was held in July of 2013, in Washington, D.C. The members of the Angelic Choir have also travelled to New York City to sing with choirs in their region for local festivals. Members of the choir practiced for over a year in preparation for the trip to Italy and fund raised to help students attend this wonderful trip.

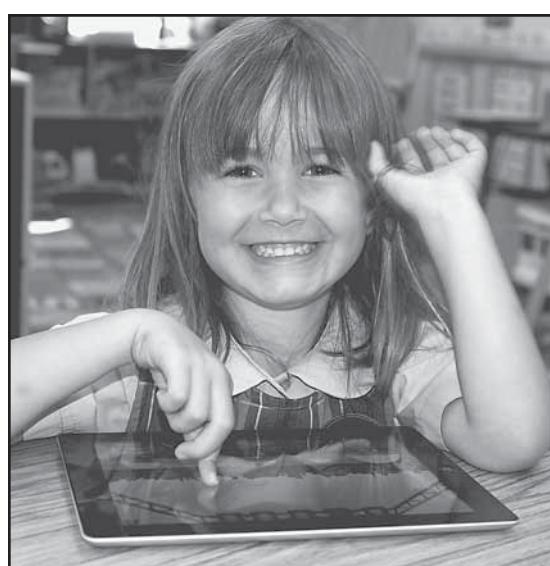
Students and their families visited Trevi Fountain, the Spanish Steps, and the Pantheon and also had tours of the Coliseum, the Roman Forum and Saint Peter's Basilica. A highlight of the trip was a private tour of the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel.

They also attended Mass at Saint John Lateran and a prayer for peace service at the Church of the Twelve Apostles. The trip culminated with an audience with Pope Francis in Sala Nervi, Paul VI Hall, where Pope Francis spoke to those in attendance about the good in the world and how the young people needed to continue to sing God's praises. (See story below.)

The last day of the trip began with Mass at Saint Peter's Basilica on Jan. 1 and ended with a papal blessing in Saint Peter's Square.



Above: Members of Guardian Angels Regional School Angelic Choir, under the direction of Karen Mercer, are pictured following Mass in Saint John Lateran church in Rome, Italy. Left: Angelic Choir members and Mercer, along with Peter Martin, Political and Economic Counselor from the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See following the Prayer for Peace in the Church of the Twelve Apostles, in Rome, Italy.



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Singing does good for the soul, pope tells choristers

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Singing is good for one's soul and, as St. Augustine says, Christian life is not a sad path but a joyous one that is done "singing and walking," Pope Francis said.

"Remember this: Sing and walk," the pope said Dec. 31 to 6,000 young choristers, their families, friends and choir-masters from 18 countries. "And in this way, your soul will enjoy more the joy of the gospel."

The young choir members took part in the Dec. 28-Jan. 1 International

Congress of Pueri Cantores in Rome. They held concerts at several churches in Rome and performed in Saint Peter's Basilica on New Year's Day.

The pope took questions from several young choir members, choosing to address the youth off-the-cuff. A young girl asked the pope what he thought about their music and if he liked to sing.

"I would much rather like to hear you all sing today," the pope said. "But if I sang, I would sound like a donkey because I do not know how to sing. I don't even know how to speak well."

Good News for the Nation: Catholic Schools Are Thriving

Catholic schools offer academic excellence and faith-filled education for students nationwide. National test scores, high school graduation rates, college attendance and other data show that Catholic schools frequently outperform schools in both the public and private sectors. While some Catholic schools are challenged by declining enrollments and school closures, the good news is that there is a strong demand and enthusiasm for Catholic schools – many have waiting lists for admission and new schools are opening. For more information, visit www.ncea.org.



National Secondary School Graduation Rates

CATHOLIC	99.0%
OTHER RELIGIOUS	97.8%
NON-SECTARIAN	95.2%
PUBLIC	78.2%*

*Actual high school diplomas awarded



College Attendance Comparison*

CATHOLIC	85.7%
OTHER RELIGIOUS	62.1%
NON-SECTARIAN	56.1%
PUBLIC	39.5%**



*data not available for community colleges, technical schools or enlistment in the military

Source: Broughman, S.P., Swain, N.L. (2013); Stilwell, R., and Sable, J. (2014)

A Gift to the Nation

Based on the average public school per pupil cost of \$12,054, Catholic schools provide \$24 billion in savings each year for the nation.



Source: U.S. Catholic Elementary and Secondary 2014-2015: The Annual Statistical Report on Schools Enrollment and Staffing (NCEA)

A day at the museum



Fifth through eighth grade students at Saint John Paul II Regional School, Stratford, visit the Franklin Institute's Vatican Splendors Exhibit in Philadelphia on Jan. 13.



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High school authors read their work at Camden school

Gloucester Catholic High School sent a group of 16 students from Cara Buckland's creative writing class to Sacred Heart School in Camden.

The students read children's books that they wrote and illustrated as part of their assignment in Buckland's class. The students presented their publications to the Kindergarten, first and second grade students at Sacred Heart.

One of the GCHS students, senior Selena Colon, was a 2012 graduate of Sacred Heart School. Selena and fellow classmate Melissa Gould, read their Christmas publication, "Patches and Speedo" to students in three classrooms.

Selena also reunited with her former first grade teacher, Susan Cammisa, who told her current first grade students: "Selena was a student in my class a long, long time ago. Welcome home!"

"It was a very special day for me to return home and read to the students," Selena said. "It meant a lot to me personally."

Aside from Selena, two of the students — Isabella Fallstick and Yashira Caraballo — either attended Sacred Heart School briefly or were CCD students here.



Photo by Alan M. Dumoff

Creative writing students take turns reading their work at Sacred Heart School in Camden a few days before Christmas.

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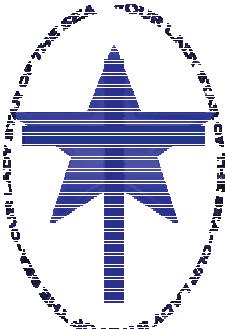
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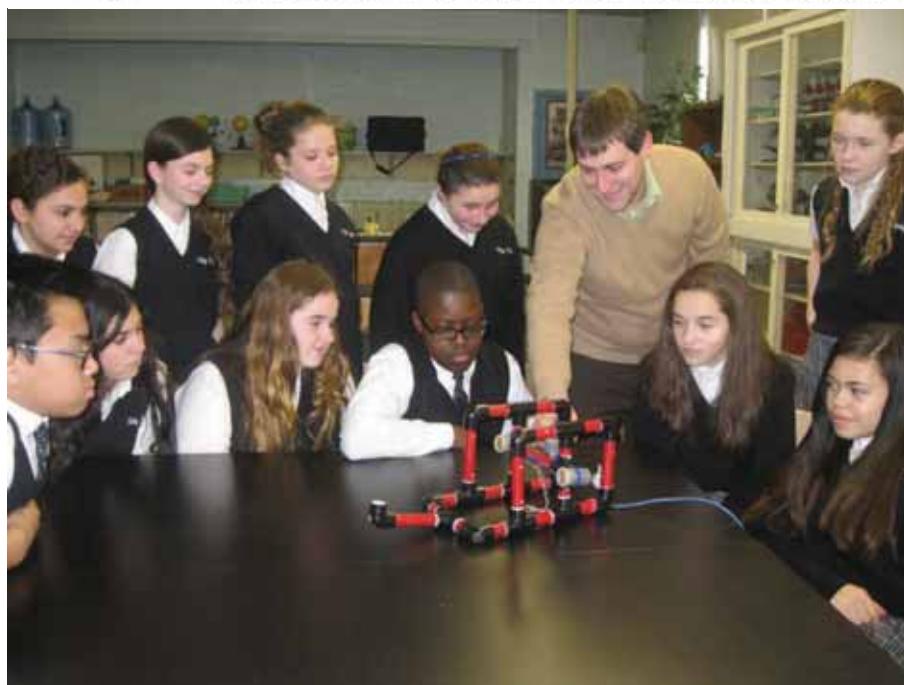
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Why Catholic schools make a difference

By Dr. Bernadette Mulligan Janis

Why do Catholic school students consistently experience academic success? Is it the religion classes? The uniforms? The grammar exercises? The answer lies in the value system that is centered on the fundamental teachings of Jesus Christ. The most important gifts my husband and I have received from our parents are our Catholic faith and our Catholic education. We have passed these gifts on to our six children because we believe they set the foundation for how we live our lives. Essentially, in a Catholic school setting, students develop fundamental skills and values that enable them to be high functioning members of society and to continue growing in their faith.

The values of working hard, respecting authority, helping others, showing compassion, and utilizing one's talents, have been constant in Catholic schools for generations, amidst many changes in tools and technologies associated with education. Faith-based discipline and accountability, coupled with a safe, nurturing learning environment result in students who thrive academically. They demonstrate the abilities to read critically, write constructively, and communicate effectively, all necessary skills that never go out of style.

The mission of Catholic schools starts with the administrators and teachers who choose Catholic education as a vocation. They devote their careers to our children, and their contribution matters. This devotion then extends to students and their parents where the community of learning comes together to elevate the common cause for high achievement.

The undeniable distinction of a Catholic school lies in the ability of its educators to consistently drive academic excellence while not sacrificing the Christ-centered mission. Catholic schools maintain this consistency by including the messages of Jesus across the curriculum and in extra-curricular activities where students learn to respect authority as well as themselves and their peers. This focus creates an optimal atmosphere for learning in which clear expectations and high standards are the norms. Over a period of years, students' comfort in the classroom enhances camaraderie and school spirit. Our 20 year old daughter Catherine acknowledges that one "can not go it alone" in the journey of life. Rather, Catholic schools inspire learners to maximize their potential for continuous improvement with Jesus as a partner along the way. In the words of our youngest child, 10 year old Andrew, "God is in every classroom."

The "it factor" of Catholic education is difficult to put a finger on, as the value goes well beyond the books, the buildings, and the uniforms. Instead, the spirit of Catholic education is evident in the character of our children as they thrive long after leaving the classroom.

Dr. Bernadette Mulligan Janis, a 1981 graduate of the former St. John School in Collingswood and a 1985 graduate of Paul VI High School in Haddon Township, is an educator in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania.



Paul VI High School students in Haddon Township listen to the words of Father John Rossi, the school's Director of Catholic Identity, in Saint Vincent Pallotti Church.



Students look and play the part of diplomats, at Saint Joseph High School, Hammonton's United Nations Student Conference on Human Rights.



Students lend their voices and musical talents during the annual Communion breakfast at Our Lady of Mercy Academy, Newfield.



Bishop Dennis Sullivan with 8th graders from Saint Joseph Regional School in Somers Point, last October. Bishop Sullivan led school students in the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

Catholic schools are important, needed and deserve our support

By Bishop Dennis Sullivan

During the week of January 31st our Church is observing Catholic Schools Week. This is an opportunity to celebrate what makes our schools unique and excellent as communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. I believe that Catholic schools are important, needed and deserve our support. My commitment to these three goals is formulated in *Forming Minds And Hearts In Grace: A Plan For Catholic Schools* in the Diocese of Camden which is available at www.camdendiocese.org.

In 2014 I called together a panel of advisers to assist me to deal with the challenges facing our diocesan schools. The hard work of the Bishop's Commission on Catholic Schools resulted in recommendations for our Schools that I have accepted. Please, read the PLAN in order to appreciate its scope and seriousness. It is the charter for our diocesan Catholic Schools.

Our schools are important, needed and deserve our support because they form disciples of Jesus Christ. They lead students to encounter Jesus Christ. This happens through direct and indirect exposure to Catholic culture that is either physically or spiritually present in each school. It is a crucifix in each room; religious statuary; images of Saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary and art that reflects the Christian tradition. Exposure to these elements influence each student's understanding of himself/herself as a child of God and even influences the choices and decisions they make in life.

In many of the schools there is a service requirement which teaches the need to be aware of our responsibility for our neighbors. A Catholic School makes students socially minded and aware of the community beyond the school building.

Catholic culture also seeps into the curriculum, for example, in the academics. A lesson in history, science, art, music that makes reference to God or to church. The philosophy of



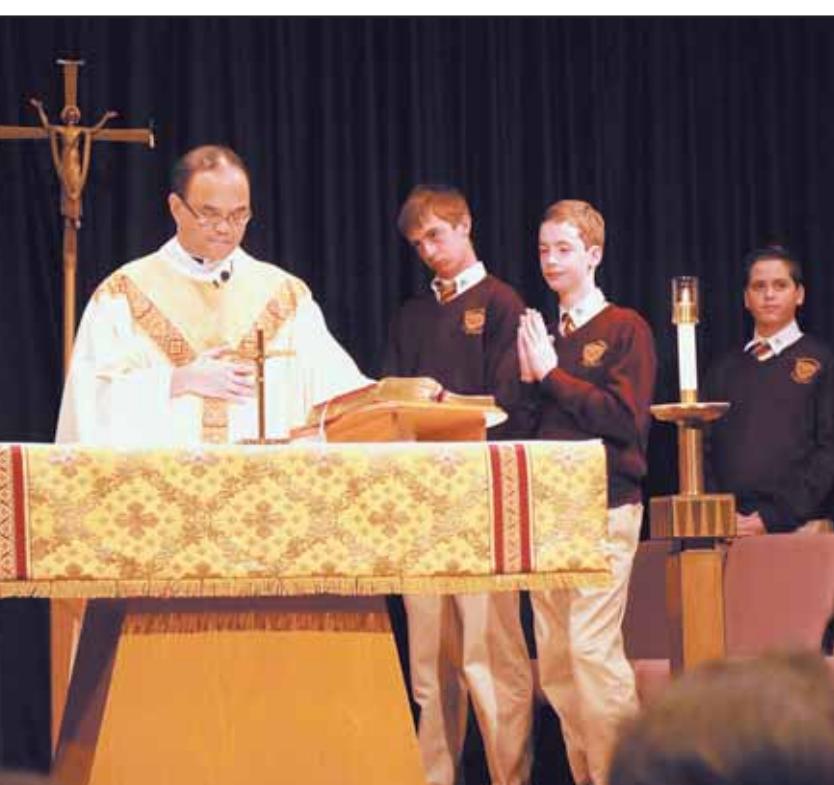
A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP
Bishop
Dennis J.
Sullivan

Your support of our schools is critical. With no shame my hand is out begging for your financial support. If you can help, please visit the Catholic Schools online donation page at camdendiocese.org/support-catholic-schools. Your contribution will support schools and make scholarships available. You can also help by directing families to consider a Catholic School for their child.

Christ is the Teacher in a Catholic School and His Church is the base community for the school. Our Church has been in the business of education for centuries. In South Jersey, the first Catholic schools opened in 1859 at parishes in Camden and Gloucester. With your support, encouragement and prayers we can dare to continue offering this educational alternative that is a Catholic school.



Young students give rapt attention during Storytime at Saint Vincent de Paul Regional School in Mays Landing.



Father Allain Caparas, Director of Catholic Identity at Gloucester Catholic High School, Haddon Township, celebrates Mass with students.

Why I chose Catholic school for my children

By John O'Donnell

As a father of three Catholic elementary school children I am often asked why I send my kids to Catholic school. I am certain if you asked the same question to 10 parents of Catholic school children you would get 10 different answers. My answer is simply this; it is my core belief that it is my duty, obligation, and responsibility as a Catholic father to provide my children a Catholic school education. My local public schools provide an outstanding education to the children in our district. However, public schools do not and unfortunately cannot teach of the life, death and resurrection of our God and Savior Jesus Christ. This is most important to me as a Catholic father. What my children learn at home is reinforced throughout their school day and through regular attendance at Mass throughout the school year. My children's school, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Berlin, provides an environment that caters to their intellectual, physical, and spiritual development. This environment teaches them that it is through love of God and service to others that real success is achieved. Catholic schools have the resources and facilities to challenge students to achieve academic excellence while learning to proclaim and live Christ's Gospel, learning the traditions of the Church, and acquiring a deep reverence and love of the Catholic faith. I have full confidence that I am providing my children the best opportunity for them to succeed in life by engaging in an environment of high academic standards with Jesus Christ at the core. I am confident that my investment in my children's elementary and high school educations will reap benefits that last a lifetime and in turn benefit the greater society. I also have the utmost confidence that Bishop Sullivan, the Office of Catholic Schools, and the many priests and lay teachers of the Diocese of Camden are committed to sustaining, strengthening and expanding the Catholic school educational opportunities to all parents who wish to secure a Christ based education for their children. By sending my children to a Catholic school I am fulfilling my obligation as a Catholic father, and more importantly providing my children a solid foundation that will encourage them to live a life in service to God and others.

John O'Donnell has three children in Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Berlin. His two oldest are enrolled in Paul VI High School, Haddon Township.

