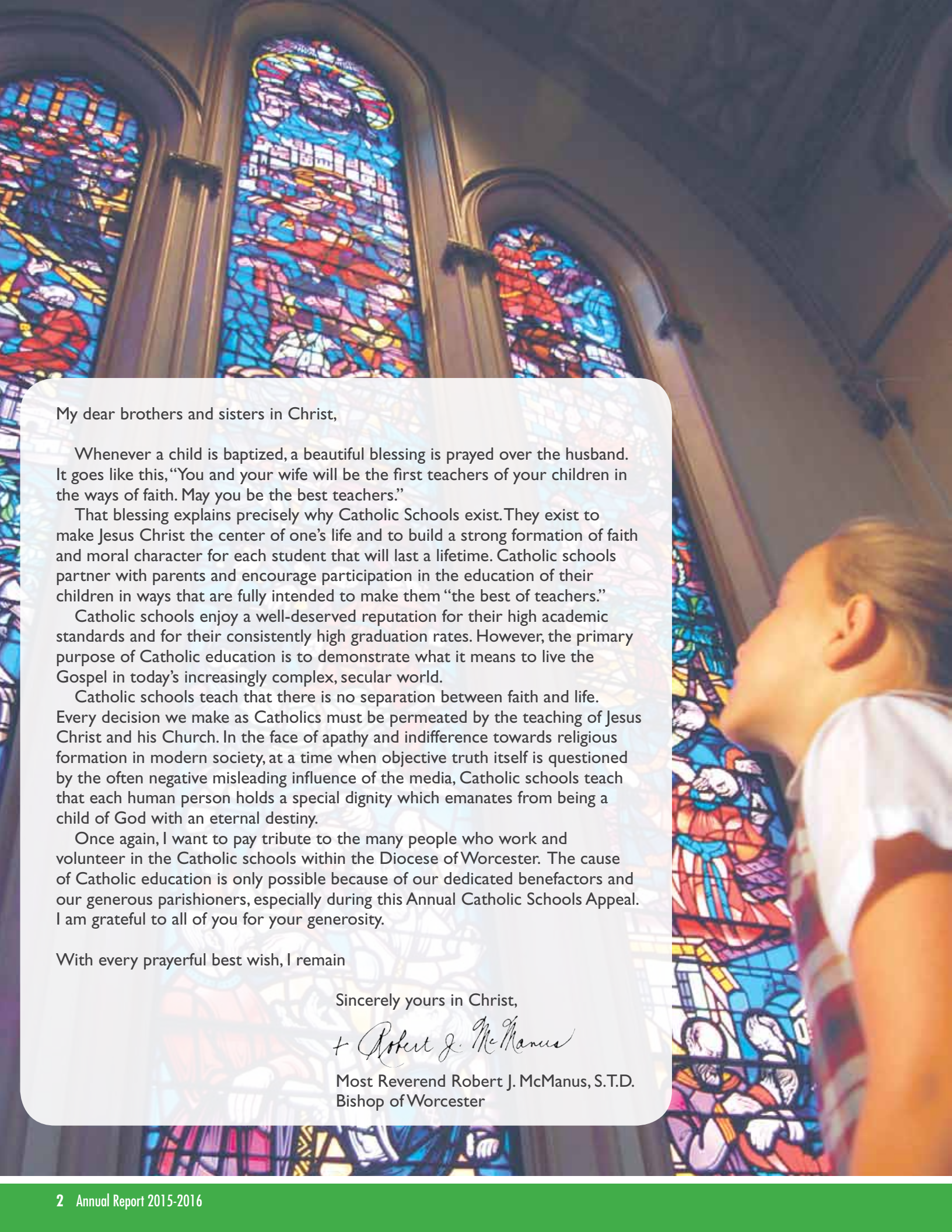




2015-2016 Annual Report

Diocese of Worcester Catholic Schools Office



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Whenever a child is baptized, a beautiful blessing is prayed over the husband. It goes like this, “You and your wife will be the first teachers of your children in the ways of faith. May you be the best teachers.”

