

# National Catholic Schools Week 2021

## What is National Catholic Schools Week?

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2021 is January 31 - February 6.

The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2021 celebration is "**Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.**" Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

## What Are the Week's Daily Themes?

- Sunday: Celebrating Your Parish
- Monday: Celebrating Your Community
- Tuesday: Celebrating Your Students
- Wednesday: Celebrating the Nation
- Thursday: Celebrating Vocations
- Friday: Celebrating our Staff and Volunteers
- Saturday: Celebrating Families



**Good News for the Nation:** Catholic schools offer academic excellence and faith-filled education for students nationwide. National test scores, high school graduation rates, college attendance and other data show that Catholic schools frequently outperform schools in both the public and private sectors. While some Catholic schools are challenged by declining enrollments and school closures, the good news is that there continues to be a strong demand and enthusiasm for Catholic schools. Below are some facts and figures about the ongoing excellence and promise of growth represented in our country's Catholic schools.

- There are over 6,500 Catholic Schools in our country today (17 in our diocese).
- 99% of our students graduate from high school compared to about 85% of public school children.
- Based on the average public school per pupil cost of \$12,756, Catholic schools provide \$22 billion in savings each year for the nation.
- The average classroom in our diocese has about 11 students in for every one teacher.
- Nationwide, over 85% of our graduates go on to attend a 4-year college/university compared to 44% of public high school graduates.
- Almost 100% of students at our schools participate in some kind of service learning opportunity while in school.
- Catholic School graduates are more likely to attend Mass, be married in the church, and have their children baptized than those parishioners who do not graduate from Catholic Schools.

# a dozen reasons to choose Catholic Schools

