


This profile describes the characteristics of a McNicholas graduate through the prism of our Mission Statement:

To inspire young men and women through faith formation and academic excellence to become compassionate leaders and grow toward Full Stature in Christ



Profile of the graduate

We value and celebrate the unique gifts and talents of our students.

By stating the qualities we consider most important, we strive to guide and inspire our students "to live and work that all people may be united with God and with one another." This reflects the teachings of Jesus Christ delivered through St. Paul in Ephesians 4 and the mission of our founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph.



The McNicholas graduate is committed to

- Developing a relationship with God and an understanding of the role of Catholic faith in his or her life
- Pursuing academic excellence, critical thinking, creative problem solving and lifelong learning
- Leading with compassion and serving others by following the example of Jesus Christ
- Growing toward Full Stature in Christ

faith formation



Our Catholic faith inspires and permeates everything we do.

The McNicholas graduate has developed an ability to see the world through a Catholic lens. The McNicholas graduate understands that faith is the gift from God which precedes all others because it initiates, motivates, and animates all other gifts and values.

THE MCNICHOLAS GRADUATE...

- Understands the mission of Fr. Jean-Pierre Médaille and the Sisters of St. Joseph, the founders of McNicholas High School
- Can express his or her faith journey in the light of Catholic teachings
- Has encountered the person of Jesus Christ through study of the Gospels and the New Testament
- Is developing an understanding of the Church's teaching about Jesus Christ and His redeeming mission
- Has learned to interpret the Bible using a contextualist approach guided by the teaching and tradition of the Catholic Church, taking into account the historical, literary, and theological background of biblical texts
- Understands the reality of sin and the good news of God's grace
- Is forming a Christian conscience and reasoning through moral issues with increasing clarity
- Knows Church teachings on moral issues and social justice
- Has developed reverence for the dignity of all humans and the consistent ethic of life— from conception to natural death
- Understands that he or she is responsible for exploring and developing his or her own faith
- Has learned to experience God's presence in private and communal prayer, through liturgy and retreats, and in the grace-filled moments of daily life
- Has learned about and experienced the Church's liturgical life—feasts, seasons and symbols
- Understands the centrality of the Eucharist and the Sacraments for Christian living
- Is learning how to discern and embrace God's will
- Understands how faith affects values, lifestyles and vocations
- Has been introduced to and shows respect for other faith traditions
- Is conscious of the responsibility to love and protect God's creation
- Is learning that athletic teams, arts productions, and other extracurricular collaborations are opportunities to create faith communities

Each McNicholas graduate has cultivated his or her intellectual skills and character in order to distinguish Truth and advance it courageously in service to others.

The McNicholas graduate is prepared to go forth in the world by a rigorous academic program that is customized to his or her gifts, talents, and interests.

academic excellence



THE MCNICHOLAS GRADUATE...

- Is intellectually curious, open-minded and committed to life-long learning
- Is developing critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills
- Is developing precision in oral and written expression across all disciplines
- Is developing the ability to apply knowledge and skills to new situations
- Has developed an organized approach to learning and studying
- Has learned to set goals and self-evaluate based on his or her best work
- Is developing pride and ownership in his or her accomplishments
- Has developed the ability to learn individually and collaboratively
- Demonstrates academic integrity attending to issues such as credibility of sources, values promoted, and respect for others
- Fully understands hard work, practice and determination as the path to sustained excellence
- Has developed self-discipline, team building, fair play, perseverance and resiliency through academic work and extracurricular activities

The McNicholas graduate has mastered fundamental academic skills required for college or other advanced study or vocation.

THE MCNICHOLAS GRADUATE...

- Has learned how to problem solve using mathematical techniques
- Has learned how to collect and analyze scientific data and present analysis in a format that conforms to scientific expectations
- Has learned to build an argument using claims, evidence and reasoning
- Is adept with technology and uses it for learning, problem solving, and communication
- Is able to assess media and content critically
- Has learned how to complete a mindful cycle of preparation, execution, discourse and reinvention in a chosen artistic discipline
- Has learned to evaluate information sources and give proper credit
- Is developing an understanding of history, civil responsibilities and rights, and faithful citizenship regarding local and global issues
- Is able to engage in conversation with a native speaker in the target language with increasing fluency
- Is able to draw connections to the past and anticipate trends for the future
- Has learned to problem solve in academic and life situations
- Can express his or her faith journey in the light of Catholic teachings

Our students take a compassionate leadership role in building a better, more just world.

McNicholas High School's founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph, dedicate themselves to the most perfect love of God "with their feet in the street" to serve their neighbors in all the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, without distinction. We are inspired by their example.

The McNicholas graduate is inspired to live a life in service to others, to work for justice, and to be compassionate leaders in their homes, careers, vocations, and communities.



leading with compassion

THE MCNICHOLAS GRADUATE...

- Is growing in his or her ability to lead with Christ's love, compassion, and humility
- Understands the call to service is central to Christian life
- Loves and embraces others in faithful witness to the example of Jesus
- Is inspired by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ and informed by the tradition and ideals of Catholic Social Teaching
- Makes decisions informed by Gospel values
- Goes beyond study and reflection and is empowered to act courageously and compassionately in service to the Lord
- Has learned that joy, hope, friendship, and confidence are fruits of living in communion with others
- Through participation in athletics and other extracurricular activities has learned how to lead with good moral example and collaborate to achieve a common goal
- Has learned to take an active role in caring for his or her own physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual well-being and happiness
- Has had significant opportunities to perform service that assists neighbors in need and to prayerfully reflect on service experiences through the principles of Catholic Social Teaching
- Recognizes stereotypes and prejudices and has learned to communicate effectively and respectfully across diverse groups of people
- Is beginning to understand the structural roots of injustice in social institutions, attitudes and customs
- Is growing in awareness of the global nature of many social problems
- Is environmentally responsible, practices a sustainable lifestyle, and acts with care for God's creation and stewardship of the earth
- Is beginning to understand the relationship between public policy choices and social outcomes
- Has begun to explore the social justice implications of future careers
- Becomes a part of the lineage of compassionate leaders who support McNicholas with time and treasure throughout their lives

In Chapter 4 of St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, St. Paul encourages Christ's followers "to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the Body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to the extent of the full stature of Christ."

At McNicholas High School, this is our ultimate purpose and foundation—literally carved into our cornerstone—to grow toward Full Stature in Christ.



With humble confidence, the McNicholas graduate:

- Commits to the lifelong task of developing his or her God-given gifts, talents, and interests and offers these to the Lord in service to the Church, community, and world.
- Derives wisdom and strength from faith and unity with Christ's followers, the Body of Christ, to surmount the challenges of the modern world
- Strives to become more Christlike by using gifts and talents to work for justice and do charitable works.



growing
toward Full Stature in Christ

With the humility and gentleness called for by Jesus Christ and our founding Sisters of St. Joseph, the McNicholas graduate is well prepared to venture into the world fortified by faith, equipped with knowledge and academic skill, and inspired to lead with compassion on a grace-filled journey toward Full Stature in Christ.