That blessing explains precisely why Catholic Schools exist. They exist to make Jesus Christ the center of one’s life and to build a strong formation of faith and moral character for each student that will last a lifetime. Catholic schools partner with parents and encourage participation in the education of their children in ways that are fully intended to make them “the best of teachers.”

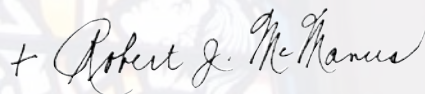
Catholic schools enjoy a well-deserved reputation for their high academic standards and for their consistently high graduation rates. However, the primary purpose of Catholic education is to demonstrate what it means to live the Gospel in today’s increasingly complex, secular world.

Catholic schools teach that there is no separation between faith and life. Every decision we make as Catholics must be permeated by the teaching of Jesus Christ and his Church. In the face of apathy and indifference towards religious formation in modern society, at a time when objective truth itself is questioned by the often negative misleading influence of the media, Catholic schools teach that each human person holds a special dignity which emanates from being a child of God with an eternal destiny.

Once again, I want to pay tribute to the many people who work and volunteer in the Catholic schools within the Diocese of Worcester. The cause of Catholic education is only possible because of our dedicated benefactors and our generous parishioners, especially during this Annual Catholic Schools Appeal. I am grateful to all of you for your generosity.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.
Bishop of Worcester

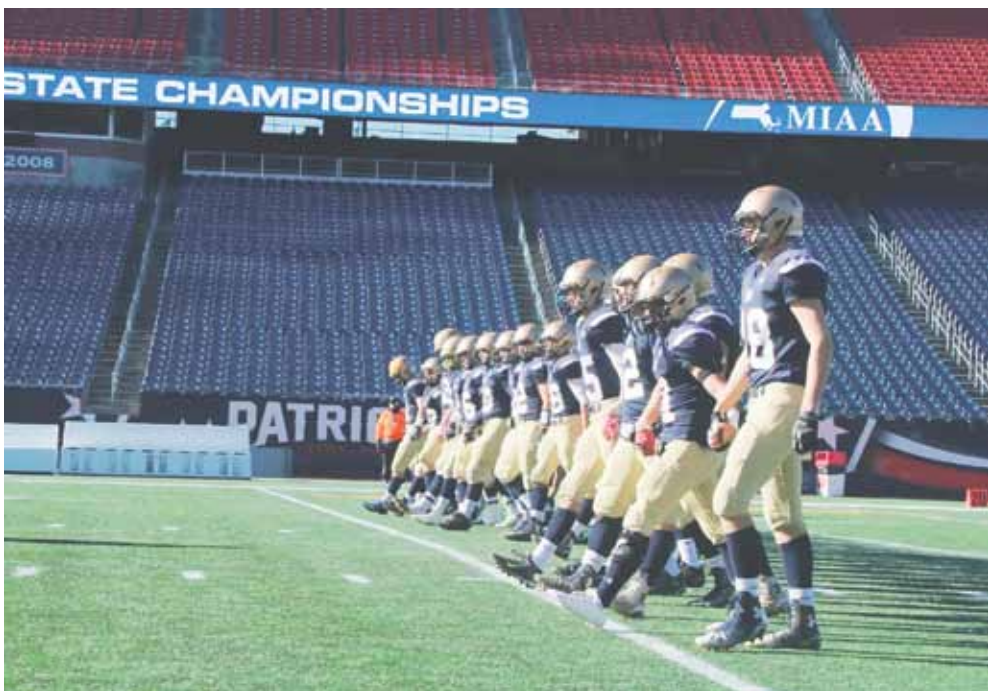
“I will instruct you and show you the way you should walk, give you counsel with my eye upon you.”

-Psalm 32:8



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
benefit from their
close relationship with
pastors who provide
an active sacramental
life for students.

Through **ATHLETICS**, along with improving physical fitness, students learn to develop self-confidence and leadership skills while working in cooperation with others. Each of these skills is important for their future. Catholic schools strive to teach teamwork, dedication to purpose and playing within a set of rules. Moreover, student athletes are expected to serve as role models to other students both on and off the field.



“Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord: cry out to the rock of our salvation.”

-Psalm 95:1



“It is the Lord who goes before you; he will be with you and will never fail you or forsake you. So do not fear or be dismayed.”
- Deuteronomy 31:8



Catholic school students learn that **SERVICE** is more than a humanitarian gesture. It is a way to make faith real by performing works of mercy as a spiritual responsibility to the poor, the sick, and the needy.



It takes the kindness of many to help Catholic schools fulfill their mission by providing a faith-based education. Diocesan-wide, 1,373 students applied for **TUITION ASSISTANCE**. Through Partners in Charity and Forward in Faith the Diocese met 20.3% of the \$3,834,475 identified need. Pastors' and individual schools' fundraising provided additional resources to assist families.



Last year's Annual **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS APPEAL** raised \$104,886.96 via this mailing and in parish collections. You can see from the chart how the designated and general funds were expended. We are most grateful for your aid in providing staff and administrators faith formation, curriculum and professional development training. Forward in Faith Technology Grants totaling an additional \$75,000 were also distributed among the schools.

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (\$777,566.00)

| | Amount |
|--|-----------|
| Partners in Charity | \$350,000 |
| Forward In Faith Endowment | \$427,566 |
| St. Anthony Elementary School - Fitchburg | \$15,380 |
| St. Bernard's Central Catholic HS - Fitchburg | \$46,300 |
| St. Bernard Elementary School - Fitchburg | \$21,590 |
| Holy Family Academy - Gardner | \$11,090 |
| St. Anna Elementary School - Leominster | \$18,990 |
| St. Leo Elementary School - Leominster | \$34,600 |
| Milford Catholic Elementary School - Milford | \$18,350 |
| Assumption Elementary School - Millbury | \$20,800 |
| St. Bernadette Elementary School - Northborough | \$15,900 |
| St. Mary Elementary School - Shrewsbury | \$14,400 |
| Trinity Catholic Academy - Southbridge | \$26,814 |
| Our Lady of the Valley Regional School - Uxbridge | \$9,600 |
| St. Anne Elementary School - Webster | \$11,790 |
| St. Joseph Elementary School - Webster | \$21,320 |
| St. Louis Elementary School - Webster | \$7,790 |
| Holy Name Central Catholic Jr./Sr. HS - Worcester | \$165,612 |
| Our Lady of the Angels Elementary School - Worcester | \$16,900 |
| St. Mary's Elementary School - Worcester | \$8,900 |
| St. Mary's High School - Worcester | \$30,150 |
| St. Peter Central Catholic Elementary School - Worcester | \$63,895 |
| St. Peter-Marian Central Catholic Jr./Sr. HS - Worcester | \$140,295 |
| St. Stephen Elementary School - Worcester | \$30,350 |
| Venerini Academy - Worcester | \$26,750 |

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS APPEAL (\$104,886.96)

| | Amount |
|--|-------------|
| St. Anthony Elementary School - Fitchburg | \$1,448.00 |
| St. Bernard's Central Catholic HS - Fitchburg | \$50.00 |
| St. Bernard Elementary School - Fitchburg | \$2,237.00 |
| Holy Family Academy - Gardner | \$2,075.85 |
| St. Anna Elementary School - Leominster | \$2,334.00 |
| St. Leo Elementary School - Leominster | \$2,596.00 |
| Milford Catholic Elementary School - Milford | \$2,079.50 |
| Assumption Elementary School - Millbury | \$2,718.00 |
| St. Bernadette Elementary School - Northborough | \$4,202.00 |
| St. Mary Elementary School - Shrewsbury | \$3,850.00 |
| Trinity Catholic Academy - Southbridge | \$4,580.00 |
| Our Lady of the Valley Regional School - Uxbridge | \$7,058.00 |
| St. Anne Elementary School - Webster | \$1,022.12 |
| St. Joseph Elementary School - Webster | \$2,903.15 |
| St. Louis Elementary School - Webster | \$1,935.00 |
| Holy Name Central Catholic Jr./Sr. HS - Worcester | \$4,808.00 |
| Our Lady of the Angels Elementary School - Worcester | \$2,411.28 |
| St. Mary's Elementary School - Worcester | \$3,134.50 |
| St. Mary's High School - Worcester | \$3,134.50 |
| St. Peter Central Catholic Elementary School - Worcester | \$4,599.00 |
| St. Peter-Marian Central Catholic Jr./Sr. HS - Worcester | \$300.00 |
| St. Stephen Elementary School - Worcester | \$4,574.00 |
| Venerini Academy - Worcester | \$150.00 |
| OTHER: | |
| Cost of production, public relations, and mailing | \$9,173.00 |
| Staff faith formation, curriculum and professional development | \$31,514.06 |



