



October 19, 2023

Subject: 1st Quarter Reflection and Thank You

Dear Esteemed Catholic School Parents and Parental Figures,

As we mark the conclusion of our first quarter/trimester, I am filled with gratitude and joy, reflecting on the growth and achievements of our wonderful Catholic Schools across western North Carolina. The beginning of this academic year was exceptional, welcoming not just our returning families but also hundreds of new families, enhancing our vibrant community of 8000+ committed learners.

To our new parents and families: We trust and hope that you are acclimating well, and I want to take this moment to express how grateful we are to have you. You have brought added joy and richness to our schools, and we thank you for entrusting your children to us.

In the spirit of our mission statement, we remain steadfast in our dedication to nurturing the growth of our students, not just intellectually, but as virtuous disciples of Jesus Christ. Through the combined efforts of school leadership working alongside our families and parishes, we are honored to help guide your children towards greater excellence.

Our vision of providing an immersive, accessible, and authentically Catholic environment is ever-present. The national recognition we received last year as *the Catholic Institution of the Year* in New York City continues to inspire and fuel our drive in our academic, faith, and co-curricular programming.

I'd like to express my immense gratitude to the school leadership, dedicated staff, and my Catholic Schools Office staff for their unwavering dedication. Together, we are energized, equipped, and eager to continue to work with you to guide each student through this academic year. The weeks of working with you this quarter serves as a testament to our shared commitment to your children's growth in faith and academic excellence.

We invite you, our parents, and parental figures, to continue your role as active participants in our schools and parishes as the primary educators of your children. As outlined in our family-school covenant agreement which many of you received, we encourage you to make the most of this partnership, getting involved in school advisory committees, helping reinforce the faith and academic lessons at home, and most importantly, living the faith. Engage in family prayer, attend church together, and foster communication during family meals. This spiritual togetherness not only fortifies the faith of our children but also strengthens our school communities, making them more vibrant and intentional.

As we move forward, we ask for your prayers and continued support. At this time, please also keep the Israelis, Palestinians, our Christian brothers and sisters, and all civilians caught in the cross hairs of the recent terrible violence in your prayers as well. We promise to support and pray for each one of you, entrusting you and your children to the loving care of the Holy Family. Together, let's continue making this school year a powerful testament to our shared commitment to excellence, and the transformative power of Catholic education. May God bless us in our ongoing journey.

In Christ,

Dr. Gregory Monroe  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools