All Saints Catholic School

PARENT/FAMILY HANDBOOK

2026-2027

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"Creating Holy Moments…Making Memories…Forming Saints."

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Table of Contents

Contents

Copyright……2

Chapter 1: Welcome, Mission & Vision……5

Chapter 2: Communication……...14

Chapter 3: Student Formation……22

Chapter 4: Academic Excellence……34

Chapter 5: Faith Formation & Spiritual Life……43

Chapter 6: Student Life……64

Chapter 7: Student Well Being……73

Chapter 8: Dress Code……..80

Chapter 9: Emmaus Commissioning……87

Chapter 10: Covenant……...91

Appendices:……93

All Saints Catholic School

Parent & Family Handbook

2026-2027

“Creating Holy Moments…Making Memories…Forming Saints.”

● Scripture:

“Let the little children come to me.” — Matthew 19:14

Chapter 1

Welcome to All Saints Catholic School

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way?"
Luke 24:32

A Welcome from the Head of School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to All Saints Catholic School.

Whether your family is joining us for the very first time or continuing a tradition that spans generations, we are grateful that you have entrusted us with one of God's greatest gifts—your child.

Catholic education is much more than academic instruction. It is the sacred work of accompanying young people as they discover who they are, whose they are, and who God is calling them to become.

At All Saints Catholic School, we believe education is rooted in relationship. Scholars flourish when families, faculty, parish, and community walk together with a common purpose. Every lesson, every prayer, every athletic event, every service project, every concert, every classroom discussion, and every celebration becomes an opportunity to encounter Christ.

Our faculty and staff strive to accompany every scholar with the same patience, compassion, and hope that Jesus demonstrated on the Road to Emmaus. We recognize that every child is unique, created intentionally by God with individual gifts, talents, and dreams. Our responsibility is not merely to educate minds but to help form saints, servant leaders, and faithful disciples.

This handbook exists to support that shared mission. Within these pages you will find policies, procedures, and expectations designed to foster a safe, respectful, academically excellent, and Christ-centered learning environment.

More importantly, you will discover our commitment to partnership.

Thank you for choosing All Saints Catholic School. We are honored to walk beside your family throughout this journey of faith and learning.

May God abundantly bless your family throughout the coming school year.

Steven Virgadamo
Head of School

Before You Read This Handbook

This handbook is not primarily a book of rules.

It is a guide for the journey ahead.

It is a covenant between school and home.

It is a partnership built on trust, faith, and a shared commitment to your child's growth.

Most of all, it is an invitation.

An invitation to walk alongside us as we nurture not only curious minds, but compassionate hearts; not only successful students, but faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

The pages that follow contain important policies, expectations, and procedures. They exist to create a safe, orderly, and joyful environment where every child can flourish. Yet no handbook can fully capture the spirit of a Catholic school.

The real story of a Catholic education is written each day—in classrooms, on playgrounds, in the chapel, on the stage, on the athletic field, and in countless quiet moments of kindness, perseverance, and prayer.

One day your child will not remember every homework assignment or every spelling test.

They will remember…

…the smell of the gym before the Athletic Contest..

…praying together before a difficult test.

…the excitement of Special Angels Day.

…the laughter of Field Day.

…the quiet reverence of walking into Mass.

…the joy of House competitions.

…the beauty of May Crowning.

…the excitement of basketball games and school performances.

…the teacher who believed in them before they believed in themselves.

…the friendships that became lifelong blessings.

…the moments they discovered their God-given gifts.

And perhaps most importantly...

they will remember your presence.

They will remember that you volunteered, applauded from the audience, attended conferences, celebrated successes, offered encouragement after disappointments, and showed them—through your time—that their education mattered.

Children thrive when school and family walk together.

As parents, guardians, faculty, parish, and staff, we share a sacred responsibility. Together we accompany each child as they grow in wisdom, faith, character, and love. Together we prepare them not only for college and career, but for lives of purpose, service, and joyful discipleship.

Thank you for entrusting us with one of God's greatest gifts—your child.

We are honored to walk this journey with your family.

Our Mission

All Saints Catholic School exists to provide an academically excellent education rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the traditions of the Catholic Church.

Working in partnership with parents, who are the primary educators of their children, we strive to develop scholars who are intellectually curious, spiritually grounded, morally responsible, and committed to lives of service and leadership.

We seek to educate the whole child—mind, body, and spirit—so that every graduate leaves All Saints prepared not only for academic success, but also for faithful citizenship, compassionate service, and lifelong discipleship.

Our Vision

We envision a school community where every scholar is known, valued, challenged, and loved.

Inspired by the Gospel and strengthened through the sacraments, our scholars become confident learners, thoughtful leaders, compassionate neighbors, and joyful witnesses to Christ.

Together with our families, we seek to cultivate a community where faith shapes every decision, excellence becomes a habit, and service becomes a way of life.

Our Catholic Identity

Catholic education is not simply one subject taught during the school day.

It is the lens through which every subject is taught, every relationship is formed, and every decision is made.

Faith is woven into every aspect of life at All Saints Catholic School.

Daily prayer.

Monthly Mass.

Reception of the Sacraments.

Service to others.

Respect for the dignity of every person.

Academic excellence.

Stewardship.

Joy.

These are not separate programs.

They are the culture of our school.

As partners with families, we strive to help each scholar develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ while growing in wisdom, virtue, and love.

Our Story

Every Catholic school has a story.

Ours is a story of faith, sacrifice, vision, and community—a story that continues to be written by every scholar, family, teacher, alumnus, parishioner, and benefactor who walks through our doors.

All Saints Catholic School was established on July 1, 1990, following the merger of three Catholic elementary schools and the closing of Central Catholic High School, as announced by the Most Reverend Edward M. Egan, then Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

When the school opened in September 1990, 515 scholars began the first chapter of what has become one of Fairfield County's premier Catholic schools. Under the leadership of founding Principal Sister Catherine Sheehy, RSM, and the many dedicated leaders who followed, All Saints has continually grown while remaining faithful to its mission.

Over the years, the school expanded its Early Learning Center, introduced the Beyond the Bell program, renovated classrooms, enhanced instructional spaces, strengthened academic offerings, and invested in facilities that support excellence in education.

In 2022, the Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano appointed Steven Virgadamo as Head of School, beginning a new chapter centered on innovation, collaboration, evangelization, and partnership with families.

Today, while our campus has grown and educational practices have evolved, our mission remains unchanged: to form young disciples who know Christ, love learning, serve others, and lead with integrity.

Our Partnership with Parents

Parents are the first and most important educators of their children.

All Saints Catholic School exists to support—not replace—that sacred vocation.

Successful Catholic education depends upon mutual trust, honest communication, shared expectations, and a common commitment to the well-being of every scholar.

We pledge to provide a safe, nurturing, academically rigorous, and faith-filled environment.

In return, we ask families to actively support the mission of the school, communicate respectfully, reinforce expectations at home, participate in the life of the community, and partner with us in forming children of faith and character.

Together we accomplish far more than either home or school could achieve alone.

Our Guiding Principles

Everything we do at All Saints Catholic School is rooted in five enduring commitments:

Faith
Growing in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, worship, and service.

Excellence
Pursuing the highest standards in academics, leadership, and personal growth.

Respect
Recognizing the God-given dignity of every person.

Service
Using our gifts to strengthen our school, Church, and community.

Partnership
Walking together as families, educators, parish, and community in the formation of each child.

"Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever-present Teacher in its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration of its scholars."

Chapter One

Every Journey Begins with a First Step

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way?"
Luke 24:32

The story of the Road to Emmaus reminds us that God often meets us while we are walking.

He did not wait until the disciples had all the answers.

He walked beside them.

He listened.

He taught.

He encouraged.

He revealed Himself little by little.

Catholic education is much the same.

Every scholar who enters the doors of All Saints Catholic School arrives with unique gifts, questions, hopes, fears, talents, and dreams. Every family begins this journey from a different place. Some have been part of Catholic education for generations. Others are experiencing it for the very first time.

No matter where your journey begins, you are welcome here.

Our faculty and staff are not simply teachers. They are companions on the journey. They celebrate successes, encourage perseverance through challenges, and remind scholars each day that they are deeply loved by God.

Likewise, parents are not simply supporters of the school. You are our partners. The conversations around your dinner table, the prayers before bedtime, the encouragement after a difficult day, and the joy you share in your child's accomplishments all become part of the education we provide together.

The pages that follow describe policies and expectations, but they are only tools.

The true mission of All Saints Catholic School is much greater.

It is to help every child discover that Christ walks beside them every day.

May this handbook serve not only as a guide for the school year but as a reminder that we are walking this journey together—with faith, with hope, and always with love.

A Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Walk beside our families as You walked beside the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Help us to recognize Your presence in our classrooms, our homes, our conversations, and our daily work.

Bless our scholars with curiosity.

Bless our teachers with wisdom.

Bless our parents with strength and patience.

And may every step we take together lead us closer to You.

Amen.

Chapter 2

Partnership Through Communication

"Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is useful for building up."
Ephesians 4:29

Communication: A Reflection

Every relationship is built one conversation at a time.

The partnership between home and school is no different.

Words have extraordinary power. They can encourage or discourage, heal or wound, build trust or create distance. In a Catholic school, we strive to ensure that our words reflect the dignity of every person and the love of Christ.

Words build cultures.

When kindness becomes our habit, respect becomes our language, and gratitude becomes our response, our school becomes more than a place of learning—it becomes a community where every scholar is known, valued, and loved.

Families flourish where encouragement is spoken often.

Children flourish when they hear adults speak well of one another, resolve disagreements with charity, and model patience, humility, and forgiveness. They notice how we communicate long before they understand why we do.

Our commitment is to communicate with honesty, transparency, compassion, and respect. We ask the same of every family. Together we create an atmosphere where questions are welcomed, concerns are addressed thoughtfully, successes are celebrated generously, and every interaction reflects our shared mission.

May every email, phone call, conference, and conversation strengthen the partnership between school and home. For when we communicate with charity, we teach our children one of life's greatest lessons—not simply how to speak, but how to love our neighbor.

The policies in this chapter are designed to support open, respectful, and effective communication so that together we may continue building a community rooted in faith, trust, and mutual respect.

Parents as Partners

The Catholic Church recognizes parents as the primary educators of their children.

By choosing All Saints Catholic School, families enter into a partnership with the school to nurture each scholar's intellectual, spiritual, emotional, physical, and moral development.

This partnership flourishes when parents and educators share a common commitment to:

- Respectful communication
- Mutual trust
- Shared responsibility
- Faith-filled collaboration
- Christian witness
- The success and well-being of every scholar

Neither school nor family can accomplish this mission alone. Together, we accompany each child on the journey toward academic excellence and Christian discipleship.