Dear Benefactors,

Catholic schools are transformative. Since they reach the mind, inspire the spirit, and touch the heart our Catholic schools produce students who are academically well prepared, grounded in the faith, and inspired to be of service to others as a matter of spiritual obligation. These are key factors parents cite that influenced their decision to commit to a Catholic school education for their children.

Parents praise our administrators and high quality teachers for their dedication to each student, and the firm belief that each child can and will succeed in our Catholic schools. A rigorous and well-grounded Catholic liberal arts education offers the intellectual and moral formation students need to make sound moral judgments. Students experience a safe and comfortable spiritual atmosphere grounded in the Gospel knowing that God loves them and that they should return that love by respecting others. Parents know that this sense of respect creates a habit of courtesy which, in turn, builds character. This development of character has much to do with why an increasing number of parents from other faith communities also choose to send their children to Catholic schools. They are invited to partner actively with teachers in the education of their children.

The case for Catholic schools has never been so clear. Yet today, the biggest obstacle confronting parents continues to be the cost of tuition. There exists a great need to assist families who struggle to find the

necessary tuition to keep their children in Catholic schools. The number of students desiring a Catholic education far exceeds our capacity to provide assistance. Currently, there are some 6,700 students enrolled in Catholic schools throughout the Diocese. That number would increase significantly if we could afford to assist more of them.

Here, the question might be asked, "Why me?" The answer, of course, is that there is no one else to ask. Catholic education is the responsibility of the entire community. Our schools and students need your help.

Your gift of whatever size you can afford will make a difference. The return for your investment will come in the knowledge that you have played an important part in the life of some young person. You are aiding in the positive transformation of young people. Your gift helps plant the seeds of vocations, while simultaneously supporting the future leaders of our greater community.

The prayers and past generosity of Catholics and non-Catholics alike has been critical. The need continues. Please consider thoughtfully supporting this year's Annual Catholic Schools Appeal. It is in gratitude for your support and continuing encouragement that I present this Annual Report.

Sincerely,

Delma L. Josephson, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



SAVING WORCESTER COUNTY Taxpayers' dollars

| Town/City | Total Students from Town/City | Cost per student by Town/City | Savings to Town/City from students choosing Catholic schools |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Fitchburg | 406 | \$13,783.33 | \$5,596,031.98 |
| Gardner | 129 | \$12,241.87 | \$1,579,201.23 |
| Leominster | 400 | \$13,305.19 | \$5,322,076.00 |
| Milford | 111 | \$13,339.70 | \$1,480,706.70 |
| Millbury | 100 | \$14,989.37 | \$1,498,937.00 |
| Northborough | 125 | \$14,848.50 | \$1,856,062.50 |
| Shrewsbury | 562 | \$13,147.35 | \$7,388,810.70 |
| Southbridge | 130 | \$13,702.78 | \$1,781,361.40 |
| Uxbridge | 118 | \$12,755.44 | \$1,505,141.92 |
| Webster | 294 | \$13,976.95 | \$4,109,223.30 |
| Worcester | 1797 | \$13,901.25 | \$24,980,546.25 |
| Other | 2485 | \$13,636.62 | \$33,887,000.70 |
| Total Annual Taxpayers' Savings | | | \$90,985,099.68 |

Diocese of Worcester
Catholic Schools Office
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www.worcesterdiocese.org/schools



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