

## RONCALLI CATHOLIC



**The nationally recognized Benilde Program provides daily academic support for students who are able to cognitively adhere to a college preparatory curriculum but may have educational needs that can make it difficult for them to achieve their full potential on their own.**

### **ABOUT THE BENILDE PROGRAM**

The Benilde Program was developed at St. John's College High School in Washington, D.C. and was named for innovative Lasallian educator, St. Benilde Pierre Romancon (1805-1862). Each day, students attend a direct instructional Benilde period focused on developing and strengthening skills within the context of the curriculum. During this instruction, students are taught strategies to improve higher-level reasoning skills and self management. Students are motivated and engaged in the learning process.

The philosophy of the Benilde Program is that students attend the same classes, participate in the same clubs and extra-curricular activities, and meet the same requirements as their peers. To help them succeed, the Benilde Director will promote academic and self-advocacy skills, which will increase the probability of success in high school and beyond.

### **BENEFITS OF THE BENILDE PROGRAM**

- Self-advocacy
- Study skills
- Test-taking strategies
- Metacognition (learning about learning)
- Regular parent communication
- Self-awareness
- Post high school planning
- Ability to take classes out of sequence
- Daily Benilde class coaching from our Benilde Director
- Regular Progress reports

**The Benilde Program is not a Special Education or Behavioral Program.**

# RONCALLI CATHOLIC BENILDE PROGRAM

## BENILDE CLASS INFORMATION

- Freshmen/Sophomores complete an Accelerated Religion Course in the summer (this lightens their course load in the fall)
- Freshmen/Sophomores attend daily Benilde Class and Benilde Study Hall
- Juniors/Seniors attend daily Benilde Seminar (Guided Study Hall)
- Average class size: 6-10 students

## REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate in the Benilde Program, incoming freshmen students:

- must apply to Roncalli Catholic and the Benilde Program separately
- must have an intellectual educational evaluation (i.e. IEP, 504 plan, Accommodation Plan, or other documentation which includes the student's diagnosis) that can be submitted in its entirety to the Benilde Selection Committee
- must have a sixth grade reading level or higher
- must pass the Accelerated Summer Religion Course
- must have strong attendance

## HOW TO APPLY

The application process for the Benilde Program for the following school year begins in the fall with our Benilde Program Open House.

1. Send an email to [benilde@roncallicatholic.org](mailto:benilde@roncallicatholic.org) requesting an application link and Release of Records form.
2. Complete the online Benilde Program application using the link that will be sent to you via email. Complete the Release of Records form and deliver it to your child's current school office, requesting that the records be sent to our Benilde Director, Emily Klassen, at Roncalli Catholic High School.
3. Once the application has been completed and the student's records have been received by Roncalli Catholic, the Benilde Director will be in contact with you in order to set up an interview with your student.
4. Students will take the High School Entrance Exam after Christmas Break.

Benilde Program letters regarding acceptance are sent out along with the Roncalli Catholic High School letters in late February.

**BENILDE OPEN HOUSE: November 11, 2026 6:00-7:00 PM**  
**contact us: [benilde@roncallicatholic.org](mailto:benilde@roncallicatholic.org)**