Our Commitment to Families

The faculty and staff of All Saints Catholic School promise to:

- Know every scholar by name.
- Teach with excellence.
- Communicate honestly and respectfully.
- Respond to concerns with professionalism.
- Partner with parents in the best interest of each child.
- Foster a welcoming, Christ-centered school community.
- Pray for our scholars and their families.

Family Commitment

We ask every family to partner with us by:

- Supporting the mission of Catholic education.
- Modeling Christian charity in all interactions.
- Reinforcing school expectations at home.
- Reading school communications regularly.
- Attending conferences and important meetings.
- Encouraging respect for teachers, staff, classmates, and school property.
- Addressing concerns through the appropriate communication channels.
- Participating in the life of the school through service, stewardship, and community events.

Children thrive when they see home and school working together with unity, respect, and love.

Communication Philosophy

Communication at All Saints Catholic School should always be:

- Respectful
- Honest
- Timely
- Professional
- Solution-oriented
- Rooted in Christian charity

Whenever possible, concerns should be addressed directly with the person most closely connected to the situation before involving additional administrators.

We encourage conversations that seek understanding rather than assigning blame.

Chain of Communication

To ensure concerns are addressed promptly and appropriately, families are asked to follow this process.

Step One

Contact the classroom teacher.

Most concerns are best resolved through a face-to-face meeting, phone conference, or scheduled Zoom meeting.

Teachers know their classrooms and scholars best and should always have the first opportunity to address concerns.

Step Two

If the concern remains unresolved, parents should contact the school office to schedule a meeting with the Principal or designated administrator.

Step Three

If additional support is needed, the Head of School may participate in a conference with the family, administration, and appropriate support personnel.

The Head of School serves as the final authority regarding school operations and disciplinary decisions.

Parent Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are an essential part of the educational partnership.

Families are encouraged to attend all scheduled conferences and may request additional meetings whenever concerns arise.

To respect instructional time, conferences should be scheduled in advance whenever possible.

Email Communication

Email is an important communication tool but should be used appropriately.

Teachers check school email at least once each school day and will generally respond within **48 business hours**.

Emails should be:

- Brief
- Respectful
- Limited to questions or information that can be answered electronically

Concerns requiring extensive discussion are best addressed through a scheduled meeting or telephone conference.

Because teachers are actively engaged in instruction throughout the school day, parents should not rely on email for urgent matters or same-day changes.

For emergencies, please contact the school office directly.

Changes in Dismissal

To ensure the safety of every scholar:

- Changes in dismissal should be communicated through a handwritten note sent with the scholar at the beginning of the school day whenever possible.
- Emergency dismissal changes must be made by calling the school office before the designated afternoon deadline, **no later than 1:15pm**.
- Please do not communicate dismissal changes by email, voicemail, or fax.

Scholars will never be dismissed based solely upon a phone call or message received directly by a classroom teacher.

Weekly School Communications

Families receive regular communication through:

- Weekly newsletters
- Sunday Evening and Friday bulletins
- School email
- Parent Portal
- School website and Parent App
- Please download our parent app from the App Store or Google Play: All Saints Norwalk. Enable all notifications. You will find the school calendar and links to all emails in this app.
- Emergency notification system

Parents are expected to review these communications regularly.

Staying informed is an important part of the home-school partnership.

Respectful Communication

Every member of the All Saints community deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Parents, faculty, staff, scholars, volunteers, and visitors are expected to communicate in ways that reflect Christian values.

Disrespectful, abusive, threatening, or harassing language—whether spoken, written, electronic, or posted on social media—is inconsistent with the mission of the school and may result in appropriate action by the administration.

Social Media

Social media has become a powerful form of communication.

Parents and scholars are reminded that comments, photographs, videos, and posts involving the school, faculty, staff, scholars, parish, or other families should always reflect Christian charity and respect.

Content that is defamatory, threatening, harassing, or intentionally harmful may result in disciplinary or administrative action, even when created off campus, if it substantially affects the school community.

Parents are encouraged to monitor their children's online activity and discuss responsible digital citizenship regularly.

Parent Advisory Councils

All Saints Catholic School values parent voice.

The Parent Advisory Council and Parent Advancement Advisory Council provide opportunities for collaboration, consultation, and stewardship.

These councils assist the administration by:

- Strengthening the partnership between families and school.
- Supporting advancement and fundraising initiatives.
- Building community.
- Encouraging parent involvement.
- Promoting Catholic education throughout the broader community.

The Head of School also hosts periodic parent information sessions and listening forums throughout the school year.

Resolving Conflict

Conflict is a natural part of every healthy community.

When handled with humility, patience, and charity, it becomes an opportunity for growth.

Whenever disagreements arise, we ask all members of our community to:

- Assume goodwill and positive intentions.
- Seek understanding before judgment.
- Speak directly to those involved.
- Listen respectfully.
- Pray for wisdom.
- Focus on solutions rather than blame.
- Remember that every conversation should ultimately serve the best interest of the scholar.

Our Shared Promise

Our partnership succeeds when we remember that we are working toward the same goal.

We may not always agree.

We may sometimes see situations differently.

But we share a common mission:

To help every scholar grow in faith, wisdom, character, and love.

Together we accompany our children toward the future God has prepared for them.

"May every conversation strengthen our partnership, every challenge deepen our trust, and every success remind us that we are walking this journey together."

All Saints Catholic School
Walking Together in Faith, Wisdom, and Love

Chapter 3

Student Formation, Conduct, and Christian Character

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16

A Reflection

At All Saints Catholic School, we believe that education is the formation of the whole person.

Academic excellence is important.

Athletic achievement is important.

Artistic gifts are important.

But above all, we seek to form young men and women of integrity, compassion, courage, humility, and faith.

Every interaction is an opportunity to become more like Christ.

Every challenge is an opportunity to grow.

Every mistake is an opportunity to learn.

Discipline, therefore, is not simply about consequences.

It is about conversion.

It is about helping scholars recognize that their choices matter—not only for themselves, but for everyone around them.

Rules do not exist to limit freedom.

They exist to create the kind of community where every child is safe, respected, challenged, and loved.

When scholars learn to respect others, speak kindly, accept responsibility, and make wise decisions, they become leaders capable of changing the world.

That is our goal.

Our Philosophy of Conduct

In accordance with the philosophy of All Saints Catholic School, which emphasizes the God-given dignity and uniqueness of every individual, scholars are expected to demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for the community in every aspect of school life.

Conduct reflects character.

Character reflects faith.

All scholars are expected to cooperate with the spirit and policies of the school, which are designed to foster mature development, personal responsibility, Christian virtue, and respect for others.

This includes:

- Courtesy in speech and behavior
- Honesty and integrity
- Responsibility for one's actions
- Respect for authority
- Care for school property
- Concern for the environment
- Compassion toward others
- Self-discipline

Whenever questions arise regarding appropriate conduct, the Head of School or designated administrator reserves the right to determine whether a particular action is consistent with the mission and expectations of All Saints Catholic School.

Christian Expectations for Every Scholar

Every scholar is expected to:

- Treat every person with dignity and respect.
- Speak kindly and truthfully.
- Demonstrate honesty in all academic work.
- Follow directions promptly.
- Respect teachers, staff, volunteers, visitors, and classmates.
- Care for school property.
- Respect the property of others.

- Maintain orderly classrooms, lockers, desks, and personal belongings.
- Walk safely throughout the building.
- Arrive prepared and ready to learn.
- Represent All Saints Catholic School with pride both on and off campus.

Respect for Others

Respect is one of the defining characteristics of our school community.

Disrespectful language, rude behavior, gossip, exclusion, intimidation, or actions that diminish the dignity of another person have no place in a Catholic school.

Scholars are expected to greet faculty, staff, clergy, volunteers, and visitors courteously and to offer assistance whenever appropriate.

Every member of the All Saints community deserves to be treated with kindness, patience, and Christian charity.

Academic Integrity

Integrity is one of the foundations of Catholic education.

Scholars are expected to complete all assignments honestly and independently unless collaboration has been authorized.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- Cheating
- Copying another scholar's work
- Plagiarism
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Sharing digital assignments without permission
- Copying information from the Internet without proper attribution
- Submitting work generated by Artificial Intelligence unless specifically authorized by the teacher
- Assisting another scholar in dishonest practices

Academic dishonesty compromises both learning and character.

A scholar who engages in academic dishonesty may receive a grade of zero on the assignment or assessment, parents will be notified, and additional disciplinary consequences may be assigned.

Personal Responsibility

Scholars are expected to:

- Keep lockers, desks, and classrooms neat.
- Respect all school equipment.
- Replace or reimburse the school for damaged property caused by negligence or intentional misconduct.
- Respect the personal belongings of others.
- Never enter another scholar's locker, cubby, backpack, or desk without permission.

Prohibited Items

To maintain a safe and focused learning environment, scholars may not possess items that interfere with instruction or endanger the school community.

These include, but are not limited to:

- Weapons of any kind
- Firearms
- Knives
- Razor blades
- Matches or lighters
- Tobacco or nicotine products
- Vapes or electronic smoking devices
- Alcohol
- Illegal drugs
- Drug paraphernalia
- Laser pointers
- Trading cards
- Toys
- Inappropriate books or magazines
- Any item deemed disruptive to the educational environment

The administration reserves the right to determine whether an item is inappropriate.

Confiscated items will be returned only to a parent or guardian when appropriate.

Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation

Every scholar has the right to feel physically, emotionally, spiritually, and psychologically safe.

Bullying, harassment, intimidation, hazing, retaliation, threats, or acts of cruelty are inconsistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and will not be tolerated.

This includes:

- Physical aggression
- Verbal abuse
- Social exclusion
- Rumors
- Humiliation
- Sexual harassment
- Threats
- Retaliation

Any report will be investigated promptly.

Depending upon the circumstances, disciplinary action may include detention, suspension, expulsion, counseling, behavioral intervention, or referral to law enforcement.

Cyberbullying and Digital Conduct

Technology does not change our responsibility to love our neighbor.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to:

- Harassing messages
- Impersonation
- Flaming
- Doxxing
- Sharing embarrassing photographs
- Creating fake accounts
- Posting harmful comments
- Excluding others intentionally
- Cyberstalking

Scholars whose online behavior substantially disrupts the educational environment or negatively impacts members of the school community may be subject to school discipline, regardless of where or when the behavior occurred.

Threats of Violence or Self-Harm

Statements regarding violence toward others or self-harm—whether serious or intended as a joke—are always taken seriously.

Parents will be contacted immediately.

The administration may require a mental health assessment, professional clearance, or other interventions before a scholar returns to school.

Law enforcement or emergency services may also be contacted when appropriate.

