



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

January 25, 2026

Dear Catholic school parents and guardians,

This week, we join Catholics around the nation in recognizing Catholic Schools Week - January 25 – January 31. This occasion is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the mission of Catholic education, the impact it is making in your child's life, and to renew our collective commitment to this essential ministry.

Catholic education is at the heart of the Church's mission to evangelize. Our schools are centers for evangelization, forming students who are fully alive and present to God working in their life. This personal encounter serves as the foundation for action; in our schools, students are equipped and sent on the mission to serve and transform the world around them, sharing the Gospel with those in their lives now and in their future communities.

You have witnessed the impact of Catholic education in your child's life and in your family. I invite you to reach out to other families to extend a heartfelt invitation to consider a Catholic school. Your enthusiasm serves as a powerful testament to the unique and transformative education available in any one of our 31 Catholic schools.

Thank you for the sacred investment you have made by enrolling your child in a Catholic school - an investment in their future and in the future of the universal Church. I am grateful for your commitment and sacrifice, acts that bear witness to the profound and lasting value of a faith-based education.

Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids