



**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community

## **Catholic Schools Week 2026** **Sunday, January 25 – Saturday, January 31**

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week has been the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week.

The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2026 is “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.” Schools typically observe the annual celebration with a variety of events. Below, you will find our Malden Catholic plans for the week. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

Each day, our morning prayer will focus on a Catholic Schools theme.

- Monday Funday, 26<sup>th</sup>
  - After school trivia in the H.S. cafeteria 2:30 – 3:30; snacks
  - Free Dress Down Day: Wear Crazy Socks Theme for those interested. Invited to bring new socks for our Sock Drive for the Malden Warming Center.
- Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Flapjack Tuesday: XBSS seniors preparing & serving free pancakes in the H.S. cafeteria 7:15 to 8:00am
  - After-School Bible Study Prayer-Group ... in Campus Ministry, 2:30; snacks
- Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup>
  - AM Rosary, 7:30
  - Xaverian Sponsored African Schools Dress Down Day \$5.00 to benefit Cisaniko Primary and Secondary School in Kasenga, Democratic Republic of Congo
  - Pizza and Prayer, 4:00pm in H.S. cafeteria
- Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Liturgical Celebration of Catholic Schools Week: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mass in the Passacantilli Gymnasium; 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Mass in the Doherty Gymnasium
    - MC Alum Father John Wronski, presiding at the HS
- Friday: Faculty/Staff Appreciation breakfast and lunch, courtesy of the Administration.
  - No classes: Faculty/Staff professional development

Additionally:

- Through week, Theology teachers are encouraged to offer some overview of Catholic education in the U.S.
  - NCEA Resource information about U.S. Catholic schools for classroom use or display:

[NCEA1.jpg](#)

[NCEAStaffing-of-Schools\\_SNAP.jpg](#)

[NCEA US-Graduation-Rates\\_SNAP.jpg](#)

[NCEA\\_Location-of-Schools.jpg](#)

- **Catholic Schools Week Essay Contest and Art Contest:** As part of our celebration of Catholic Schools Week (Sunday, January 25 - Saturday, January 31), Campus Ministry is hosting an Essay Contest and an Art Contest open to all students, Grades 7 through 12.
  - **Essay topic: What Catholic Schools Mean to Me.** Length: 350-500 words, typed, double-spaced. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade essay entries should be emailed to [jvona@maldencatholic.org](mailto:jvona@maldencatholic.org), and high school essay entries should be emailed to [tpuccio@maldencatholic.org](mailto:tpuccio@maldencatholic.org), both by 3:00pm Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be Essay Contest cash prizes for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Division and similar prizes for the High School Division: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$50; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$25.
  - **Art Contest:** Using one 8 ½ x 11 or 11 x 14 piece of blank paper, **create a drawing that represents the theme of Catholic Schools Week: *United in Faith and Community***. All drawings should be in color and reflect the theme. All 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade art contest entries should be dropped off with Ms. Vona in Room 5307 by 2:20 on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. All 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade entries should be dropped off to Brother Puccio in Campus Ministry. There will be Art Contest cash prizes for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Division and similar prizes for the High School Division: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$50; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$25.