

Why a Catholic Education?

It has never been a tougher time to be a parent, which is why there's never been a more critical time to choose a Catholic school.

"Community is at the heart of all Catholic education, not simply as a concept to be taught, but as a reality to be lived . . . Your students will learn to understand and appreciate the value of community as they experience love, trust, and loyalty in your school and educational programs, and as they learn to trust all persons as brothers and sisters created by God and redeemed by Christ."

Pope John Paul II

When parents choose a Catholic School for their children, it sets their children apart as a family so committed to their children's education that they are ready to make extraordinary sacrifices. Parents, by making the sacrifice necessary to send their children to Catholic school, show them education is a high priority. Catholic schools provide a loving, loyal environment where the entire community of parents, teachers, students, and parish is committed to academic and personal success. Here are some key reasons why to consider a catholic education:

Academics

- The national Catholic school graduation rate is 99.1% of high school students. Of these graduates, 84.7% go on to college, compared to 44.1% of public school graduates
- Student achievement in Catholic schools for 4th, 8th and 12th grades was consistently higher than their public school peers as indicated from standardized tests in math, reading, and writing.

Spirituality & Faith formation

- Catholic schools seek to prepare our children in mind and spirit during the most formative and vulnerable time of their lives so that they can live lives full of hope, joy, and peace, no matter what challenges they meet.
- Each day a Catholic school presents opportunities for students to put their values to use--in the classroom, at lunch/recess, and in extra-curricular activities. Values and character are an integral part of a Catholic school education. This prepares students to have the courage to live out gospel values in the workplace and society.
- Students explore their faith through classes and activities in Scripture, Sacraments, Church, and morality.
- Catholic Schools stress the faith centered values of self-discipline and commitment.
- Faculty and staff are role models who share their faith, their talents, and their time.
- Catholic Schools strive to create a strong sense of family/community among the students, the family, the school, and the Church.

- Every child shares in an educational environment filled with love and concern a community joining together to help create a better world. Each student is encouraged to live their faith by giving back to the world and make a positive impact on society.

Personal Attention & Parental Involvement

- Because of smaller overall school size, highly motivated and involved teachers and close parental involvement, each student receives special attention so that their needs are met.
- Catholic schools offer students a safe and supportive environment.
- Catholic school success depends firmly on the partnership of our parents, the first and foremost educators of our children, who provide overwhelming gifts of time, talent and treasure to our schools. Family input and involvement results in higher attendance rates and lower dropout rates.
- Catholic Schools develop the whole person, challenging each student to reach his or her fullest potential.

"Why choose Catholic education?" The answer is clear.

Catholic schools do a better job of educating students.

Sources: <http://www.ncea.org/>

<http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2005/02/02282005a.html>

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/studies/2006459.pdf>

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