Searches

To protect the safety of the school community, All Saints Catholic School reserves the right to inspect or search lockers, desks, backpacks, electronic devices, or other property brought onto campus whenever the administration determines such action is appropriate.

School-issued lockers remain the property of All Saints Catholic School.

Off-Campus Conduct

Enrollment at All Saints Catholic School carries responsibilities beyond the school day.

Behavior occurring off campus—including online activity—that substantially affects the safety, reputation, mission, or educational environment of the school may result in disciplinary action.

This includes social media activity, electronic communication, harassment, vandalism, trespassing, threats, or other conduct inconsistent with the mission of the school.

Discipline

Whenever possible, discipline seeks restoration before punishment.

Consequences are intended to help scholars:

- Learn from mistakes.
- Accept responsibility.
- Repair relationships.
- Restore trust.
- Grow in virtue.

Depending upon the severity or frequency of misconduct, consequences may include:

- Teacher intervention
- Parent communication
- Behavioral reflection
- Loss of privileges
- Restitution
- Detention
- Suspension
- Expulsion

The administration reserves the right to determine appropriate disciplinary measures based upon the circumstances of each individual situation.

The Head of School serves as the final authority in disciplinary matters.

Our Goal

Our goal is not simply to graduate successful students.

Our goal is to graduate faithful disciples.

Young people who know how to lead with integrity.

Serve with humility.

Speak with kindness.

Forgive generously.

Stand for truth.

Love courageously.

And carry the light of Christ wherever they go.

Walking Together

Choosing the Better Path

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
Psalm 119:105

Every day is filled with choices.

Some are small.

Some shape who we become.

The Christian life is not about never making mistakes. It is about learning to recognize God's voice, accepting correction with humility, and choosing to begin again.

That is why discipline exists.

Not to shame.

Not to embarrass.

Not to punish for punishment's sake.

True discipline comes from the same root as the word *disciple*—one who learns.

Every correction is an invitation to grow.

Every apology is an opportunity to heal.

Every act of forgiveness is a reminder that God's mercy is greater than our failures.

As educators and parents, we have the privilege of helping children understand that character is built one decision at a time.

Long after they forget classroom rules, we pray they will remember the virtues those rules were meant to teach:

Honesty.

Respect.

Responsibility.

Courage.

Compassion.

Faith.

When we guide children with consistency, fairness, and love, we remind them that they are never defined by their worst mistake.

They are defined by the God who continually calls them forward.

A Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Teach us to choose what is good, true, and beautiful.

Give our scholars the courage to do what is right even when it is difficult.

Help our parents and educators correct with patience, lead with wisdom, and forgive with mercy.

May every challenge become an opportunity to grow closer to You and more fully become the people You created us to be.

Amen.

Chapter 4

Academic Excellence

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."
Colossians 3:23

A Reflection

Every child enters All Saints Catholic School with unique gifts.

Some discover a love of mathematics.

Some are gifted writers.

Some think like scientists.

Some create beauty through music or art.

Others quietly lead through kindness, perseverance, or service.

Each gift has been entrusted to them by God.

Education is the process of discovering those gifts, developing them with diligence, and using them to serve others.

Academic excellence is not about perfection.

It is about becoming the very best version of ourselves.

At All Saints Catholic School, we encourage scholars to ask thoughtful questions, think critically, persevere through challenges, and embrace a lifelong love of learning.

Mistakes are not failures.

They are opportunities to grow.

Our teachers strive to challenge every scholar while recognizing that each child develops at a unique pace.

When scholars work diligently, seek help when needed, and embrace the joy of learning, they develop habits that will serve them long after they leave our classrooms.

Our goal is not simply to prepare scholars for high school.

Our goal is to prepare them for lives of wisdom, leadership, service, and faithful discipleship.

Philosophy of Learning

All Saints Catholic School follows the curriculum established by the Diocese of Bridgeport while providing a rigorous, faith-centered educational experience that challenges scholars academically, spiritually, socially, and emotionally.

Learning is viewed as a partnership among scholars, parents, and educators.

We believe every scholar has the ability to grow academically when supported by high expectations, excellent instruction, personal responsibility, and a nurturing school environment.

Our curriculum seeks to educate the whole child by fostering:

- Intellectual curiosity
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Responsible citizenship
- Christian leadership

Curriculum

The curriculum at All Saints Catholic School is aligned with the educational standards established by the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Instruction is designed to prepare scholars for continued academic success while integrating Catholic values throughout every subject area.

Programs may include:

- Religion

- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- World Language
- Music
- Art
- Physical Education
- Technology
- STEM experiences
- Library and Research Skills

Curriculum enhancements may be introduced throughout the school year as educational opportunities arise.

Academic Responsibility

Every scholar is expected to:

- Arrive prepared for class.
- Complete assignments on time.
- Participate actively in classroom instruction.
- Bring required materials each day.
- Respect the learning environment.
- Seek assistance when needed.
- Demonstrate honesty in all academic work.
- Take pride in producing quality work.

Parents are encouraged to reinforce these expectations by establishing routines that support organization, study habits, and consistent attendance.

Homework

Homework is intended to reinforce classroom instruction, strengthen study habits, encourage independent learning, and prepare scholars for future academic success.

Homework assignments may include:

- Written work
- Reading

- Projects
- Studying
- Research
- Practice activities

The amount of homework may vary according to grade level and individual student needs.

Parents are encouraged to provide:

- A quiet place to study
- Appropriate supervision
- Consistent routines
- Encouragement toward independence

Homework should reflect the scholar's own work.

Homework is designed to reinforce learning, build responsibility, and develop independent study habits. Students in Grades 1-4 can expect an estimated 30-40 minutes of homework Monday through Thursday, which includes independent reading logs. Because students work at different paces and have varying strengths and capabilities, the time required to complete homework may differ from one child to another. Families are encouraged to communicate with their child's teacher if homework consistently takes significantly more or less time than expected.

Homework During Illness

Scholars who are absent are responsible for completing missed assignments.

Assignments should be obtained through:

- Google Classroom
- Classroom communication
- Classmates
- The classroom teacher upon return

Generally, scholars will be allowed one school day for each day of illness to complete missed work unless otherwise determined by the teacher.

Planned Absences and Vacations

The school calendar provides several extended weekends and vacation periods throughout the year.

Families are encouraged to schedule vacations during these designated breaks whenever possible.

Teachers are not required to prepare assignments in advance for planned vacations, but at the request of administration will do so.

Assignments, quizzes, projects, and assessments missed during vacations may be required upon the scholar's return according to the teacher's expectations.

Parents should not request exceptions to this policy.

Academic Assistance

All Saints Catholic School is committed to helping every scholar succeed.

Support services may include:

- Classroom intervention
- Reading intervention
- Small-group instruction
- Teacher assistance after school
- Peer tutoring
- Guidance support

Families are encouraged to communicate with teachers whenever academic concerns arise.

If outside tutoring is provided, parents should notify the classroom teacher so that appropriate collaboration may occur.

Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an emerging educational resource that must be used responsibly.

Unless specifically authorized by the classroom teacher, scholars may not use AI-generated content to complete assignments.

Assignments submitted using AI without permission constitute academic dishonesty.

The school's AI Usage Policy applies to all scholars.

Appropriate instructional uses of AI may be introduced as technology continues to evolve.

Technology for Learning

Technology is a valuable educational resource when used responsibly.

School-issued devices and approved digital platforms are intended solely for educational purposes.

Technology should always:

- Support learning.
- Promote creativity.
- Encourage responsible digital citizenship.
- Reflect Catholic values.

Additional expectations regarding technology use are outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy.

Chromebooks

Scholars in Grades 6–8 are expected to use Chromebooks configured through their official school accounts.

School-issued accounts must be used exclusively for educational purposes.

Chromebooks may be used during the Beyond the Bell Program only for homework unless otherwise directed by school personnel.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is essential to authentic learning.

Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misuse of Artificial Intelligence, copying digital assignments, or sharing work without permission violates the values of All Saints Catholic School.

Academic dishonesty may result in:

- A grade of zero
- Parent notification
- Loss of academic privileges
- Additional disciplinary consequences

Integrity is measured not by what we accomplish when others are watching, but by the choices we make when no one is watching.

Promotion

Promotion to the next grade is based upon the scholar's overall academic performance, classroom participation, teacher recommendations, emotional readiness, and successful completion of required coursework.

When appropriate, the administration may recommend:

- Summer academic work
- Tutoring
- Academic intervention
- Grade retention

Such recommendations are made only after careful consultation with parents and teachers and are always intended to support the scholar's long-term success.

Report Cards

Report cards provide an important measure of each scholar's academic progress and serve as an essential communication tool between home and school.

Report cards are issued three times during the academic year and are available through the Parent Portal.

Financial obligations to the school must be current before report cards, transcripts, or other official records are released.

Remote Learning

Should circumstances require remote instruction, All Saints Catholic School will utilize approved digital learning platforms such as Google Classroom and Google Meet or other diocesan-approved technologies.

Assignments and participation expectations will be communicated by classroom teachers.

Scholars are expected to maintain the same standards of academic honesty, participation, and respectful conduct during remote learning as they would during in-person instruction.

Our Goal

The purpose of education is not simply to fill minds with information.

It is to form hearts capable of wisdom.

Knowledge teaches us what we can do.

Faith teaches us what we ought to do.

When these two work together, scholars become lifelong learners, faithful disciples, compassionate leaders, and responsible citizens prepared to make a meaningful difference in the world.

Growing in Wisdom

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man."
Luke 2:52

Every child grows in different ways.

Some grow quickly in confidence.

Others slowly discover their gifts.

Some race ahead in one subject while struggling in another.

That is part of God's beautiful design.

Education is not a competition.

It is a pilgrimage.

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus did not overwhelm His disciples with every answer at once.

He taught them patiently.

He asked questions.

He listened.

He revealed truth little by little until their hearts were ready to understand.

Great teachers still do the same.

Parents do the same.

God does the same with each of us.

Academic success is important.

But wisdom is even greater.

Wisdom teaches us to seek truth with humility, to persevere through difficulty, to remain curious, and to use our knowledge in service of others.

As scholars grow in knowledge, may they also grow in kindness.

As they become more confident, may they become more humble.

As they achieve success, may they remember that every gift is given not only for themselves but for the glory of God and the service of their neighbor.

A Prayer

Lord of all wisdom,

Bless our scholars with curious minds and generous hearts.

Help them to persevere when learning is difficult and to remain humble when success comes easily.

Guide our teachers as they inspire, challenge, and encourage each child.

May every lesson deepen not only understanding but also faith, compassion, and gratitude.

Walk beside us as we continue to grow in wisdom, always seeking

Chapter 5

Catholic Identity, Faith Formation, and Spiritual Life

"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly."
John 10:10

A Reflection

Every school teaches children to read.

Every school teaches children to write.

Every school teaches children to solve problems.

A Catholic school does all of these things—but it also teaches children why they matter.

At All Saints Catholic School, we believe every child is created intentionally, lovingly, and uniquely by God.

Every scholar possesses gifts waiting to be discovered.

Every scholar has a purpose waiting to be lived.

Every scholar is called to become a saint.

This understanding changes everything.

It changes how we teach.

It changes how we discipline.

It changes how we celebrate success.

It changes how we respond to failure.

It changes how we see one another.

Because before we are students, teachers, parents, coaches, musicians, artists, scientists, or athletes…

we are beloved sons and daughters of God.

Faith is not one subject among many.

It is the foundation upon which every subject is taught.

Faith is present in our classrooms.

Faith is present in our conversations.

Faith is present in our celebrations.

Faith is present in our service.

Faith is present in our challenges.

Faith is present in our daily lives.

At All Saints Catholic School, we strive to help every scholar develop not only an educated mind, but a faithful heart.

Our greatest success will never be measured solely by grades, awards, championships, or college acceptance letters.

Our greatest success is helping young people recognize Christ's presence in their lives and respond generously to His call.

Faith Is Who We Are

Faith is not something we do at All Saints Catholic School.

Faith is who we are.

Catholic identity is woven into every aspect of school life.

It is reflected in our curriculum.

It is reflected in our relationships.

It is reflected in our service.

It is reflected in our celebrations.

It is reflected in our traditions.

It is reflected in the way we welcome one another.

Every classroom becomes a place where truth is pursued.

Every hallway becomes a place where kindness is practiced.

Every athletic field becomes a place where sportsmanship reflects Christian virtue.

Every performance becomes an opportunity to share the gifts God has given.

Every challenge becomes an invitation to trust Him more deeply.

Catholic education is not simply preparation for high school or college.

It is preparation for life.

It is preparation for heaven.

Our Catholic Mission

The mission of All Saints Catholic School is to proclaim Jesus Christ through excellence in Catholic education.

We seek to form scholars who:

- Know Christ personally.
- Love God and neighbor.
- Pursue academic excellence.
- Live lives of integrity.
- Serve generously.
- Respect the dignity of every person.
- Become faithful leaders within the Church and society.

Everything we do—from morning prayer to graduation—is directed toward this mission.

The Rhythm of Catholic Life

Life at All Saints Catholic School follows a beautiful rhythm.

It is a rhythm that has formed Catholic communities for centuries.

We pray.

We learn.

We worship.

We serve.

We celebrate.

We reflect.

We begin again.

Throughout the school year, scholars experience the changing seasons of the Church:

Advent teaches hope.

Christmas teaches joy.

Lent teaches sacrifice.

Holy Week teaches love.

Easter teaches new life.

Ordinary Time teaches faithful discipleship in everyday moments.

These sacred seasons become opportunities for scholars to grow closer to Christ while understanding that faith is lived every day—not only on Sundays.

The Formation of the Whole Child

Catholic education seeks to educate the whole person.

Our commitment extends beyond academic achievement.

We strive to nurture each scholar intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, socially, morally, and physically.

Formation of the whole child includes:

- Academic excellence
- Moral decision-making
- Christian leadership
- Compassion for others
- Respect for human dignity
- Healthy relationships
- Service to the community
- Responsible citizenship
- Stewardship of God's creation

As scholars mature, they learn that success is measured not only by accomplishments but by the character they develop and the lives they touch.

The Dignity of Every Person

Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God.

This truth forms the foundation of every policy, every expectation, and every relationship at All Saints Catholic School.

Because every person possesses inherent dignity, we strive to create a school where every scholar is:

- Welcomed.
- Respected.
- Encouraged.

- Challenged.
- Forgiven.
- Loved.

Discrimination, harassment, bullying, cruelty, or behavior that diminishes the dignity of another person is inconsistent with our Catholic identity and will not be tolerated.

Every member of our community shares responsibility for building a culture of kindness, inclusion, and Christian charity.

Parents: The First Educators

The Catholic Church teaches that parents are the first and primary educators of their children.

All Saints Catholic School exists to support—not replace—that sacred responsibility.

The partnership between home and school is one of the greatest gifts we can offer our scholars.

Faith is strengthened when children experience consistency between what is taught at school and what is lived at home.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Pray regularly with their children.
- Participate faithfully in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
- Model Christian charity and forgiveness.
- Encourage service to others.
- Discuss faith openly within the family.
- Support the religious life of the school.
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons at home.

Together, school and family become companions on the journey of faith.

Walking with Christ Every Day

The Gospel tells us that Jesus walked beside the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

He listened before He spoke.

He asked questions before giving answers.

He met them where they were.

That is the model we seek to follow.

Our teachers accompany scholars through moments of joy and disappointment.

Our administrators accompany families through times of celebration and challenge.

Our parish accompanies our school through prayer and sacramental life.

Most importantly, Christ accompanies every member of this community.

Our prayer is that every scholar who graduates from All Saints Catholic School leaves knowing not only what they have learned, but whose they are.

They are children of God.

Loved without measure.

Called by name.

Sent into the world to be the light of Christ wherever they go.

Catholic Identity, Faith Formation, and Spiritual Life

Part II – Living Our Faith Each Day

"Remain in me, as I remain in you."
John 15:4

Religion Curriculum

Religion is the heart of Catholic education.

Every scholar at All Saints Catholic School participates in daily religious instruction based upon the curriculum established by the Diocese of Bridgeport. Through Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the rich heritage of our faith, scholars are invited to grow in their knowledge of God and in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Religion classes encourage scholars to:

- Deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith.
- Develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Study Sacred Scripture.
- Understand the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church.
- Apply Gospel values to everyday life.
- Grow in virtue and Christian character.
- Live lives rooted in faith, hope, and love.

Religious instruction is intended not merely to teach about the Catholic faith but to help scholars encounter Christ personally and respond to His invitation to discipleship.

Daily Prayer

Prayer is the foundation of life at All Saints Catholic School.

Each school day begins by placing ourselves in the presence of God.

Scholars participate in prayer throughout the day, including:

- Morning Prayer
- Classroom prayer
- Grace before and after meals
- Prayer before major tests or special events
- Closing prayer at the end of the school day
- Special prayer services throughout the year

Morning Prayer, patriotic observances, and appropriate religious hymns are shared daily through the school's public address system.

Prayer is not viewed as an interruption to learning.

It is the beginning of learning.

By praying together each day, we are reminded that Christ walks beside us in every classroom, every conversation, every challenge, and every success.

Celebration of the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.

The celebration of the Holy Mass is central to the spiritual life of All Saints Catholic School.

The entire school community gathers regularly for Mass, celebrating together as one family of faith.

Participation in school Masses is expected of all scholars.

These celebrations provide opportunities for scholars to:

- Worship together.
- Listen to God's Word.
- Participate in the liturgy.
- Grow in reverence.
- Experience the beauty and traditions of the Catholic Church.

Scholars are expected to demonstrate respectful behavior throughout the liturgy.

Full Dress Uniform—including the required school sweater or vest—is to be worn for all scheduled school Masses unless otherwise directed by the administration.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

God's mercy is one of His greatest gifts.

Throughout the school year, scholars are provided opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in accordance with diocesan guidelines and age-appropriate preparation.

The Sacrament reminds us that:

- God never stops loving us.
- Mistakes do not define us.
- Forgiveness restores relationships.
- Every day is an opportunity to begin again.

We encourage families to make regular participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation part of their own spiritual lives as well.

The School Chapel

The chapel is the spiritual heart of our campus.

It is a sacred place where scholars, faculty, staff, and visitors may spend quiet time in prayer and reflection.

Throughout the school year, classes may visit the chapel for:

- Silent prayer
- Guided reflection
- Class devotions
- Eucharistic Adoration, when scheduled
- Prayer intentions
- Moments of thanksgiving

Scholars are expected to enter and leave the chapel respectfully, recognizing that it is a sacred place set aside for prayer and worship.

Living the Liturgical Year

The rhythm of the Church guides the rhythm of our school.

Throughout the year, scholars celebrate and learn from the seasons of the Catholic Church.

Special observances may include:

- Advent prayer services and activities
- Christmas celebrations
- Catholic Schools Week
- Ash Wednesday
- Stations of the Cross
- Lenten service opportunities
- Holy Week reflections
- Easter celebrations
- May Crowning
- Marian devotions
- Feast days of the saints
- Vocations awareness
- Thanksgiving prayer services

These celebrations help scholars recognize that God's presence is woven into every season of life.

Christian Service

Faith naturally leads to service.

Jesus taught that greatness is found not in being served but in serving others.

Throughout the school year, scholars are encouraged to practice Christian service within the school, parish, and broader community.

Service opportunities help scholars develop:

- Compassion
- Empathy
- Gratitude
- Generosity
- Leadership
- Stewardship

Acts of service remind us that every gift we have received is intended to bless others.

Community Service Requirements

Service is an important component of Catholic education.

Scholars in **Grades 7 and 8** are required to complete community service hours each year as part of their Religion curriculum.

Service opportunities may include parish ministry, community outreach, charitable organizations, and other approved experiences that reflect the Gospel call to serve others.

Specific service expectations and documentation procedures will be communicated by the Religion Department.

Stewardship

Everything we have is a gift from God.

We are called to be faithful stewards of our:

- Time
- Talents
- Treasure
- Environment
- Relationships

Stewardship is practiced each day by:

- Caring for school property.
- Respecting classrooms and campus.
- Using resources responsibly.
- Serving one another generously.
- Sharing our gifts for the benefit of the community.

Scholars learn that stewardship is not measured by how much we possess but by how faithfully we use what God has entrusted to us.

Virtue Formation

At All Saints Catholic School, success is measured not only by academic achievement but by the virtues we develop.

Faculty intentionally encourage scholars to grow in virtues such as:

- Faith
- Hope
- Charity
- Prudence
- Justice
- Fortitude
- Temperance
- Honesty
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Compassion
- Gratitude

- Perseverance

Virtue formation takes place through classroom instruction, prayer, service, athletics, extracurricular activities, and the daily example of faculty, staff, and families.

Christian Leadership

Leadership in a Catholic school begins with service.

Whether serving on the House Council, participating in athletics, assisting classmates, or representing the school at community events, scholars are encouraged to lead with humility and integrity.

Christian leaders:

- Serve before they are served.
- Listen before they speak.
- Encourage others.
- Accept responsibility.
- Seek justice.
- Show mercy.
- Build unity.
- Lead by example.

Leadership is not defined by position.

It is defined by character.

Participation in the Spiritual Life of the School

Every scholar enrolled at All Saints Catholic School is expected to participate respectfully in the religious life of the school.

This includes:

- Religion classes
- Daily prayer
- School Masses

- Prayer services
- Liturgical celebrations
- Retreats and faith formation activities
- Community service opportunities appropriate to grade level

Families who choose Catholic education recognize that these experiences are essential elements of the school's mission and educational program.

Our Prayer for Every Graduate

More than anything else, we hope our graduates leave All Saints Catholic School knowing that they are deeply loved by God.

We pray they become young men and women who:

Seek truth.

Love generously.

Forgive freely.

Serve joyfully.

Lead courageously.

Stand firmly in their faith.

And carry the light of Christ into every classroom, workplace, parish, family, and community they will one day serve.

Catholic Identity, Faith Formation, and Spiritual Life

Part III – Sent to Be the Light

"You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others."
Matthew 5:14-16

Catholic Social Teaching

Faith is not meant to remain inside the walls of a church or a classroom.

It is lived in the way we treat others.

Catholic Social Teaching reminds us that every person possesses God-given dignity and that we are called to build a more just, compassionate, and peaceful world.

Throughout their years at All Saints Catholic School, scholars are introduced to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, including:

- The dignity of every human person.
- Care for the poor and vulnerable.
- Respect for life from conception to natural death.
- Stewardship of God's creation.
- The importance of family and community.
- Solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the world.
- Responsible citizenship.
- The dignity of work and service.

These principles are woven throughout classroom instruction, service opportunities, school activities, and everyday life.

Faith in Action

Our Catholic identity is measured not only by what we believe but by how we live.

Faith becomes visible when scholars:

- Welcome a new classmate.
- Include someone sitting alone.
- Tell the truth even when it is difficult.
- Offer forgiveness.
- Pray for someone in need.
- Share generously.
- Care for creation.
- Show gratitude.
- Encourage others.
- Choose kindness over popularity.

These daily moments often become the greatest lessons in Catholic education.

The Gospel is lived one decision at a time.

Building a Community of Belonging

Every person who enters All Saints Catholic School should experience the love of Christ.

We strive to create a community where every scholar knows they belong.

This means:

- Every scholar is known by name.
- Every family is welcomed.
- Every teacher serves with joy.
- Every success is celebrated.
- Every struggle is met with compassion.
- Every person is treated with dignity.

A Catholic school is more than a collection of classrooms.

It is a family of faith.

Together we laugh.

Together we learn.

Together we pray.

Together we celebrate.

Together we carry one another through life's challenges.

That is what makes Catholic education unique.

The Saints as Our Companions

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

The saints remind us that holiness is possible in every generation.

Throughout the year, scholars are encouraged to learn from the lives of the saints whose courage, humility, generosity, and unwavering faith continue to inspire the Church today.

Their examples remind us that holiness is not reserved for extraordinary people.

It is found in ordinary people who say "yes" to God every day.

Faith Beyond Graduation

Graduation is not the end of a Catholic education.

It is the beginning of a lifelong journey of discipleship.

Our prayer is that every graduate leaves All Saints Catholic School with:

A mind that seeks truth.

A heart that chooses kindness.

A conscience formed by the Gospel.

A love for the Eucharist.

A habit of daily prayer.

A commitment to serve others.

A desire to continue learning.

A willingness to stand for what is right.

A confidence rooted not only in academic preparation, but in God's enduring love.

Long after scholars leave our classrooms, we hope they will continue to live the values they learned here—in their homes, their parishes, their professions, and their communities.

Our Hope for Every Graduate

Every lesson we teach, every prayer we offer, every Mass we celebrate, every act of service we encourage, and every policy contained within this handbook is ultimately directed toward one goal: the formation of an All Saints Catholic School graduate.

While academic excellence is an essential part of our mission, we believe success is measured by much more than grades, awards, or acceptance into outstanding high schools.

Our prayer is that every graduate leaves All Saints Catholic School as a young person who is:

Faith-Filled
A disciple of Jesus Christ who knows they are deeply loved by God, participates in the sacramental life of the Church, prays regularly, seeks truth through the Gospel, and strives to live a life rooted in faith, hope, and love.

Academically Prepared
An intellectually curious learner who thinks critically, communicates effectively, embraces challenges with confidence, and possesses the skills necessary to flourish in high school, college, and beyond.

A Person of Integrity
Someone who is honest, trustworthy, accountable, and committed to doing what is right—even when no one is watching.

A Compassionate Servant
A young person who recognizes the dignity of every human person, demonstrates empathy, serves generously, and understands that true leadership begins with humility.

A Respectful Community Member
One who values every person as a child of God, resolves conflict with charity, contributes positively to every community they join, and seeks to build unity wherever they go.

A Joyful Leader
Someone who confidently uses their God-given gifts to encourage others, inspire hope, and lead through service, kindness, and Christian example.

A Responsible Steward
A graduate who recognizes that time, talent, relationships, resources, and God's creation are gifts to be used wisely and generously for the benefit of others.

A Lifelong Learner
Someone who approaches life with curiosity, resilience, gratitude, and a desire to continue growing intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, and morally.

These characteristics define what it means to be an All Saints Catholic School graduate.

When scholars leave the halls of All Saints, we pray they carry with them far more than knowledge.

We hope they leave with faith that remains steadfast throughout every season of life.

With wisdom that guides their decisions.

With courage to stand for what is true.

With compassion for those who are vulnerable.

With humility that recognizes every accomplishment as a gift from God.

With gratitude for the teachers, families, pastors, and friends who walked beside them.

With joyful hearts ready to use their God-given talents in service to the Church and the world.

Most importantly, we hope they leave knowing they are beloved sons and daughters of God, created with purpose, called by name, and sent forth to be the light of Christ wherever life may lead them.

If our graduates become faithful disciples, compassionate leaders, people of integrity, lifelong learners, and joyful witnesses to the Gospel, then we will have fulfilled our mission.

For this is the true measure of an All Saints Catholic School education.

Walking Together

Meeting Christ Every Day

"Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."
Luke 24:29

The disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus immediately.

They were walking beside Him before they realized who He was.

Sometimes our lives are like that.

God is present in ordinary moments.

In the quiet prayer before class.

In the smile of a teacher.

In the encouragement of a friend.

In the forgiveness after a mistake.

In the excitement of learning something new.

In the beauty of a school Mass.

In the silence of the chapel.

In the laughter of recess.

In serving someone who cannot repay us.

Faith is rarely discovered in extraordinary moments alone.

It grows through thousands of ordinary moments lived with extraordinary love.

That is why Catholic education matters.

It teaches us to recognize Christ not only in the sanctuary but also in the classroom.

Not only in prayer but in service.

Not only in success but in struggle.

Not only in great celebrations but in ordinary days.

Every hallway becomes a path to Emmaus.

Every classroom becomes a place where hearts are opened.

Every lesson becomes an opportunity to discover truth.

Every act of kindness becomes a glimpse of Christ.

As parents, teachers, and scholars, we walk together each day trusting that Jesus is walking with us—even when we do not immediately recognize His presence.

Our prayer is that one day, years from now, every graduate of All Saints Catholic School will look back on these years and say:

"Looking back now, I realize Christ was walking beside me all along."

A Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Walk beside our scholars each day as You walked beside the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Open our eyes to recognize You in the ordinary moments of life.

Help us discover You in every lesson, every friendship, every challenge, every act of service, and every celebration.

May our classrooms always be places where faith is nurtured, wisdom is pursued, and love is freely given.

Bless our families, faculty, staff, clergy, alumni, benefactors, and every person who calls All Saints Catholic School home.

As we continue this journey together, keep our hearts centered on You, our minds open to Your truth, and our hands ready to serve.

May we always remember that the purpose of Catholic education is not simply to prepare scholars for the next stage of life, but to prepare them for a lifetime of joyful discipleship.

Remain with us, Lord.

Walk beside us.

Teach us.

Guide us.

And when our years at All Saints have ended, may our hearts still burn with the joy of knowing You.

Amen.

Chapter 6

Student Life

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."
Hebrews 10:24

A Reflection

School is much more than a place where learning happens.

It is where friendships are formed.

It is where confidence begins to grow.

It is where children discover talents they never knew they possessed.

It is where they learn to work together, solve problems, celebrate success, recover from disappointment, and care for one another.

The routines of each day may seem ordinary:

Walking through the front doors.

Greeting teachers.

Morning Prayer.

Working together in class.

Laughing at recess.

Sharing lunch with friends.

Competing on the athletic field.

Applauding classmates during performances.

Quietly entering the chapel.

These ordinary moments become extraordinary because they shape the hearts and minds of our scholars.

Every school day is an opportunity to practice responsibility, kindness, gratitude, perseverance, and joy.

The policies in this chapter are designed to create an environment where every scholar feels safe, welcomed, and prepared to thrive.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential to academic success and personal growth.

Each school day provides valuable opportunities for instruction, collaboration, prayer, and community that cannot be fully replicated through make-up work.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that scholars attend school regularly and arrive on time.

Whenever a scholar is absent, the parent or guardian must notify the school office as soon as possible on the morning of the absence.

Documentation may be required for extended illnesses or repeated absences in accordance with Connecticut law and diocesan policy.

Arrival

Each morning offers a fresh beginning.

Scholars are expected to arrive at school prepared to learn, ready to participate, and committed to making the most of the day.

School begins promptly at **7:50 a.m.**

The building opens at **7:20 a.m.**

Upper School scholars may gather in the St. Martha Dining Hall between **7:20 a.m. and 7:45 a.m.** for breakfast, collaboration, and fellowship before reporting to their respective houses.

Morning Prayer begins promptly at **7:50 a.m.**

Scholars who are not in their homerooms at that time will be considered tardy.

Early Arrival

An early morning drop-off program is available for families who require supervision before the regular arrival time.

Information regarding registration, fees, and hours is available through the school office.

Arrival Procedures

To encourage independence while maintaining safety:

- Parents of Pre-K3, Pre-K4, and Kindergarten scholars should escort their children to the designated entrance each morning.
- Beginning in Grade 1, scholars are expected to enter the building independently unless otherwise directed by school personnel.

These routines help scholars develop confidence while ensuring a safe and orderly arrival for all.

Tardiness

Punctuality is an important life skill.

Frequent tardiness interrupts classroom instruction and may hinder a scholar's academic progress.

Parents are asked to make every effort to ensure scholars arrive on time each day.

Repeated tardiness may result in administrative follow-up.

Dismissal

Student safety is our highest priority.

Dismissal procedures are carefully designed to ensure every scholar is released safely and efficiently.

Changes to a scholar's regular dismissal plan should be communicated in writing whenever possible.

Emergency changes should be directed through the school office.

Teachers should not receive last-minute dismissal changes by email during the instructional day.

Scholars will only be released according to authorized dismissal procedures.

Early Dismissal

Whenever possible, appointments should be scheduled outside school hours.

Parents requesting early dismissal must report to the school office before a scholar will be released.

No scholar will be dismissed directly from a classroom.

Beyond the Bell

The Beyond the Bell Program provides a safe, supervised, and enriching environment for scholars after dismissal.

The program supports working families while extending the caring community that defines All Saints Catholic School.

Program expectations include:

- Respectful behavior
- Completion of homework
- Cooperation with staff
- Safe participation in activities

Parents are expected to pick up scholars promptly at the conclusion of the program.

Repeated late pick-up may result in additional fees, administrative action, or suspension from the program.

Lunch and Recess

Lunch and recess provide opportunities for scholars to build friendships, practice cooperation, and enjoy healthy physical activity.

All scholars are expected to demonstrate the same Christian behavior expected in the classroom.

During recess scholars should:

- Include others.
- Resolve conflicts respectfully.
- Follow directions immediately.
- Care for equipment.
- Report concerns to supervising adults.

Fighting, rough play, exclusion, inappropriate language, or unsafe behavior is inconsistent with the mission of All Saints Catholic School and will not be tolerated.

Birthdays

Birthdays are joyful occasions that may be recognized in age-appropriate ways.

Scholars in Pre-K through Grade 5 may celebrate with a simple classroom treat such as cupcakes or cookies.

To maintain consistency:

- Pizza, beverages, balloons, gifts, and party favors are not permitted.
- Birthday invitations may only be distributed at school when every member of the class is invited.

We appreciate families helping us ensure every scholar feels included.

Lockers, Desks, and Personal Belongings

Scholars are expected to maintain lockers, desks, and classrooms in an orderly manner.

School property should be treated with care.

Personal belongings should remain properly stored throughout the school day.

Items belonging to another scholar should never be removed from lockers, cubbies, desks, or backpacks without permission.

Lost and Found

Articles found on campus should be brought to the designated Lost and Found area.

Items that are clearly labeled with a scholar's name can usually be returned promptly.

Families are encouraged to label all clothing, lunch containers, water bottles, and personal belongings.

Unclaimed items may be donated periodically to charitable organizations.

Water Bottles

Hydration supports learning.

Scholars may bring water bottles to school in accordance with school guidelines.

To protect instructional spaces and school technology:

- Water only may be brought into classrooms.
- Containers should have secure, closable lids.
- Scholars should use water bottles responsibly and in accordance with teacher expectations.
- Water bottles should never interfere with instruction or be used in an unsafe or disruptive manner.

Failure to follow these expectations may result in loss of classroom water bottle privileges.

Field Trips

Field trips extend learning beyond the classroom and enrich the educational experience.

Participation requires:

- Signed parent permission forms.
- Compliance with school behavior expectations.
- Appropriate dress and preparedness.

The administration reserves the right to determine whether participation is appropriate when disciplinary or safety concerns exist.

School Visitors

We warmly welcome visitors to our campus while maintaining a secure learning environment.

All visitors must report to the school office upon arrival, sign in, and wear appropriate visitor identification while on campus.

For the safety of our scholars, classroom visits should be scheduled in advance through the administration.

School Office Hours

The school office is open on school days from **7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.**

Families are encouraged to contact the office whenever assistance is needed regarding attendance, records, tuition, transportation, or general school operations.

Our Goal

The routines of school life may appear ordinary.

Yet they are the moments that shape extraordinary lives.

Each greeting.

Each prayer.

Each classroom discussion.

Each recess game.

Each lunch conversation.

Each act of kindness.

Together they become the memories that scholars carry with them long after graduation.

Our hope is that every scholar experiences each school day as a place where they are known, challenged, encouraged, and loved.

Finding Joy in Community

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."
Matthew 18:20

School days often pass quickly.

One bell follows another.

Assignments are completed.

Games are played.

Lunches are shared.

Friends laugh together.

Years later, these ordinary days become treasured memories.

Children rarely remember every worksheet.

They remember who sat beside them.

Who invited them to play.

Who encouraged them when they struggled.

Who believed in them.

Community is built one ordinary day at a time.

May our classrooms always be places of welcome.

May our hallways echo with kindness.

May our playgrounds be places of inclusion.

May every scholar know they belong.

For when children know they belong, they discover the confidence to become exactly who God created them to be.

A Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for the gift of community.

Bless our classrooms with joy, our hallways with kindness, our playgrounds with laughter, and our friendships with compassion.

Help us to welcome others as You welcome us.

May every scholar, every family, and every member of our school community know they are valued, respected, and loved.

Walk beside us each day as we continue this journey together.

Amen.

Chapter 7

The Well-Being of Every Scholar

Health, Safety, and Student Support

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."
John 10:10

A Reflection

Parents entrust us with something more precious than textbooks, report cards, or school records.

They entrust us with their children.

That trust is sacred.

Every decision we make regarding health, safety, supervision, and student support begins with one question:

"What is in the best interest of the child?"

Creating a safe school is about much more than locked doors and emergency plans.

It is creating a place where scholars feel emotionally secure.

Where they know adults will listen.

Where they are encouraged when they struggle.

Where they are protected when they are vulnerable.

Where they are cared for when they become ill.

Where every family knows they have trusted their child to people who genuinely love them.

Safety is not simply a policy.

It is an expression of our Catholic belief that every human life is a sacred gift from God.

Our Commitment

The safety and well-being of every scholar is the highest operational priority of All Saints Catholic School.

Faculty, staff, administration, volunteers, and visitors share responsibility for maintaining an environment that is:

- Safe
- Healthy
- Welcoming
- Respectful
- Secure
- Christ-centered

Every policy in this chapter exists to support that commitment.

School Nurse

The School Nurse provides care for scholars during the school day while promoting healthy habits and responding to illness or injury.

Parents are encouraged to communicate any medical concerns that may affect their child's participation in school activities.

Medical information is maintained confidentially in accordance with applicable laws.

Physical Examinations and Immunizations

All Saints Catholic School follows the health requirements established by the State of Connecticut and the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Required physical examinations and immunization records must be submitted according to state guidelines before attendance.

Current requirements include physical examinations for:

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten
- Grade 6
- Newly enrolled scholars

Additional health documentation may be required as regulations change.

Illness During the School Day

A scholar who becomes ill during the school day will be evaluated by the School Nurse.

When appropriate, parents or emergency contacts will be notified to arrange prompt pick-up.

Scholars should remain home when experiencing symptoms of contagious illness in accordance with current health guidelines.

Families help protect the entire school community by keeping ill scholars at home until they are well enough to return.

Medications

Whenever possible, medications should be administered at home.

When medication must be given during the school day, Connecticut State authorization forms completed by both the parent and the prescribing healthcare provider are required.

Medication must:

- Be delivered by an adult.
- Remain in its original labeled container.
- Be stored in the Health Office.

No medication may be carried by scholars unless specifically authorized by law and approved by the School Nurse and administration.

All medications must be picked up by the final day of the school year.

Activity Restrictions

Scholars recovering from illness or injury requiring restrictions for physical education, recess, athletics, or other activities must provide written documentation from their healthcare provider.

A written medical release is required before unrestricted participation resumes.

Emergency Information

Parents are responsible for maintaining current:

- Home addresses
- Telephone numbers
- Email addresses
- Emergency contacts
- Medical information
- Authorized pick-up information

Prompt communication of changes helps ensure scholars receive appropriate care during emergencies.

School Safety

All Saints Catholic School maintains comprehensive emergency procedures for situations including:

- Fire
- Severe weather
- Medical emergencies
- Security concerns
- Evacuation
- Shelter-in-place
- Lockdown

Age-appropriate drills are conducted throughout the school year in accordance with state law and diocesan policy.

Visitors

We welcome visitors while maintaining a secure campus.

All visitors must:

- Enter through the St. Peter Welcome Center.
- Sign in.
- Present identification when requested.
- Wear visitor identification.
- Sign out before leaving campus.

Unauthorized access to classrooms or other student areas is prohibited.

Child Protection

All Saints Catholic School fully complies with the Safe Environment policies of the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Faculty, staff, clergy, and volunteers complete required Safe Environment training and background screening before serving scholars.

As mandated reporters under Connecticut law, school personnel are legally obligated to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

The safety of every child remains our highest priority.

Wellness

Healthy scholars learn more effectively.

Families are encouraged to support healthy habits including:

- Adequate sleep
- Nutritious meals
- Daily physical activity
- Limited screen time
- Appropriate hydration
- Emotional well-being

- Healthy friendships

School and family work together to promote lifelong habits that support the whole child.

Inclement Weather

School closings, delayed openings, early dismissals, or emergency schedule changes will generally follow the Norwalk Public Schools schedule unless otherwise announced.

Families will receive notification through the school's emergency communication system, school website, email, and other official communication channels.

Photographs and Media

School photographs and videos celebrate the life of our community.

Photographs taken during school activities may be used in publications, on the school website, or through official social media in accordance with parental permissions maintained by the school.

Our Goal

Our greatest hope is that every family feels peace of mind each morning they entrust their child to All Saints Catholic School.

When scholars know they are safe…

they become confident.

When they feel cared for…

they become courageous.

When they know they are loved…

they become free to learn, to grow, and to flourish.

Caring for One Another

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."
Galatians 6:2

The strongest communities are not those without struggles.

They are the communities that care for one another through them.

Sometimes caring looks like a bandage.

Sometimes it is a comforting conversation.

Sometimes it is a prayer.

Sometimes it is simply sitting beside someone who needs a friend.

Every act of care reminds us that we belong to one another.

Just as Jesus cared for those He encountered along the road, we are called to notice those around us.

The classmate who feels left out.

The friend who is discouraged.

The teacher who needs encouragement.

The family facing a difficult season.

The child who simply needs someone to believe in them.

A Catholic school is at its very best when every member of the community knows this simple truth:

No one walks alone.

A Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Thank You for watching over our school community.

Help us care for one another with compassion, patience, and generosity.

Protect our scholars, our families, and our faculty each day.

May our school always be a place where every child is safe, every family is welcomed, and every person experiences Your loving presence.

Walk beside us and keep us always in Your care.

Amen.

Chapter 8

Dress Code and Professional Appearance

"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience."
Colossians 3:12

A Reflection

Before a scholar speaks a single word, they communicate something through their appearance.

At All Saints Catholic School, our uniform is much more than clothing.

It is a visible reminder that we belong to one another.

When every scholar dresses with consistency, distractions are minimized, individuality is expressed through character rather than fashion, and the focus remains where it belongs—on learning, faith, friendship, and service.

Our uniform reminds us that we are part of something larger than ourselves.

