A Message from Mary P. Boyle

Our Catholic schools are a spiritual and academic anchor for nearly 12,000 students throughout southern New Jersey. Since 1859, churches in the Diocese of Camden have operated schools. Generous, faithful stewards of our parishes and communities have supported the education of children and teenagers in soul, mind and heart.

Over these many years, our graduates have had a tremendous Catholic impact in the fields of business and government, law and medicine, communications and marketing, sports and performance. We are proud of their accomplishments, but particularly proud of the commitment, ethics and Gospel values they bring to our local and world communities.

As we approach Catholic Schools Week, a national celebration of Catholic school education, I thank the dedicated teachers, pastors, administrators and staff whose tireless efforts make a faith-based education possible. I am filled with gratitude for the individuals and organizations who have made a financial commitment to South Jersey Catholic Schools. Their contributions help make Catholic school more affordable for many of our families.

While our doors are always open, Catholic Schools Week offers many special opportunities to get to know our schools. I invite you to discover the excellence of our Catholic schools and the strength they bring to our communities.

Sincerely,

Mary P. Boyle
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

A Message from Bishop Dennis Sullivan

Students who attend Catholic schools have the opportunity to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ every day. From the classroom to the lunchroom, from the science lab to the stage, from sporting events to Mass, our students are in the company of adults and peers whose actions and aspirations are rooted in Gospel values. In our schools, prayer is not only allowed, it is encouraged and taught. Our students study faith from an academic perspective and experience it in the relationships they develop with classmates, faculty, and staff.

Our schools particularly value Jesus’ call to serve. In and out of the classroom, our students discover the great joy that comes with giving, and they learn to be a voice for the poor and marginalized. I have seen small children bring light to seniors by singing a song or presenting a small handmade gift. I hear high school students talk openly about the influence of Jesus in their lives, and I regularly witness the knowledge and integrity Catholic school graduates bring to careers and vocations. Our church and communities are stronger because of our schools.

On behalf of all our schools, thank you to the parents who entrust their children’s education to us and thank you to all who support Catholic education.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan, D.D.
Bishop of Camden

Highlights of the 2016-17 School Year

In 2014, Bishop Dennis Sullivan commissioned a study on the future of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Camden. Study findings and recommendations were presented in a report titled “Forming Minds and Hearts in Grace: A Plan for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Camden.” This report highlights some of the 2016-17 accomplishments that support the plan’s key areas of focus.

Reinforcing Our Catholic Identity

• Catechetical certification is a priority for the diocese. Nearly half of our elementary school teachers — our “front-line” catechists — are already certified. In summer 2017, 38 teachers participated in an intensive, two-week certification course developed by the Diocese of Camden Office of Faith and Family Formation. Other teachers throughout the diocese worked toward certification through diocese-sponsored evening courses and the University of Dayton online program.

• Three pastors attended The Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) School Pastors’ Institute (SPI) at the University of Notre Dame, a leadership forum for pastors with school responsibilities.

• All diocesan high schools now offer Kairos, an intensive three-day (Continued on S2a)
Highlights of the 2016-17 School Year, continued

(Continued from S1A)

spiritual retreat for high school juniors and seniors. Kairos provides peer leadership opportunities for students who have experienced the retreat as participants.

Ensuring Programmatic Excellence
• Nearly 50 teachers collaborated to develop a new English and Language Arts curriculum, the result of a three-year effort. Math and Science curricula were similarly revised within the last 4 years, and the process is currently underway for Social Studies.

• Schools are increasingly intentional with programs that integrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). New labs, outdoor learning centers, interdepartmental curriculum planning, and special projects implemented in 2016-17 are preparing students for a 21st Century workforce, always with the unique perspective our Catholic faith brings to these topics.

• All elementary teachers participated in diocesan professional development on adapting curriculum, instruction and assessment to ensure all students reach their potential. Teachers also pursued professional development arranged by their principals to meet school-based priorities.

Strengthening Governance and Leadership
• Bishop Sullivan appointed a Schools Oversight Committee to serve in a review and advisory capacity. Committee members represent the diocese’s broad geographic reach and bring expertise in management and finance, marketing and development, philanthropy, education and parish leadership. Bound by their commitment to Catholic schools, committee members are:

  - Ms. Lynn Cummings, Merchantville
  - Mrs. Lee DelleMonache, Mantua
  - Mr. Mark D’Onofrio, Millay
  - Dr. Bernadette Janis, Haddonfield
  - Mr. Patrick McGrory, Vineland
  - Mrs. Carole Pantalone, Wildwood Crest
  - Rev. Joseph Pham, Infant Jesus Parish, Woodbury Heights

Representing the Diocese of Camden on this committee are Mary Boyle, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and Laura Montgomery, Director of Financial Services.

• 1600 parents and guardians participated in a satisfaction survey. Each principal received school-specific feedback. Overall, 92% of respondents reported they are satisfied with their school choice.

• The Office of Catholic Schools conducted two days of confidential interviews with faculty and staff at both Camden Catholic and Holy Spirit high schools to assess areas such as Catholic identity, leadership, communication practices, educational effectiveness, and cultural awareness and sensitivity. Overall feedback and recommendations were presented to leadership.

Supporting Enrollment
• The Office of Catholic Schools facilitated a series of sessions for elementary school advancement directors to share successes, challenges, and ideas in areas such as marketing and enrollment, fundraising, annual fund management, and alumni relations.

All elementary school websites were reviewed for content and format. Best practices guidelines were developed and shared with elementary schools. Most advancement staff members were trained to set up and use Google Analytics to evaluate website and social media effectiveness for recruiting and retaining students. Training in this area is ongoing.

• Latino enrollment in 2016-17 was up by 97 students over the prior school year, representing a 7.6% increase. Since the Latino Enrollment Initiative (LEI) began in 2013, Latino enrollment has increased by 19%.

Maintaining Operational Vitality
• Contributions to help with tuition assistance and/or budget offsets at the diocesan level totaled approximately $5.8 million in 2016-17. (See “Filling the Tuition Gap.”) An additional $212,000 was awarded from several honorary or memorial funds established to support diocesan Catholic schools.

• Limited state and Federal funds are allocated on behalf of students who attend non-public schools. Throughout the 2016-17 school year, school parents and supporters wrote letters, made calls and visited key legislators about state funding, particularly in the area of bus transportation.

• The state budget was revised with an increase in the transportation allotment from $884.00 per eligible student — where it had been frozen for the last 10 years — to $1,000.00. Per-pupil allocations were also increased for textbooks, technology, nursing services, and school security.
Filling the Tuition Gap

Tuition alone does not cover the cost of a Catholic school education. To fill the gap, every school budget includes fundraisers, an annual fund campaign, sponsored scholarships, gifts and donations. Schools are also proactive in seeking grants. Contributions at the diocesan level are critical as well and come from:

- **Inter-parochial Catholic School Fund (ICSF):** A parish-funded, pooled resource for elementary schools. Funds are allocated based on recommendations from a committee represented by pastors from each deanery.
- **South Jersey Scholarship Fund for Catholic Education:** A fund established exclusively for need-based tuition scholarships. An annual Christmas concert is currently the main source of funding. Proceeds are allocated pro-rata to diocesan elementary and high schools.
- **Catholic Schools Week Collection:** A diocesan-wide appeal that starts at the beginning of Catholic Schools Week. Funds are allocated among all diocesan schools and may be used for tuition assistance or other school expenses.
- **House of Charity, Bishop’s Annual Appeal:** House of Charity funds may be allocated to schools, depending on need and availability. For the 2016-17 school year, House of Charity made a contribution to the ICSF fund as additional support for elementary schools.

Transitions

In 2017, South Jersey Catholic schools welcomed five new administrators and recognized three retirees. We are grateful for the contributions of our new and retired leaders and thank them for their dedicated service.

**New Administrators**
- Ann Clinton: Vice Principal of Student Services, Camden Catholic High School, Cherry Hill
- Joseph Cray: Principal, Wildwood Catholic High School, Wildwood
- Joan Dollinger: Principal, Assumption Regional Catholic School, Galloway
- Janice Fipp: Principal, St. Joseph Regional School, Somers Point
- Kyle Orosz: Principal, St. Joseph Pro Cathedral School, Camden
- Eileen Wilkinson: Vice Principal of Academic Affairs, Camden Catholic High School, Cherry Hill

**Retirements**
- Carolyn Miller: Administrative Dean, Wildwood Catholic High School, Wildwood
- Fran Montgomery: Principal, St. Joseph Pro Cathedral School, Camden
- Mary Ellen Shurtz: Principal, Assumption Regional School, Galloway. Mary Ellen Shurtz passed away shortly after her retirement. The South Jersey Catholic Schools community mourns her loss.

Enrollment

Catholic schools report enrollment information to the National Catholic Educational Association as of October each school year. Below are the numbers reported for the 2016-17 school year in October 2016.

<table>
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<th>Number of schools</th>
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<th>Number of faculty, administration and staff</th>
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</table>

All South Jersey Catholic Schools are fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools.
IN OUR SCHOOLS

High School Scholars

Merit Commended Scholars, 2017
- Kyle Abo: St. Augustine Preparatory School/Villanova University
- Amanda Atkinson: Camden Catholic High School/Villanova University
- Andrew Bank: Camden Catholic High School/University of Delaware
- Jordon Burhanna: St. Augustine Preparatory School/University of Notre Dame
- Erin Burke: Paul VI High School/University of Pittsburgh
- Thomas Nappi: St. Augustine Preparatory School/Rowan University
- Andrea Palomo: Camden Catholic High School/Villanova University
- Shannon Rosa: Bishop Eustace Preparatory School/Drexel University
- Brendan Ruskey: Bishop Eustace Preparatory School/Rutgers University, New Brunswick
- Zachary Washhart: St. Augustine Preparatory School/Duke University
- Sara Weill: Bishop Eustace Preparatory School/Johns Hopkins University
- United States Military Academy Appointments, 2017
- Antonio Spinossi: Camden Catholic High School/United States Air Force
- Dillon Taylor: St. Augustine Preparatory School/United States Naval Academy

Incoming Seminarians at The College Seminary of the Immaculate Conception at St. Andrew’s Hall, Seton Hall University, 2017
- Thomas Piro, Wildwood Catholic High School
- Nicholas DiNunzio, Saint Augustine Preparatory School

Eighth Grade Awards
In addition to many local scholarships and financial awards from Catholic high schools, eighth grade students with plans to attend Catholic high schools in South Jersey competed for two coveted diocesan-wide awards. 2017 winners were:

David D. Coghlan Award
- First place: Mary Pearson, Gloucester Catholic Junior High School/Gloucester Catholic High School
- Runners Up: Samuel Matro, Saint Joseph Elementary School (Hammond)/St. Joseph High School; Sean Ocelse, Our Lady of Hope Elementary School/Paul VI High School

Diocese of Camden Black Catholic Ministries Award
- Janice Ashong, Saint Mary, Williamstown/ Paul VI High School
- Sydney Prescott, Saint Mary, Williamstown/ Our Lady of Mercy Academy
- Giselle Williams, St. Michael the Archangel/Camden Catholic High School

Serving Others
Following are a few of the ways South Jersey Catholic School students helped others in 2016-17.
- Students from St. Michael the Archangel school sent toys to children in Guatemala.
- Our Lady of Hope school students assembled 100 casseroles for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society of St. Charles parish.
- Students from Our Lady of Mount Carmel spent time with veterans at the Vineland Veterans’ Home.
- Saint Mary’s in Williamstown collected 1,000 expired coupons for military families living overseas. Military families may use coupons for up to six months after expiration.
- Students at Saint John Paul II school created personal hygiene bags for people who seek help at the Cathedral Kitchen in Camden.
- Holy Trinity (now Holy Angels) school adopted needy families at Christmas time. Students delivered gifts in person.
- St. Mary’s in Vineland held a Red, White and Blue liturgy for military, veterans, first responders, police and fireman, and law enforcement personnel.
- Holy Spirit High School helped young people with physical and developmental challenges learn to row.
- Active school participation throughout the dioceese contributed to the 150,000 pounds of food collected during the 2017 FaithFULL Food Drive.

High School Sports Highlights
- Camden Catholic won the West Jersey Football League title. Irish girls were conference champions in lacrosse and softball.
- Gloucester Catholic boys baseball won the New Jersey Non-public Parochial B championship. Boys soccer, girls basketball, boys and girls swimming, and golf teams claimed conference titles.
- Holy Spirit girls were South Jersey Non-public B soccer champions and won the Jim Harvey Sportsmanship Award from Atlantic Cape Cumberland soccer officials.
- Paul VI took conference titles in swimming, girls track and girls basketball.

In Other News
- Sara Guevara, St. Joseph High School, was chosen for the New Jersey Scholars Program.
- Samantha Hiester, Gloucester Catholic High School, and Patrick Bakey, Paul VI High School, were named Scholar Athletes by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.
- Caitlin Mensah, Holy Spirit High School, won a Press of Atlantic City Young Leaders Award.
- Elise Barile, Camden Catholic High School, won a National League of Performing Arts Gold Award for piano.
- Jessica Giordano and Cassidy Ross, Our Lady Star of the Sea school, were accepted into NDIgnite, an online leadership program sponsored by the University of Notre Dame.
- Abby Clapper and Edward Liu, Good Shepherd school, were finalists in the Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey “Fun things to do instead of drugs” poster contest, with over 7,000 entries.
- Julieyanna Scott and Tiana Leyba, Holy Name school, won University of the Arts Saturday scholarships.
- St. Rose of Lima school band earned a Superior rating in the National Catholic Band Association Festival at Villanova University.
- Holy Trinity Regional Catholic School moved and reopened, continuing its mission as Holy Angels Catholic School in Woodbury.
- St. Mary School, Vineland, was recognized by the Healing Education Foundation for outstanding retention at 97%.

SOUTH JERSEY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Diocesan Elementary Schools
Assumption Regional Catholic School, Galloway
Bishop McHugh Regional Catholic School, Cape May Court House
Bishop Chad Regional School, Vineland
Cape Trinity Catholic Regional School, Wildwood
Christ the King Regional School, Haddonfield
Good Shepherd Regional Catholic School, Collingswood
Guardian Angels Regional School, Gibbstown
Holy Name School, Camden
Holy Angels Catholic School, Woodbury
John Paul II Regional School, Stratford
Our Lady of Hope Regional School, Blackwood
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Regional School, Berlin
Our Lady Star of the Sea Regional School, Atlantic City
Resurrection Catholic School, Cherry Hill
Sacred Heart School, Camden
St. Anthony of Padua School, Camden
St. Cecilia School, Pennsauken
St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral School, Camden
St. Joseph Regional Elementary School, Hammonton
St. Joseph Regional School, Somers Point
St. Margaret Regional School, Woodbury Heights
St. Mary School, East Vineland
St. Mary School, Williamstown
St. Michael the Archangel Regional School, Clayton
St. Peter School, Merchantville
St. Rose of Lima School, Haddon Heights
St. Teresa Regional School, Runnemede
St. Vincent de Paul Regional School, Mays Landing

Diocesan High Schools
Holy Spirit High School, Absecon
Camden Catholic High School, Cherry Hill
Gloucester Catholic High School, Gloucester
Paul VI High School, Haddonfield
St. Joseph High School, Hammonton
Wildwood Catholic High School, Wildwood

Private High Schools
Bishop Eustace Preparatory School, Pennsauken
St. Augustine Preparatory School, Richland
Our Lady of Mercy Academy, Newfield

Visit www.southjerseycatholicschools.org for more information and links to all our schools.

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