



Together IN CHRIST

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Schools
2018 - 2019 Annual Report



Together IN CHRIST



MISSION

Schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are committed to educational excellence, student diversity and the fostering of a Catholic culture of faith, service and personal responsibility, all in the name of Jesus.



VISION

Catholic schools transform our local and global communities into centers of faith, hope and charity by providing quality Catholic education to all people.

CONTENTS

Students + <i>Teachers</i>	6
Students + Teachers + <i>Families</i>	12
Students + Teachers + Families + <i>Parishes</i>	18
Students + Teachers + Families + Parishes + <i>Communities</i>	24

As Catholics, we are called to become disciples and share our faith and talents with others, inviting them to grow in faith and become disciples themselves. This mission is carried out every day in southeastern Wisconsin, in what today is the 12th largest system of archdiocesan Catholic schools in the United States.

Across our archdiocese, school administrators, teachers and staff join with families and community supporters to help students grow in mind, body and spirit in safe, supportive environments. I am amazed and grateful for the faith, energy and dedication that go into shaping the future—of our students, our Church, our nation and our world.

Please join me in celebrating and praying for the continuing success of our Catholic schools.



Jerome E. ListECKi

The Most Reverend
Jerome E. ListECKi
Archbishop of Milwaukee



Today more than ever, each aspect of a Catholic school—from daily prayer to formal religious instruction, core academics to extra-curriculars—must work together as we form young men and women to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our holistic approach calls for joyful collaboration among students, parents, teachers, parishioners and community supporters. The resulting synergy sparks each of our schools to grow as a community of faith, a community of learning and a community of care.

I invite you to explore the many levels of our partnerships in this report. And I encourage you to visit a Catholic elementary or high school, whether urban or rural, in a city or suburb. Each of our schools strives to integrate faith and education in Christ, calling forth the same response as to the first Christians: “See how they love one another.”