It represents our school.

It reflects our values.

It symbolizes our commitment to excellence.

Most importantly, it reminds us that our greatest beauty is not found in what we wear but in the virtues we live each day.

As Saint Peter reminds us, true beauty comes from "the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit."

The policies in this chapter help maintain an environment of dignity, unity, and school pride while preparing scholars to present themselves with confidence and professionalism throughout life.

Philosophy of the Uniform

The All Saints Catholic School uniform promotes:

- Unity within our school community.
- Respect for self and others.
- School pride.
- Equality among scholars.
- Appropriate preparation for learning.
- A distraction-free educational environment.

Parents are asked to partner with the school by ensuring scholars arrive each day in complete, clean, and properly fitting uniforms.

General Uniform Expectations

The complete school uniform is to be worn to and from school each day unless otherwise announced.

All uniform items should be:

- Clean
- Neatly pressed when appropriate
- Properly fitted
- In good repair
- Clearly labeled with the scholar's name

Oversized clothing, excessively tight clothing, altered uniforms, or styles inconsistent with the school's expectations are not permitted.

The administration reserves the right to determine whether a scholar's appearance complies with the dress code.

Uniform Supplier

The official uniform supplier for All Saints Catholic School is **Tommy Hilfiger School Uniforms**.

Approved uniform items should be purchased through the school's designated supplier or the school uniform store when available.

Uniform samples and sizing assistance are available through the school.

Full Dress Uniform

The Full Dress Uniform is worn on regular school days and whenever designated by the administration.

Complete uniform requirements for each grade level are provided in the appendix of this handbook and include approved shirts, blouses, jumpers, skirts, pants, sweaters, vests, socks, tights, belts, and shoes.

Mass Attire

The celebration of the Eucharist deserves our very best.

On scheduled school Mass days, scholars are expected to wear the Full Dress Uniform.

Required sweaters or sweater vests are considered part of the Mass uniform.

Scholars should present themselves in a manner that reflects the reverence and dignity of the sacred liturgy.

Summer Uniform

The Summer Uniform, i.e. shorts and polo (**not the PE uniform**) may be worn only during the dates established by the school, generally:

- Opening of school through September 30
- April 1 through the final day of school

Specific grade-level uniform requirements are included in the handbook appendix.

Physical Education Uniform

The official PE Uniform is required for scholars in Kindergarten through Grade 8.

Scholars should wear only approved PE attire on designated Physical Education days unless otherwise directed.

Appropriate athletic sneakers must be worn with the PE uniform.

Uniforms should be properly fitted and clearly labeled with the scholar's name.

Scholars who forget their PE uniform should not expect to call home during the school day.

Out-of-Uniform Days

Throughout the school year, the administration may designate special dress-down or out-of-uniform days.

Dress-down attire should always be:

- Neat
- Modest
- Age appropriate
- In good condition
- Consistent with Catholic values

Clothing displaying inappropriate language, graphics, advertisements for alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, or messages inconsistent with the mission of the school is prohibited.

The administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of all attire.

Scout Uniforms

Scholars who participate in Brownies, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, or Scouts BSA may wear their official Scout uniforms on scheduled meeting days as approved by the administration.

Grooming Standards

Personal appearance should reflect cleanliness, modesty, and good judgment.

Hair should be clean, neatly groomed, and maintained in a style appropriate for school.

Extreme hairstyles, shaved designs, Mohawks, unnatural coloring, bleaching, highlights, or other distracting styles are not permitted.

Boys' hair should remain above the shirt collar and out of the eyes.

All scholars are expected to be clean-shaven when facial hair development becomes appropriate.

Jewelry and Accessories

Jewelry should remain simple and appropriate for school.

Girls may wear:

- One pair of post earrings
- One ring
- One bracelet

Necklaces, chokers, oversized jewelry, decorative accessories, and other distracting items should remain at home.

Headbands and bows should be limited to school-approved colors.

Cosmetics

Makeup, including eye makeup, mascara, eyeliner, blush, or similar cosmetics, is not permitted.

Only clear or light pink nail polish may be worn.

Artificial nails, decorative nail art, or excessively long nails are not permitted.

Smart Watches and Wearable Technology

To minimize distractions and protect instructional time, Apple Watches, smart watches, Fitbits, and similar wearable technology are not permitted during the school day unless specifically authorized by the administration for medical purposes.

Uniform Violations

When a scholar arrives out of uniform without prior approval, appropriate corrective action may be taken.

Parents may be contacted to bring appropriate uniform items to school.

Repeated violations may result in loss of participation in future dress-down days or other appropriate consequences.

Whenever legitimate circumstances prevent compliance with the dress code, parents should communicate with the Principal or designated administrator before the start of the school day.

Our Goal

The purpose of a school uniform is not uniformity of personality.

It is unity of purpose.

Our hope is that scholars become known not for the labels they wear but for the virtues they demonstrate.

Kindness.

Respect.

Integrity.

Faith.

Service.

These are the qualities that truly distinguish an All Saints scholar.

Walking Together

Clothed in Virtue

"Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ."
Romans 13:14

Each morning begins with a simple choice.

Putting on a uniform.

It may seem like an ordinary routine.

Yet it reminds us of something extraordinary.

We belong.

Not because we all look the same.

But because we share the same mission.

The uniform reminds us that our greatest identity is not found in fashion, popularity, or appearance.

Our greatest identity is found in being children of God.

Long after uniforms are folded away for the final time, we pray our graduates continue to wear something even more important:

Compassion.

Humility.

Integrity.

Faith.

Courage.

Joy.

These are the garments that never go out of style.

A Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Help us remember that true beauty comes from a heart that loves You.

May our appearance always reflect the dignity You have given us.

Teach us to value character above popularity, kindness above appearance, and humility above recognition.

As we put on our uniforms each morning, help us also clothe ourselves in compassion, patience, generosity, and love.

May everything we do reflect Your presence within us.

Amen

Chapter 9

The Emmaus Commissioning

Walking Together Until We Meet Him

"Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him..."
Luke 24:31

Every journey eventually reaches a new beginning.

As you close this handbook, we hope you recognize that it is far more than a collection of policies and procedures.

It is a promise.

A promise that your family will be known.

A promise that your child will be loved.

A promise that faith and learning will never be separated.

A promise that we will accompany one another through moments of joy and challenge alike.

Throughout these pages, we have spoken often about the Road to Emmaus.

It is one of the most beautiful stories in all of Scripture because it reminds us that Christ walks beside us—even when we do not recognize His presence.

He walks with us on ordinary school mornings.

He walks with us into classrooms.

He walks beside us during examinations, concerts, athletic competitions, science fairs, and service projects.

He walks with us through disappointments and celebrations.

He walks beside parents making difficult decisions.

He walks beside teachers preparing tomorrow's lesson.

He walks beside scholars discovering their gifts.

And He walks beside every family who has entrusted their child to All Saints Catholic School.

There will be days of great success.

There will be days that require perseverance.

There will be moments of laughter.

There will be moments that call for courage.

There will be friendships that last a lifetime.

There will be lessons that extend far beyond the classroom.

In every season, may we remember that Christ never asks us to walk alone.

As educators, we promise to accompany our scholars with wisdom, compassion, excellence, and faith.

As parents, you continue the sacred vocation of being the first and most important teachers of your children.

Together, we form a community where every child is known by name, challenged to grow, encouraged to lead, inspired to serve, and reminded every day that they are a beloved child of God.

Years from now, our graduates may not remember every assignment, every quiz, or every lesson.

But we pray they will remember...

the teacher who believed in them.

the classmate who became a lifelong friend.

the peace of walking into Mass.

the excitement of House competitions.

the joy of May Crowning.

the laughter of Field Day.

the smell of the gym before the Christmas concert.

the applause after their first performance.

the quiet moments in the chapel.

the pride of wearing the All Saints uniform.

the encouragement after a difficult day.

the community that became a family.

Most importantly, we pray they remember that Christ was present in all of it.

One day, when they look back upon their years at All Saints Catholic School, may they be able to say, just as the disciples did on the road to Emmaus:

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way?"

May every graduate leave this school prepared not only for high school, college, and career, but for a life of joyful discipleship.

May they seek truth with courage.

Lead with humility.

Serve with generosity.

Love without condition.

Stand firmly in faith.

And carry the light of Christ into every community they enter.

As one chapter closes, another begins.

The journey continues.

May the road rise to meet you.

May the Holy Spirit guide you.

May Our Blessed Mother protect you.

May all the Saints intercede for you.

And may Christ, who walked with the disciples to Emmaus, continue to walk beside you every step of the way.

Thank you for allowing us to share this sacred journey with your family.

Go forth with hope.

Go forth with courage.

Go forth in faith.

And wherever the road may lead…

may you always recognize Christ walking beside you.

God bless you, and God bless All Saints Catholic School.

Chapter 10

Parent & Student Handbook Covenant

Walking Together in Faith, Wisdom, and Love

Catholic education is most successful when school and family work together in a spirit of trust, mutual respect, and shared responsibility.

This handbook represents our commitment to providing a safe, academically excellent, and faith-filled learning environment where every scholar is encouraged to grow intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, socially, and morally.

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have received, read, and understand the Parent & Student Handbook of All Saints Catholic School. We recognize that the policies contained within this handbook are intended to support the mission of the school and the well-being of every member of our community.

We understand that this handbook serves as a guide to school policies and procedures and that All Saints Catholic School reserves the right to amend or modify these policies when necessary. Families will be notified of significant changes through official school communication.

More importantly, we embrace the partnership described throughout these pages.

Together, we commit ourselves to walking alongside one another in faith, wisdom, and love as we accompany our scholars toward lives of academic excellence, Christian service, and joyful discipleship.

Parent/Guardian

I have read the Parent & Student Handbook and understand the policies, expectations, and responsibilities described herein. I pledge to support the mission of All Saints Catholic School and to partner with the faculty and staff in the education and faith formation of my child.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Scholar (Upper School Grades 6-8 Only)

I understand that being a scholar at All Saints Catholic School is both a privilege and a responsibility.

I will strive to live according to the values of our Catholic faith by treating others with kindness and respect, working to the best of my ability, caring for God's creation, and representing my school with integrity both on and off campus.

Scholar Name: _____

Signature: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____

"Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever-present Teacher in its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration of its scholars."

Family Reference Guide

Appendix A
Uniform Guide

Appendix B
School Hours & Daily Schedule

Appendix C
Attendance Procedures

Appendix D
Health Services

Appendix E
Parent Resources

Appendix F
Required Forms

Appendix G
Field Trip Schedule

Appendix H
Student Pledge

Appendix A

Uniform Guide

Girls Pre – K

- White shirt, navy blue pants, shorts, skort, skirt, or jumper.
- White/navy socks or tights, sneakers.
- No denim.

