



Archdiocese of Newark

Office of the Superintendent of Schools



January 25, 2023

Dear Members of Our Catholic School Communities:

Each year, Catholic schools across the nation take time to celebrate and highlight the many things that make Catholic schools outstanding. Catholic Schools Week 2023 will be celebrated in the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Newark from January 29th through February 4th. Each school has planned special activities to highlight what students are accomplishing and to celebrate the role of Catholic schools in educating tomorrow's citizens and forming future church leaders. The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week celebration is "*Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.*" The theme expresses the core elements of Catholic school education. In Catholic schools, we are all learners, servants, and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed.

The Archdiocese of Newark is home to seventy-three Catholic schools. Fifty are elementary schools and twenty-three are secondary schools. Our schools educate and serve a diverse population of over 22,000 Catholic and non-Catholic students. We are proud of the long and strong history of our Catholic schools and the outstanding work that is accomplished each day by those who lead, teach, and serve in our Catholic schools. Our schools are vibrant communities of faith and learning wherein students grow in knowledge and in their relationship with God. The focus on faith development is what sets Catholic schools apart from other educational options. It is why families make sacrifices to provide their children with a Catholic school education. It is why those who lead, teach, and serve in Catholic schools have chosen to be part of the mission and ministry of Catholic school education. This week we take time to celebrate the tremendous blessing of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Newark and throughout the nation, and to thank those who embrace and support the mission of Catholic schools.

To see the many ways our schools proclaim the good news and put faith, excellence, and service into action, visit our website www.catholicschoolsnj.org and check us out on social media. We think you will find there is indeed much to celebrate in our Catholic schools.

God bless,

Rev. Stephen Fichter, Ph.D.
Episcopal Vicar of Education

Barbara Dolan
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