With gratitude for all who carry the mission forward,



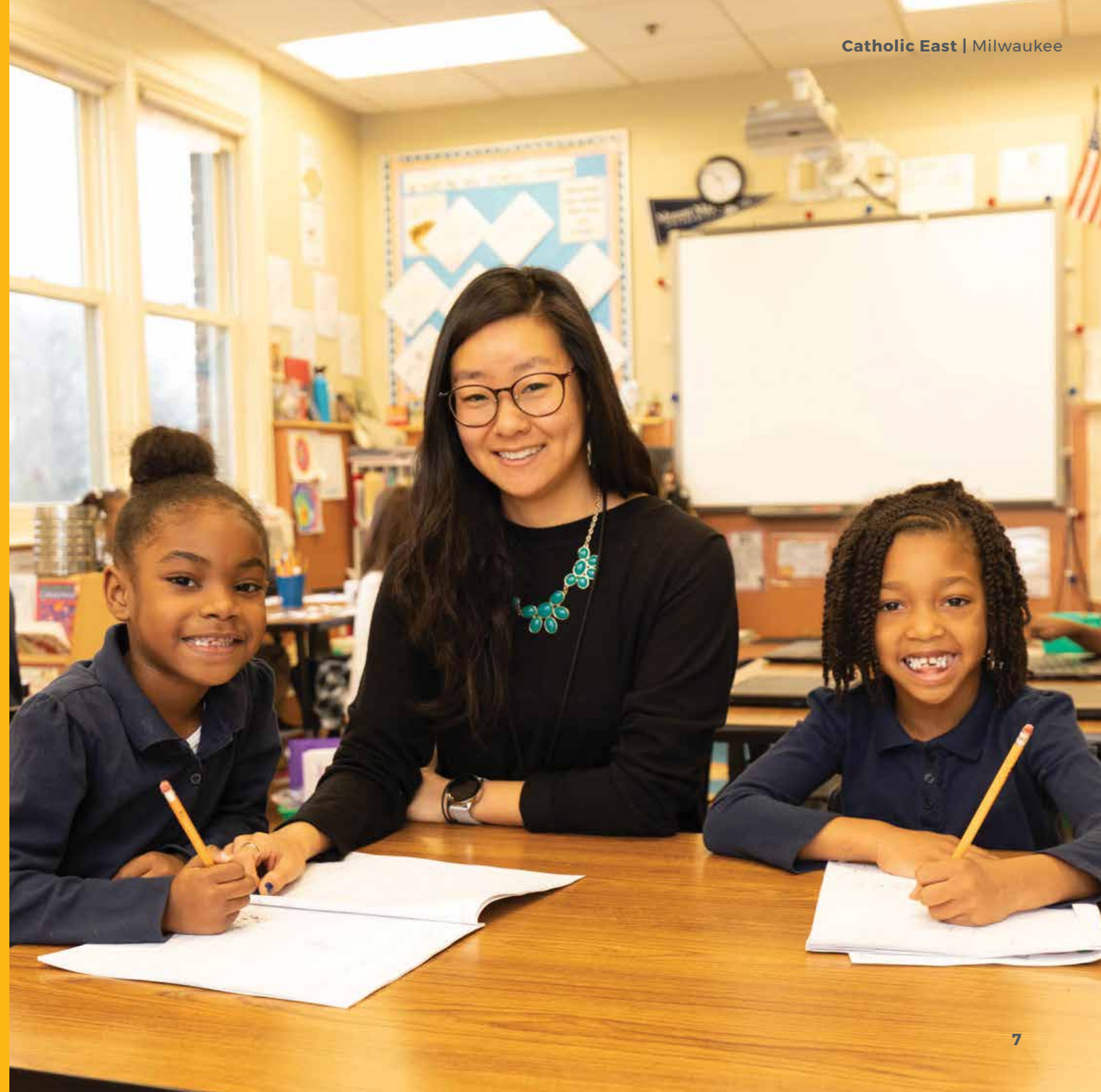
Kathleen A. Cepelka

Kathleen A. Cepelka, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Together IN CHRIST

Students + teachers

Called by name each day,
our students are affirmed and guided
toward learning and virtuous living.



Students + teachers

Our formation of lifelong Catholic identity, as well as lifelong success, begins here: the recognition that students need and deserve educators who take seriously their responsibility to be role models of faith, competence and character. Catholic educators transform their classrooms into safe learning environments and educate the whole child—spiritually, intellectually, socially and morally.

The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Schools give us a framework for excellence and accountability, driving archdiocesan-wide initiatives such as:

- School accreditation, using Wisconsin Catholic Schools Accreditation tools

- Exemplary Recognition Program, honoring schools for outstanding results
- Teacher Effectiveness Framework, supporting ongoing professional development
- School planning, continuously improving Catholic identity, academic excellence, leadership and operational vitality.

From Scriptural messages to science labs, our schools shine with vibrancy, purpose and attention to detail. Students master content and skills in an atmosphere of academic rigor. They are coached and counseled by women and men who come to know and love them like members of their own families, guiding them always toward a deeper relationship with Christ.



100% of Cristo Rey Jesuit High School's inaugural **GRADUATING CLASS** was **ACCEPTED** into two-year colleges or four-year universities. For most students, they are the first generation in their families to attend college.



2000+ archdiocesan teachers, principals and staff participated in **SUSTAINING THE MISSION**, our religious education certification program sponsored by the Saint Clare Center at Cardinal Stritch University.





How do you inspire servant leadership?



Lead by example

JOE MEYER, MUHS biology and environmental science teacher

Biology and environmental science teacher Joe Meyer regularly involves his Marquette University

High School students in hands-on projects like monitoring river water quality. Through the Laudato Si' Project, a nonprofit Joe founded in response to Pope Francis's encyclical, he guides hundreds of students and adults to restore prairies, build hiking trails and butterfly gardens, while enjoying outdoor recreation. Joe leads by enthusiastic example, inspiring others to help make the world a better place.

Open new worlds for students

KAYLA KOPPLIN, Catholic East Elementary art teacher

Catholic East Elementary students can see their art displayed at the Milwaukee school's annual art show, on Instagram, in an online gallery and even at the State Fair, thanks to art teacher Kayla Kopplin. With energetic, individualized instruction, she encourages students to explore new mediums and advance their capabilities.

Her creative approaches deepen students' understanding of the visual arts and the many opportunities to succeed beyond the classroom—in both art and in life.



Together IN CHRIST

Students + teachers
+ families

We welcome, work with and support
parents and families — our students'
first and primary educators.



Students + teachers + families

From kindergarten through high school, our schools are shaped by communion and community, inside and outside the classroom. Encouragement to live the Gospel carries into the home, just as home life carries into the school. Given that bond between home and school, we increasingly look for new ways students and their families can experience the integration of faith with culture—the essence of a Catholic school.

Families choose Catholic schools for the promise of a safe, caring, Christ-centered environment. A 2018 donor-funded study of archdiocesan high schools shows how this promise is fulfilled. Focus groups and online surveys of more than 1,200 alumni and more than 1,100 parents found that Catholic high

school graduates experience a higher rate of academic and professional success than their non-Catholic school peers, and feel better prepared for college and more satisfied with life.

Parents also want to know their children's schools are stable. This year, for example, we worked to further develop Seton Catholic Schools, a collaborative network of urban Catholic elementary schools in Milwaukee. We also served numerous schools by providing educational sessions on board, governance and leadership development. By maintaining a careful, responsible focus on school operations, families can feel confident in their decision to invest in a Catholic education.



Nearly **130 ACADEMICALLY GIFTED** students from **MORE THAN 50 GRADE SCHOOLS** took courses offered by high schools in our archdiocesan family through the **DISCOVERY PROJECT**.



Catholic school parents volunteer **HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS** of service hours to their children's schools to help them be successful.





How do you create a family of faith?



Welcome families across generations

SHANNON FOLEY SABELHAUS, elementary school alum from multiple-generation family

Shannon Foley Sabelhaus was part of the fourth generation of Foleys to attend Saint Jude the Apostle School in Wauwatosa, one of several multi-generational families across the school's 92-year history. She says the school and parish together form a community that "becomes the glue to our faith." Shannon adds, "Being part of the Saint Jude community is one of the best gifts my parents provided for me." And that's why her children are the fifth generation of Foleys to attend Saint Jude the Apostle School.

Promote excellence across disciplines

KOLLIN PETRIE, alum of St. Mary's Springs Academy who has returned to lead campus ministry

A stellar football program helped draw Kollin Petrie to St. Mary's Springs Academy in Fond du Lac as a student. As an adult, he's thrilled to be SMSA director of campus ministry and help draw students to the Lord. Kollin says the school's traditions of academic and athletic excellence extend to all areas of life. "I want to help my students



understand that they're part of a bigger tradition," he says, "and that they can find an even deeper sense of camaraderie in the family of the Catholic Church."

Together IN CHRIST

Students + teachers + families
+ **parishes**

Prayer and the Gospel infuse our schools
as we join with parishes to advance
the teaching mission of the Church.



Students + teachers + families + parishes

Catholic schools are uniquely positioned and profoundly responsible for evangelizing alongside the Church. Our leaders, teachers and staff seek to teach through their actions even more than their words, participating in their own parish communities and urging students and families to do the same.

Relationships with parishes continue to evolve, yet new models in Catholic education are built on a timeless principle: every parish has a Catholic school, be it onsite or elsewhere. Together, schools and parishes can ensure students and families have the physical and financial resources to develop rich, faith-filled communities in 21st-century learning environments.

This year saw the full launch of Siena Catholic Schools in Racine, which brings together the area's five Catholic elementary schools and one high school in a collaboration that preserves school identities while capturing collective strengths. The archdiocese also provided leadership for the consolidation of schools in Burlington, as well as regional collaborative planning for Catholic education on the North Shore.

Parish life is integral to our schools, and Catholic schools are integral to our parishes. Hand in hand, we shape today's learners to become tomorrow's leaders.



28 SCHOOLS RECEIVED \$5,000 OR \$10,000 school grants from the new Catholic schools grant program called **GIFTS – GRANT INITIATIVES FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS**. The program is funded through donations at the annual Archbishop's Catholic Schools Dinner.



7,500+ PEOPLE joined in the 6th annual Soles for Catholic Education Walk to celebrate Catholic education, build community and **RAISE APPROXIMATELY \$250,000** for local Catholic schools.





How do you teach generosity?



Pass a piece of pie

ANN AND TONY MAAS,
teachers at Catholic Memorial
High School

For three decades, Ann and Tony Maas, teachers at Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha, have led students in preparing a Thanksgiving dinner for people who might otherwise have nowhere to go. The dinner now serves over 250 people and is the centerpiece of the school's Crusader Day of Service, where students, faculty and parents give back to the community. Over the years, Ann and Tony have taught hundreds of students to roast turkeys, prepare stuffing, bake pies — and how to make a difference.