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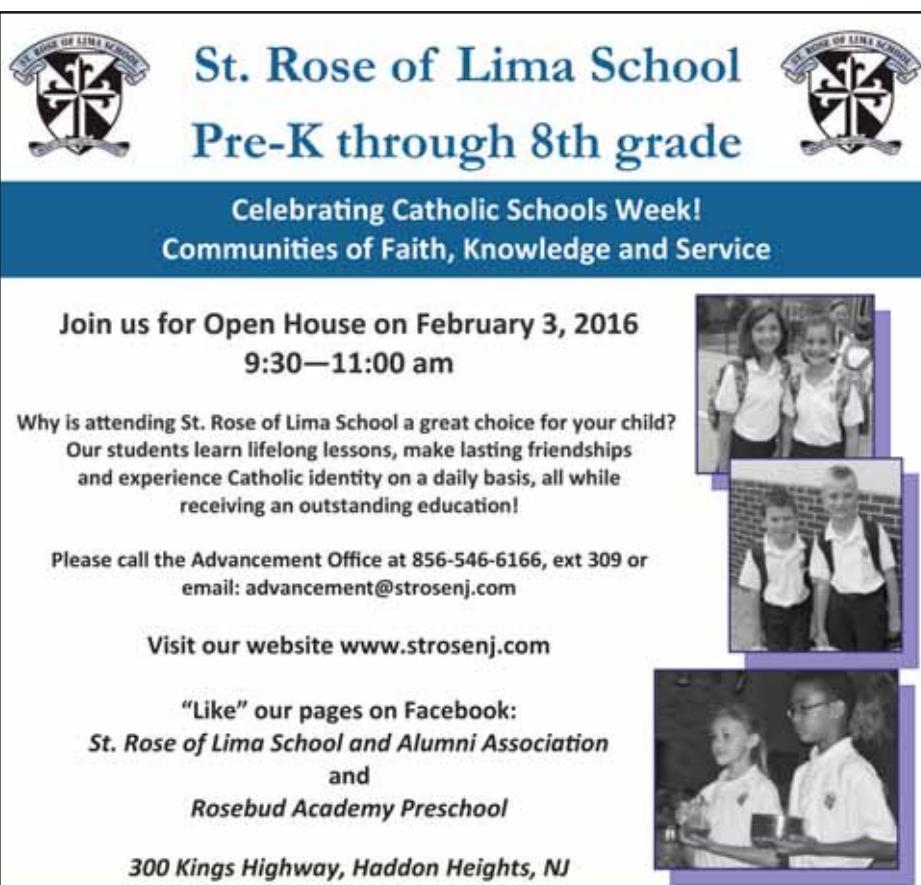
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January 31 - February 6, 2016

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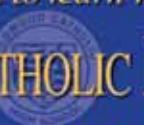


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The benefits of Catholic education continue

By Elena V. Brandt

My parents met during the early 1980s in a political science class at York College of the City University of New York (CUNY.) If you ask my mother how my father caught her attention she would tell you, "Your father just knew how to study. He knew how to write an essay! He went to Catholic high school. They really prepared him for college."

As they grew apart after I was born, their lives took different paths. They eventually started new families about a decade later — and they made many financial sacrifices so that each of my siblings would have a Catholic education.

Although they had perspectives which often challenged one another, when it came time for me to go to Kindergarten, they agreed that parochial school was the right choice for their daughter's future. Our Lady Queen of Martyrs was a small school near a beautiful Gothic parish church. There were many religious sisters who served the school as administrators, teachers and in other capacities. Wise, dedicated and compassionate women, they left quite an impression on me, even at an early age. When I was a 5-year-old, my mother sewed a habit for

In elementary school, the seeds of Christianity were planted in our hearts.

me out of a pillowcase because, for Halloween, I wanted to be like Sister Mary Alois, a semi-retired Sister of the Immaculate Heart, who was the school nurse.

My mother worked several kinds of jobs until she found a teaching position which was shared by a Catholic school in Brooklyn and another in Flushing, N.Y. I transferred to Saint Michael's in Flushing so that we could take advantage of discounted tuition.

We did not have a weekly music class, but the parish organist devoted an hour each week to direct a choir for Saint Michael's students. He introduced us to Bach, to Taize, and to the chant of Joseph Gelineau. Our weekly choir rehearsals were lessons about the musical language, about life and the liturgy. One Sunday after Mass, he played this incredible prelude. In that moment, I decided that I wanted to learn to play the organ too and eventually studied organ for my undergraduate degree in music.

I continued my education at Saint Francis Preparatory High School in Fresh Meadows, N.Y., known as an institution of academic excellence.

During freshman year, my schedule allowed me to attend daily Mass. The priest who was our chaplain in that first year of high school eventually played an important role in my life as a young adult. By the time I graduated from Prep, tuition at local Catholic high schools had risen to an amount greater than annual undergraduate tuition in the City University system — nonetheless, my high-school tuition was a worthwhile investment.

The four years of academic rigor developed my critical reasoning and writing skills while I grew into a responsible adult. At the end of my senior year, based on an essay and SAT scores, I was awarded a full scholarship to CUNY Queens College, where I studied organ as an undergraduate music major.

Although my bachelor's degree is from a public college, I returned to Catholic institution for my graduate degree. Through the Archdiocese of New York, I earned a Master of Arts in religious studies with a concentration in liturgy at St. Joseph's Seminary. Because the program was subsidized by the archdiocese, the courses were under \$1,000 each. Ultimately, because my parents chose Catholic education for me, and I returned to a Catholic institution for my graduate degree, I never had to worry about the obligations of student loan debt.

Catholic education is renowned for academic excellence; however, the relationships that I have built throughout my learning experience are a much higher value. Catholic education is an experience of the Trinity: the Master reveals himself in the growth and development of rising generation, and their synergy engenders the Spirit of perpetual renewal.

Nearly 20 years later, I continue to rely on the guidance of my choir director from elementary school. As I embarked upon my own career, the chaplain from high school offered me a position as music director when he became pastor of a large Catholic parish, and we worked together for six years.

(continued on page S16)

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Benefits all through life

(continued from page S15)

I am grateful for the guidance of my teacher and mentors, but most of all, I am grateful for the lessons imparted by Christ, sometimes under surprising circumstances. In the mid-1990s, when I was in eighth grade, a classmate did not understand her own insecurities, and directed them toward me in hurtful, demeaning behavior.

Although I tried to put it behind me, it had negative effects on my self-esteem and occasionally made me question whether elementary school was worth the expense. Several years later, when we were both in our late 20s, I received a private message on social media from this classmate. She wrote to apologize for her mistakes and express her profound remorse. To this very day, this course of events makes me marvel at the way God works.

Even if this was the only way it had influenced us, her letter defined the value of Catholic education in her life and mine. In elementary school, the seeds of Christianity were planted in our hearts and it was affirming to witness that the way they blossomed in her heart, even after many years. Because these seeds were also planted in my heart, I was full of so much joy to share forgiveness with her. Finally, I was grateful for the way Catholic education helped me to make sense of earthly existence.

As we journey in discipleship, I was privileged to witness how God continues to reveal himself through humanity in unsolicited, unanticipated and unexpected moments of transformative love.

Elena V. Brandt is pastoral associate of music and liturgy, Saint Clare of Assisi Parish, Swedesboro.

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Student leader



Dana Durham of Our Lady of Mercy Academy, Newfield, was named the winner of the Widener University/NBC10 High School Leadership Award. This awards program is designed to recognize high school students in the region who embody the university's commitment to develop and inspire leaders to affect positive change. Dana will attend a ceremony at the National Constitution Center in March, followed by a leadership experience with all winners at Widener in the fall. If Dana chooses Widener for college, she will receive a \$20,000 scholarship over four years. "Dana is a wonderful young woman and so deserving of this award," said Sister Grace Marie Scandale, OLMA principal. "Not only does she excel academically, but she is constantly looking out for others through the many service projects she participates in and organizes."

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'Old school' teaching in a modern classroom

By Carl Peters

RICHLAND — The class is thoroughly modern. Smartboards have replaced blackboards with trays filled with chalk dust. Students have iPads open on their desks. The teacher, Nancy McHugh, talks about apps the students were to have downloaded before class, and resources she has posted for them online.

But in other ways, the sophomores in this chemistry class are learning the same way students have learned for decades. McHugh begins the class by reviewing past lessons and going from desk to desk to check each student's homework. She uses a yardstick to point to a periodic table on the wall as she lectures. She asks questions, one after another, sometimes expecting the entire class to answer in unison — they do — and sometimes prodding them individually. ("John, we've not heard from you today.")

She talks about tests and quizzes. She uses mild threats to make them buckle down and get to work.

"Old school." She uses the term when talking about her teaching methods and her classes. And the students seem to love her.

McHugh has been teaching at Saint Augustine Preparatory School in Richland for 11 years. She recalls when Augustinian Father Paul Galetto, the former school president, offered her a job.

Formerly a chemist at Rohm and Haas, McHugh was initially reluctant. She pointed out that she hadn't been trained as a teacher and had no prior teaching experience.

"You have five children," he responded. "You'll do just fine."

She has. McHugh is a co-winner of the New Jersey Nonpublic School Teacher of the Year Award for 2015. The annual competition is conducted under the auspices of the New Jersey Council for American Private Education.

The award is meant not only to honor individual teachers — the co-winner this year is Jonathan Brooks of Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy in Elizabeth — but to draw attention to the



Nancy McHugh of Saint Augustine Preparatory School, Richland, is a co-winner of the New Jersey Nonpublic School Teacher of the Year Award for 2015.

"There is not a day that goes by that you don't laugh at something."

— Nancy McHugh

professionalism and dedication of all teachers in Catholic and other non-public schools in New Jersey.

McHugh herself is a firm believer in Catholic education. She was educated in Catholic schools and sent all her children to Our Lady of Hope in Blackwood for elementary school. She taught her three sons herself at the Prep. Of her daughters, one graduated from Our Lady of Mercy Academy in Newfield and the youngest is currently

a student at Gloucester Catholic High School.

When she talks about Catholic education, McHugh talks about faith, community, "wonderful role models," character development, her own belief in God. And laughter.

She may expect students to do a lot of homework and not waste time in class, but she loves to laugh. She talks about laughing with her own children when they reminisce about their school days.

And she talks about how her students make her laugh, and how they got her through that first, hard year at Saint Augustine.

When McHugh began her teaching career, her husband had recently died of cancer.

"I was a widow at 40 with five children. Just being here (at the Prep) would take my mind off my troubles," she said. "These guys are tons of fun. There is not a day that goes by that you don't laugh at something."

There is a relaxed atmosphere in the classroom. After a successful round of answering questions, McHugh tells the students, "Give yourself a round of applause," and they do.

There is also a low murmur that comes and goes throughout the hour and that McHugh works to keep from getting out of hand. "The noise level is way too high and I'm not hearing chemistry," she tells them as they work collaboratively on a worksheet.

Later, as they're copying in their notebooks, she says, "Copy time..."

"... is quiet time!" they answer as a class.

There is an enormous advantage to using technology in the classroom, McHugh says, and there is still a place for memorization, lectures and other traditional methods. Students are learning chemistry but they are also learning how to think, she says. At one point, she says to the class, "You're going to start to see how all these pieces of the puzzle that you've been memorizing start to come together."

Reflecting on the challenges of teaching, McHugh says that teachers, especially new teachers, have to start off being strict. "When they know your expectations, they respect your expectations."

But, she adds, students "have to know they are part of your team. You can't be a dictator. You have to develop a relationship with each and every one of them."

That's not easy and it takes time, she says. "But once you do that, they will go through fire for you."

As she speaks, juniors and seniors enter the classroom for their Honors Chemistry II class. "It's a great day for chemistry," one of them says.

Wildwood Catholic student to attend summit at The Hague

Julianna Roche, a sophomore at Wildwood Catholic High School, will attend a two-day summit at The Hague in the Netherlands for a Global Citizen Summit on human rights.

Julianna won a Global Citizen Scholarship from EF Education Tours to attend the



JULIANNA
ROCHE

conference. The application included an interview and video on her vision for a better world; in the latter, she focused on clean water, education and women's rights.

This month, Julianna and her mother will take part in a mission trip to Haiti to deliver school supplies and participate

in a baptismal ceremony for orphans. For one of the orphans, she will become a godparent.

Next month, she will return to the United Nations in New York as a leader delegate. Last year, Julianna took part in United Nations Day at Saint Joseph High School in Hammonton, and soon after was named a youth delegate to the U.N. Student Leadership Conference

on Development. In New York, she has taken part in conferencing with students from all over the world to create a plan in response to shared sustainable development goals.

In addition to these national and global opportunities, she is active in soccer, swimming, and track; forensics, mock trial, and academic challenge; and the school play.

How Catholic school has shaped who I am today

By Arrianna Powers
St. Joseph, Hammonton

When a child is young, just getting ready to go to school, his or her parents have a choice: What school should their child attend? It's a hard question to answer.

My parents checked the average grades for the schools nearby, toured buildings, and met with principals. In the end, my parents decided on an old Catholic school 40 minutes from my house: a long drive, but they knew it would be the best choice.

I can't thank them enough for choosing that school for me. A Catholic education has shaped who I am today, through



ARRIANNA POWERS

my family, my friends and my education.

My parents didn't want me to feel pressured into my faith, so they taught me my prayers and would take me to church and remind me to pray, but they wanted me to discover my faith on my own, and I did that through Catholic school. I never would have learned about my faith to the extent I have if it weren't for Catholic school. My teachers became like a second family, explaining things to me like my parents did and teaching me why prayer and Mass are important. I had two families teaching me about my faith now, all because of Catholic school — not just a second family but friends, too.

When I was young, I was terrified on my first day of school. I didn't know if the other kids would like me or if we would get along. I was shocked when, on my first day, I was approached by three other girls in my class. They were

fun and nice and we got along. We grew up in the same religion classes, helping each other with homework and encouraging each other to stay involved in our faith. I joined the choir in middle school and my friends read at Mass. We didn't just grow up in life together; we grew up in faith together too. We formed a bond, in faith and in friendship. Graduating middle school, we all went to different high schools. All of us chose Catholic high schools. We weren't afraid to branch out, schooling-wise, because we knew we would stay in touch. And we have. We socialize and we meet to attend Mass together to this day.

Finally, I realize that it's amazing, really, the education I receive each day. Most people would think that all other subjects, besides religion, would go on the back burner in a Catholic school. However, I can say there is no back

burner in a Catholic school and that our faith is present in all subjects. Religion may have the highest priority, but we never lose focus on our other studies. Nothing less than the best is expected of us. I feel as though I have received a better education than I would at a regular school. Not only have I grown in knowledge of the world but also in spiritual knowledge.

I think of the bonds I have formed and the friendships that I know will last. I think of the education I receive and how I have grown in spirituality and in knowledge. I could not have achieved any of this without my experiences in a Catholic school. Catholic school shaped who I am today and I am proud to be a young Catholic.

My parents looked everywhere for the perfect school for me, and I know they made the best choice by sending me to Catholic school.

At Wildwood Catholic 'I didn't just learn, I grew'

By Molly McNulty
Wildwood Catholic, Wildwood

I have been blessed with the opportunity to attend not only a Catholic grade school but a Catholic high school as well. I truly believe that Wildwood Catholic High School has shaped me into the person I am today and has fully prepared me to go on to college with a strong background in my faith and my education.



MOLLY MCNULTY

Today, although the United States has freedom of religion, many people take that as freedom from religion. In attending a Catholic high school, I did not have to experience feeling insecure or threatened about my faith. I realized that the ability to not only pray every day in school, but also have classes in religion, is a privilege and not to be taken for granted. Without my faith I would not have been able to do most of what I was able to do in high school. I know that if I attended another school I would not have played soccer, been on student council, or participated in the school play. Attending a Catholic school allowed me to develop spiritual-

ly which allowed me to step outside my comfort zone and use the gifts God gave me.

Attending Wildwood Catholic has enabled me to see the bigger picture. Being a small school, we accomplish such large things. I learned that life is about much more than myself. Through community service projects, I realized that it is imperative to help those in need. I gained a new perspective on what is really important in life at Wildwood Catholic and how blessed I am to have had not just a Catholic education, but a Catholic experience. I didn't just learn, I grew. I have confidence going forward in my life, equipped with

a strong faith and a desire to make a difference in the world.

"Fides et Scientia" means faith and knowledge. Here at Wildwood Catholic I believe that I have developed in both my faith and my knowledge. My Catholic education was a gift I never asked for, but the best gift I have ever received. I look forward to continuing my education at a Catholic college or university because a Catholic education is a part of who I am now.

I hope to one day make an impact, a difference in the world and on people who need me. In attending Wildwood Catholic, I learned that with God that is surely possible.

An urge to succeed 'in a way I had not known before'

By Andrea Paleos
Camden Catholic, Cherry Hill

"You are going to Catholic school?" At the end of middle school, this question seemed to follow me throughout all my interactions with friends and family. The speaker would emphasize the "you" to clarify that the "Catholic school" was not negative, but that my place there was questionable. Detecting the typical raised eyebrows and hint of a confused smile, I would politely affirm my statement and carry on with conversation.

I could not blame those who questioned me. As a nonreligious, public school student, what place would I have at Camden Catholic High School?



ANDREA PALEOS

Ultimately, I would not only "pass by" in school, but I would flourish. I became intrigued by the school's academic, family and faith values. The first of these was unsurprising. My decision to attend Camden Catholic was initially based on the school's academic excellence and educational arts program. However, the significant change was not in my grades, but in my outlook. Before, my academic drive was based on receiving honors, getting the highest grade, capturing the "best number."

After attending Camden Catholic for a time, I realized that I was no longer completing assignments "just for the grade." I was completing assignments to improve my skills, to show a teacher I cared and to develop camaraderie with my classmates, resulting in a more sincere effort.

I credit this change of heart primarily to the resolute and genuine Catholic

spirit which is prevalent among the faculty and students. Additionally, the family atmosphere urged me to succeed in a way that I had not known before. From my teachers' willingness to form real relationships to my peers' warm welcome, I felt that I had not only friends but family beside me. Coming from a public school which boasted more than 1,000 students, I thought the feeling foreign, but I embraced it.

In fact, I have learned to embrace more than just my new family; I have learned to embrace myself. I came to Camden Catholic with little religious knowledge but with an open mind. My family did not regularly practice any religion, so I was the exemplary blank slate. Walking into my first day of religion class, I was rather nervous, supposing unrealistically that the teacher would somehow detect my lack of religiousness and publicly condemn me.

However, my real experience was quite the contrary. I found the teachers entirely welcoming and accepting of any students' lack of prior knowledge. All of my religion teachers have been great presences in my school life who encourage me to examine my own religious beliefs. I may not consider myself converted, but I have been inspired various times to explore my own ideas of faith and discuss spirituality with my peers.

So, what place does a secular public school student have at Camden Catholic? Evidently, that student does not have just a place to fit in, but a home. I feel truly blessed to call Camden Catholic my home and I believe that more students like me should take the jump to a Catholic school. When learning in an environment that is not only a school but a community, one reaps endless benefits.

Why America needs Catholic schools

By Hannah Chomiczewski
Gloucester Catholic, Gloucester City

There has never been a time in my educational life when I wasn't a Catholic school student. I've always had religion class, I've always had school Masses, and I've always recited prayers over morning announcements. As a result, I took almost all of it for granted.

It wasn't until I started high school at Gloucester Catholic that I realized how much is unique to my Catholic education. Immediately, even while writing this, I thought of little things:



HANNAH CHOMICZEWSKI

my teachers saying grace with the class before dismissing us for lunch, the jovial voice on the intercom at the end of the week reminding us to attend church on Sunday, the girl who once led my English class in a Hail Mary after our teacher received news of a family emergency. These are the things that will stay with me after I graduate. They're little things, yes, but in the end they mean the most.

During nearly every Mass at Gloucester Catholic, there is one particular petition read aloud, and that is: "We pray for all those who have died, that they may be welcomed into the Father's mansion in heaven." And every time I hear that, the word "mansion" jumps out at me. I remember,

hearing it for the first time, it struck me as somewhat funny. I'd never compared God's Kingdom to a mansion; and yet, the idea now makes so much sense that I can't believe it's not more widely expressed.

It's a wonderful thing to think of all our loved ones, and all the ones we didn't know, or knew and didn't love—everyone who accepted our Father's love and mercy — all living together in one big mansion.

That's what a Catholic school is for me. It's a gathering place for people, who may not all be of the same faith, but who share common goals: to live with compassion, to promote the goodness of the human person, to reject prejudice and fear in favor of dignity and hospitality. A Catholic school student is

privileged to have all these blessings and more.

I don't want to imagine a world, or even a state, that doesn't give young people the opportunity to learn and excel in a Catholic school environment. That world, I fear, would lack a number of talented, compassionate individuals whose unified goal is spreading not only the good, but the great. We need Catholic schools because we need Catholic teachers, and Catholic students. With them, we are better able to embrace the greatness that is being human. With them, we learn to devote our lives on Earth to others, and we learn to believe in and hope for our life after death in God's mansion. And for that, I am eternally grateful.

School has taught me to work hard and have faith

By Patrick MacDonald
Holy Spirit, Absecon

Religion has been the single most important part of my life since starting grade school. When I became old enough to realize that God was calling me to believe in him, I started to participate at my church. I was an altar server and have been part of the church youth group for six years. My family is very religious and participates at church, which is partly why I attend Holy Spirit High School. The main reason why I chose to go to a Catholic high school is because I love my faith and I wanted to strengthen my belief in God.



PATRICK MACDONALD

My experience in Catholic school throughout my whole life has given me an outlook on life that I would not have if I attended public school. This outlook is about living a morally just life. My Catholic journey through grade school, church, and praying with my family has prepared me for high school and all of life's bumps in the road.

A high school, by itself, is just a building. When teachers and students are incorporated into this building it becomes a community. Once God is added to this community it becomes a family. At Holy Spirit High School I am part of a great family. We learn and participate in clubs, societies and sports, which teaches us to work as a team.

Most importantly, we pray together. Praying together is essential to the

progress of our Spartan family. For the past two and a half years my experience at Holy Spirit has been nothing short of the best. My friends, teachers, and classes are incomparable. The ability to learn and talk about God makes the experience even more stupendous.

Having the privilege of attending religion class makes me feel very lucky and safe, knowing that God is always protecting and watching over me. I know that he is watching over us because religion class teaches that God created us and will protect us as long as we believe and spread his message.

My experience at Holy Spirit High School has taught me two very important lessons, work hard and have faith. Working hard and having a good work ethic is very influential in the work force. Having faith gets us through the

tough times, and knowing God is watching over us is all we need to be ready for anything.

This building that we call Holy Spirit holds inside a unique and faith filled family that loves each other and God. I am truly proud to call myself a Spartan.

My belief in God will never change because I have been learning about him my entire life. Religion is something I take pride in and am very privileged to have in my life. The experiences I have faced over the past two and a half years of high school shaped me into the religious man I want to be. Therefore, Holy Spirit has prepared me to be charitable, faithful and hard working. Throughout my life, I always knew that God was present. Although I could not see him, I felt him through the loving hearts of my family and friends.

'I wake up energized to attend Paul VI'

By Natasha Filipov
Paul VI, Haddon Township

I am so grateful to attend a Catholic high school. The past four years I have spent at Paul VI have given me more than a stellar academic experience. In addition to the knowledge I have garnered in my classes, the lessons I learn that extend beyond the classrooms have shaped and defined me as an individual. This is the true difference of a Catholic school education.



NATASHA FILIPOV

Unlike most students, I do not wake up each morning dreading the school

day. Instead, I wake up energized to attend Paul VI, a supportive and advanced community teeming with unique, talented and passionate individuals. In a Catholic school setting, everyone works together to build up one another and his or her community. This is something I value that is evident at Paul VI. Because of the similar values my peers and I share, academic, extra-curricular involvement, and faith, I have met some of my best friends.

The teachers at Paul VI sacrifice themselves each day to teach their students topics like Algebra II and biology, but more importantly to urge their students to achieve greatness. I feel especially blessed to have been exposed to Paul VI's progressive strategy in using the iPad in classrooms since this is such

a common approach to learning in the college level and beyond.

Attending a Catholic high school has offered me the unique opportunity to integrate my faith in not only the school curriculum, but also in my everyday experiences at Paul VI. The morals and values that are part of a Christian upbringing are evident in the expectations and interactions at my school. This is the definition of what my education means to me. Due to my Catholic education, I have become more open to receiving God's call in my life.

As a Catholic school student, I am blessed to celebrate my faith each day with my peers who share the same beliefs and who aspire to live them out every day. The presence of religion in my school influences the students to

participate with and be involved in the community.

The service requirement in my high school has fostered my desire to help others and model Christ's example. In addition, it has influenced me to become a well-rounded individual, concerned with issues other than my own.

I am confident that had I not made the choice to attend Paul VI four years ago, I would not be the individual I am today. I cannot thank my parents enough for their sacrifice, and all those who work to support the Catholic school systems. My Catholic education and faith is ingrained in my character. It is essential to who I am. That is something special which I will cherish and hold with me for the rest of my life.

Elementary School Directory

Atlantic City

Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School
Principal: Mrs. Susan Tarrant
15 North California Avenue, 609-345-0648

Berlin

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Regional School
Principal: Mrs. Alice Malloy
One Cedar Avenue, 856-767-1751

Blackwood

Our Lady of Hope Regional School
Principal: Sr. Paula Marie Rando, OSF
420 South Black Horse Pike, 856-227-4442

Camden

Holy Name School
Principal: Mrs. Patricia Quinter
700 North Fifth Street, 856-365-7930

Sacred Heart School

Principal: Miss Janet Williams
Fourth and Jasper Streets, 856-963-1341

Saint Anthony of Padua School

Principal: Dr. Mary Burke
2824 River Avenue, 856-966-6791

Saint Joseph Pro-Cathedral School

Principal: Ms. Frances Montgomery
2907 Federal Street, 856-964-4336

Cape May Court House

Bishop McHugh Regional School
Principal: Mr. Thomas McGuire
2221 Route 9, 609-624-1900

Cherry Hill

Resurrection Regional Catholic School
Principal: Sr. Lydia Etter, OSF
402 North Kings Highway, 856-667-3034

Clayton

Saint Michael the Archangel Regional School
Principal: Miss Janice Bruni
51 West North Street, 856-881-0067

Collingswood

Good Shepherd Regional School
Principal: Mr. Donald Garecht
100 Lees Avenue, 856-858-1562

East Vineland

Saint Mary Regional School
Principal: Mr. Steven Hogan
735 Union Road, 856-692-8537

Galloway

Assumption Regional Catholic School
Principal: Mrs. Mary Ellen Schurtz
146 South Pitney Road, 609-652-7134

Gibbstown

Guardian Angels Regional School
Principal: Sister Jerilyn Einstein, FMIJ
150 South School Street
856-423-9440 (Gibbstown)
856-423-9401 (Paulsboro)

Haddon Heights

Saint Rose of Lima School
Principal: Mr. William Stonis
300 Kings Highway, 856-546-6166

Haddonfield

Christ the King Regional School
Principal: Mrs. Anne Hartman
164 Hopkins Avenue, 856-429-2084

Hamonton

Saint Joseph Regional School
Principal: Sr. Betty Jean Takacs, MPF
133 North Third Street, 609-704-2400

Mays Landing

Saint Vincent de Paul Regional School
Principal: Ms. Linda Pirolli
5809 East Main Street, 609-625-1565

Merchantville

Saint Peter School
Principal: Sr. Rosa Maria Ojeda, MDPVM
51 West Maple Avenue, 856-665-5879

Pennsauken

Saint Cecilia School
Principal: Sr. Alicia Perna, SSJ
4851 Camden Avenue, 856-662-0149

Runnemede

Saint Teresa Regional School
Principal: Sr. Patricia Scanlon, IHM
27 East Evesham Road, 856-939-0333

Somers Point

Saint Joseph Regional School
Principal: Mr. Theodore Pugliese
Harbor Lane, 609-927-2228

Stratford

John Paul II Regional School
Principal: Mrs. Helen Persing
55 Warwick Road, 856-783-3088

Vineland

Bishop Schad Regional School
Principal: Dr. Patrice DeMartino
922 East Landis Avenue
856-691-4490

Westville Grove

Holy Trinity Regional School
Principal: Ms. Elsie Tedeski
1215 Delsea Drive, 856-848-6826

Wildwood

Cape Trinity Catholic Regional School
Principal: Sr. Sheila Murphy, SSJ
1500 Central Avenue, 609-522-2704

Williamstown

Saint Mary School
Principal: Mrs. Patricia Mancuso
32 Carroll Avenue, 856-629-6190

Woodbury Heights

Saint Margaret Regional School
Principal: Sr. Michele DeGregorio, FMIJ
773 Third Street, 856-845-5200

Secondary School Directory

Absecon

Holy Spirit High School
President: Rev. Perry Cherubini
Principal: Miss Susan Dennen
500 New South Road, 609-646-3000

Cherry Hill

Camden Catholic High School
President: Mrs. Mary Whipkey
Principal: Mrs. Heather Crisci
300 Cuthbert Boulevard, 856-663-2247

Gloucester

Gloucester Catholic High School
Head of School: Mr. John T. Colman
Principal: Mr. Edward Beckett
333 South Ridgeway Street, 856-456-4400

Haddonfield

Paul VI High School
President: Mr. Michael Chambers
Principal: Sister Marianne McCann, MPF
901 Hopkins Road, Suite B, 856-858-4900

Hamonton

Saint Joseph High School
Principal: Mrs. Lynn Domenico
328 Vine Street, 609-561-8700

Newfield

Our Lady of Mercy Academy
Principal: Sr. Grace Marie, D.M.
1001 Main Road, 856-697-2008

Pennsauken

Bishop Eustace Preparatory School
Headmaster: Brother James Beamesderfer, SAC
Academic Dean: Mr. Philip Gianfortune
5552 Route 70, 856-662-2160

Richland

Saint Augustine Preparatory School
President: Rev. Donald F. Reilly, OSA
Dean of Academics: Mr. Joseph Vandenberg
611 North Cedar Avenue, P.O. Box 279, 856-697-2600

North Wildwood

Wildwood Catholic High School
President: Rev. Joseph Wallace
Academic Dean: Miss Mary Kane
1500 Central Avenue, 609-522-7257