Boys Pre-K

- White shirt, navy blue pants or shorts, white/navy socks, sneakers.
- No denim



Girls K – 5

- Plaid uniform jumper.
- White uniform blouse (long, ¾, or short sleeve)
- Cardigan sweater or v-neck required
- Black Mary Jane shoes (No patent leather)
- Navy blue knee socks or tights.
- Navy leggings (Oct. 1 – Apr. 1) may be worn with navy knee socks.



Boys K – 5

- Gray All Saints uniform polo shirt (long or short sleeve).
- Navy blue uniform pants with a black belt.
- Navy blue uniform sweater – vest or
- V-neck required
- Black or navy socks
- Shoes: Burgundy or Black penny loafers. (No buckle, no tassel)



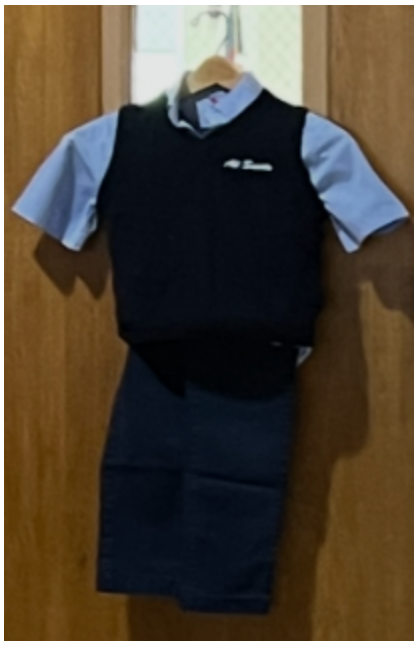
Girls 6 – 8

- Plaid uniform skirt. (Girls need to wear bike shorts under skirt)
- Blue All Saints uniform blouse (long, ¾, or short sleeve).
- Navy blue knee socks or tights.
- Navy leggings (Oct. 1 – Apr. 1) may be worn with navy knee socks
- All Saints navy cardigan, v-neck, or sweater vest required for grades 6-8.
- Grade 8 students may choose to wear their GREEN class sweatshirt. (size to fit – no oversize)
- Shoes: Burgundy or Black penny loafers (No buckle, no tassel)



Boys 6 – 8

- Blue long/short sleeve dress shirt with ASCS logo (Oct 1 – April 30)
- Navy blue uniform pants with a black belt.
- Navy blue uniform V-neck sweater or sweater vest required (must wear for Mass).
- Grade 8 students may choose to wear their class sweatshirt. (size to fit – no oversize)
- Burgundy or Black penny loafers.



OPTIONAL SUMMER UNIFORM K-8

May only be worn August – September 30 and April 1 - last day of school

Girls K – 5
White uniform blouse. Navy blue All Saints walking shorts w/logo (sold online @ Tommy Hilfiger Uniform). Navy socks. Uniform shoes.



Girls 6 – 8

Light Blue ASCS polo shirt. Navy blue All Saints walking shorts w/logo (sold online @ Tommy Hilfiger) or plaid uniform skirts Navy socks. Uniform shoes.



Boys K – 5

Gray ASCS polo shirt. Navy blue All Saints walking shorts w/logo (sold online @ Tommy Hilfiger). Navy or black socks. Uniform shoes.



Boys 6 – 8

Light Blue ASCS polo shirt. Navy blue All Saints walking shorts w/logo (sold online @ Tommy Hilfiger Uniform) or navy uniform pants Navy or black socks. Uniform shoes.



Appendix B

School Hours & Daily Schedule

Before the Bell drop-off is **6:30 a.m.- 7:00 a.m.**

Beyond the Bell hours are **2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

The school office is open on school days from **7:00 a.m.** until **4:00 p.m.**

The building opens at **7:20 a.m.**

Upper School Scholars may gather in the St. Martha Dining Room between **7:20 a.m. and 7:45 a.m.** for breakfast, collaboration, and fellowship before reporting to their respective house.

Morning Prayer begins promptly at **7:50 a.m.**

Daily Schedule - *UPPER SCHOOL*

Upper School - A Day	
A	8:03-8:43
B	8:46-9:26
C	9:29-10:09
D	10:12-10:52
E	10:55-11:44
F	12:32-1:12
G	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29

Upper School - B Day	
B	8:03-8:43
C	8:46-9:26
D	9:29-10:09
E	10:12-10:52
F	10:55-11:44
G	12:32-1:12
A	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29
Upper School - C Day	
C	8:03-8:43
D	8:46-9:26
E	9:29-10:09
F	10:12-10:52
G	10:55-11:44
A	12:32-1:12
B	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29
Upper School - D Day	
D	8:03-8:43
E	8:46-9:26
F	9:29-10:09
G	10:12-10:52
A	10:55-11:44
B	12:32-1:12
C	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29

Upper School - E Day	
E	8:03-8:43
F	8:46-9:26
G	9:29-10:09
A	10:12-10:52
B	10:55-11:44
C	12:32-1:12
D	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29
Upper School - F Day	
F	8:03-8:43
G	8:46-9:26
A	9:29-10:09
B	10:12-10:52
C	10:55-11:44
D	12:32-1:12
E	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29
Upper School - G Day	
G	8:03-8:43
A	8:46-9:26
B	9:29-10:09
C	10:12-10:52
D	10:55-11:44
E	12:32-1:12
F	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	11:49-12:09
RECESS	12:09-12:29

Daily Schedule - *LOWER SCHOOL*

Lower School - A Day	
A	8:03-8:43
B	8:46-9:26
C	9:29-10:09
D	10:12-10:52
E	11:49-12:29
F	12:32-1:12
G	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44
Lower School - B Day	
B	8:03-8:43
C	8:46-9:26
D	9:29-10:09
E	10:12-10:52
F	11:49-12:29
G	12:32-1:12
A	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44

Lower School - C Day	
C	8:03-8:43
D	8:46-9:26
E	9:29-10:09
F	10:12-10:52
G	11:49-12:29
A	12:32-1:12
B	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44
Lower School - D Day	
D	8:03-8:43
E	8:46-9:26
F	9:29-10:09
G	10:12-10:52
A	11:49-12:29
B	12:32-1:12
C	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44

Lower School - E Day	
E	8:03-8:43
F	8:46-9:26
G	9:29-10:09
A	10:12-10:52
B	11:49-12:29
C	12:32-1:12
D	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19

RECESS	11:24-11:44
Lower School - F Day	
F	8:03-8:43
G	8:46-9:26
A	9:29-10:09
B	10:12-10:52
C	11:49-12:29
D	12:32-1:12
E	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44

Lower School - G Day	
G	8:03-8:43
A	8:46-9:26
B	9:29-10:09
C	10:12-10:52
D	11:49-12:29
E	12:32-1:12
F	1:15-1:55
LUNCH	10:55-11:19
RECESS	11:24-11:44

Appendix C

Attendance Procedures

Regular attendance is essential to academic success and personal growth.

Each school day provides valuable opportunities for instruction, collaboration, prayer, and community that cannot be fully replicated through make-up work.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that scholars attend school regularly and arrive on time.

Whenever a scholar is absent, the parent or guardian must notify the school office as soon as possible on the morning of the absence.

Documentation may be required for extended illnesses or repeated absences in accordance with Connecticut law and diocesan policy.

Appendix D

Health Services

The School Nurse provides care for scholars during the school day while promoting healthy habits and responding to illness or injury.

Parents are encouraged to communicate any medical concerns that may affect their child's participation in school activities.

Medical information is maintained confidentially in accordance with applicable laws.

Physical Examinations and Immunizations

All Saints Catholic School follows the health requirements established by the State of Connecticut and the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Required physical examinations and immunization records must be submitted according to state guidelines before attendance.

Current requirements include physical examinations for:

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten

- Grade 6
- Newly enrolled scholars

Additional health documentation may be required as regulations change.

Appendix E

Parent Resources

https://formationreimagined.org/the-institute-for-catholic-formation/

https://thedigitalpantry.org/

https://www.catholicfamilyformation.org/

https://leaders.formed.org/pathways/parents

https://nfcym.org/programs/strong-catholic-families/leader-parent-resources/

https://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/

https://www.catholicmom.com/articles/the-secret-sauce-of-faith-formation-how-to-keep-

kids-catholic

https://sophiateachers.org/promo/a-family-of-faith/

https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/families-and-faith-formation.html

https://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/parent-faith-formation.html

https://www.wordoflifeseries.org/school-parish

Appendix F

Required Form

Parent/Guardian

I have read the Parent & Student Handbook and understand the policies, expectations, and responsibilities described herein. I pledge to support the mission of All Saints Catholic School and to partner with the faculty and staff in the education and faith formation of my child.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Scholar (Upper School Grades 6-8 Only)

I understand that being a scholar at All Saints Catholic School is both a privilege and a responsibility.

I will strive to live according to the values of our Catholic faith by treating others with kindness and respect, working to the best of my ability, caring for God's creation, and representing my school with integrity both on and off campus.

Scholar Name: _____

Signature: _____

Grade: _____ Date: _____

"Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever-present Teacher in its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration of its scholars."

Appendix G

Field Trips

Many field trips can be looked on as valuable teaching tools. These trips should enrich the learning that is taking place in the classroom and should at the same time be related to the school curriculum. There will be no trips to the local movie theater. All field trips need to be approved by the Principal prior to making the arrangements.

Scheduled Annual Field Trips

Pre-K- In-house field trip – TBD

Kindergarten- New Canaan Science Center AND/OR SHU for live show in fall and spring

Grade 1- Stamford Museum and Nature Center AND/OR SHU for live show in fall and spring

Grade 2- Beardsley Zoo

Grade 3- Maritime Aquarium

Grade 4- Discovery Science Center

Grade 5- Rev. Michael McGiveny Center for Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Decorating

Grade 8- Lake Compounce & A special Mass with the Bishop at St. Augustine's

House Field Trips (Grades 5-7)
House field trips rotate among the following locations:

- Madison Square Garden
- National Museum of Mathematics
- Metropolitan Museum of Art (The MET)
- Madame Tussauds
- Yankee Stadium
- Museum of Natural History

In addition, all Houses will go to Club Getaway in September **(Grades 6-8)**. There is also a special field trip for the winning House **(Grades 6-8)**, which will be announced during the House Ceremony towards the end of the school year.

Most school field trips take place during the month of May. The Business Office coordinates field trip logistics and communications. Teachers are responsible for following the procedures below to ensure proper planning, organization, and timely communication.

Appendix H

Student Pledge

I promise to see God in the faces of my classmates as we learn, work and pray together.

I will look for the good in others.

I will celebrate our differences.

I will spread God’s love through kindness.