

Why choose a Catholic School

Choosing a secondary school involves a decision that will set directions for a lifetime.

Students and parents have abundant choices: neighborhood public schools, magnet public schools, charter public schools, independent schools and private Catholic schools. For students genuinely interested in obtaining an education, all of these schools can be a valid option. I write to encourage parents and students to consider the question: **Why choose a Catholic school?**

Schools that are genuinely Catholic offer an integration of faith, knowledge, community and service that has a proven record of inculcating values that shape subsequent life choices about family, business ethics, morality, church involvement, care of our neighbor....

The Catholic school day begins with a prayer and ends with a blessing. Each student is called to realize the fullness of her or his potential as a child of God. Religious symbols are present along with those of the arts and sciences. Catholicity requires inclusiveness, openness to diversity, and cherishing one's own family traditions while appreciating the gifts of other individuals and cultures.

Because Catholic education is good education, it is costly. Is Catholic education only for the wealthy? Let me respond with a resounding "No!" Catholic schools are rooted in the commitment of the People of God to serve all youth. Hopefully no child will be deprived of a Catholic education simply because of costs. While Catholic schools do not offer athletic scholarships, need-based financial assistance is there through the generosity of alums and others who believe in Catholic education. Each school has developed tuition assistance programs that seek to accommodate the real needs of each prospective family.

Explore Catholic education. Talk to a knowledgeable representative and find out about the admissions process. Know that a warm welcome awaits you.

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