Share joy with others

JEFF VAN RIXEL, Principal
at St. Joseph School

Christmas is brighter for children in developing countries thanks to a partnership between St. Joseph Catholic School and Parish in Big Bend and Cross Catholic Outreach. School families collected toys, clothing and school supplies during “Box of Joy” week, then gathered with other volunteers to pack over 175 boxes for children in Central



America. Each box also contained a booklet telling the story of Jesus in the recipient's language, ultimately teaching St. Joe's students how to spread His love and His word to others.

Together IN CHRIST

Students + teachers + families + parishes
+ communities

Our Catholic school communities prepare students to serve and thrive in wider social communities.



Students + teachers + families + parishes + communities

A Catholic worldview permeates our schools, shaping every moment of every day. As we pass along the values and traditions of our faith to the next generation, we prepare our students to make a positive difference within their families and communities, from local to global.

Every school subject and program incorporates Catholic social teachings. Communications and critical-thinking skills prepare students for both higher learning and the Gospel's higher calling. Students proclaim and honor God's word across southeastern Wisconsin through evangelization, outreach and service.

Archdiocesan schools work to keep Catholic education accessible to all who wish to attend. Our participation in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program assists students and families who otherwise would not be able to benefit from Catholic education.

We welcome, as Jesus did, the weak, the stranger, the suffering, the poor—all those who hunger for His presence and His love. When Jesus is infused in our mind, body and spirit, our potential is limitless in the levels of success we can achieve.



OVER 200 PARISH AND SCHOOL LEADERS attended our Planning for the Future of Catholic Schools conference to learn and discuss why collaboration among parishes, schools and communities is essential to ensure the vitality of Catholic education.





All together in Christ

STUDENTS, TEACHERS, FAMILIES, PARISHES

and **COMMUNITIES** are joined in a continuing circle,
with **CHRIST AT THE CENTER.**

HE IS OUR TEACHER for this life and the next.

And in following His precepts, **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**
BECOME MICROCOSMS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

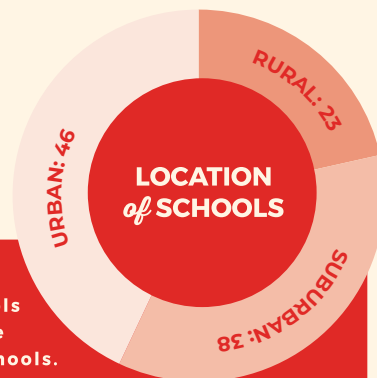
107

**CATHOLIC
SCHOOLS**

*Total Enrollment
OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS*

22,363

Archdiocese of Milwaukee ranked **12th** in total number of students in Catholic schools among all the archdioceses/dioceses in the United States & **9th** in total number of schools.



**TOTAL
ENROLLMENT
of HIGH SCHOOLS**

6,879

Total

**ELEMENTARY &
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

64

Professional Staff

1,967

SCHOOLS
*in the PARENTAL
CHOICE PROGRAM*

176

**YEARS OF
*service***



693

**SECONDARY
SCHOOL
PROFESSIONAL
STAFF**

MISSION

Schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are committed to educational excellence, student diversity and the fostering of a Catholic culture of faith, service and personal responsibility, all in the name of Jesus.

VISION

Catholic schools transform our local and global communities into centers of faith, hope and charity by providing quality Catholic education to all people.



PRAYER FOR OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

This prayer was developed in 2015 as archdiocesan school principals studied the national standards for and defining characteristics of effective Catholic schools. It remains in regular use by parish, school and archdiocesan communities.

Good and gracious God,
we pray that the focus and foundation
of our Catholic schools
will always be the person of Jesus Christ.

May we remember that we are called
to work together,
as part of your universal Church,
to build your kingdom in our midst.

Let each of our Catholic schools,
no matter how large or how small—
whether urban, suburban, or rural—
be recognized by its commitment
to excellence,
its efforts to form the whole child,
its hospitality towards all,
and its intentional development
as a community of faith, collaboration,
trust and love.

Help us to view every aspect of our world
through the lens of the Gospel
and the teachings of our faith,
and let every member of our Catholic
school communities
become a visible example
of what it means
to put faith into action.

Amen.



Archdiocese of Milwaukee
3501 S. Lake Drive
PO Box 070912
Milwaukee, WI 53207
archmil.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT NO. 1645

Many Hands. One Vision.



Catholic Stewardship Appeal

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

*This ministry is funded by the
Catholic Stewardship Appeal.*

