

St. Catherine Catholic School (SCCS)

The Mission of St. Catherine Catholic School is to provide a Christ-centered education and a strong Catholic foundation where children can strengthen their relationship with God and prepare for life's challenges and their service to others.

DECEMBER/JANUARY, 2022

The Christmas Season...

The month of December was filled with celebrations of the Advent and Christmas Season. The Pageant for Grades 1 - 8 included special Gospel readings and songs and the Nativity Play. Our Pre-School and Kindergarten had their own Pageant with each class performing Christmas songs and dances. Please visit our You Tube channel to see the videos of the little ones.

Students also celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with many students dressing in traditional attire. The students processed into the Church with Fr. Jose, and students placed flowers at the foot of the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Even Santa made a visit to the Pre-School just before Christmas Break.





Nativity Play



 $1^{\mbox{st}}$ and $2^{\mbox{nd}}$ graders perform at the school Christmas Pageant



Santa visits the Pre-School



Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration



Going, Going...Gone!

St. Catherine recently purchased the building adjacent to the school on Kenilworth Blvd. Because of its close proximity to our campus, the Diocese felt it was a good investment.

The decision was made to tear the building down due to the cost of repairs needed. St. Catherine will begin a Strategic Plan in February where discussions will take place about the future needs of the school.







Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

The tradition of celebrating Catholic Schools is entering its 48th anniversary year. The last weekend in January kicks of the week-long celebration of Catholic education.

The theme this year is *Catholic Schools...Faith, Excellence, and Service.* St. Catherine's has prepared fun events for students and faculty during the week of January 30th – February 4th. We will kick-off CSW with teachers speaking at Masses, sharing their love for Catholic education.

Did you know? Catholic schools are a gift to the Nation: Based on the average public school per pupil cost of \$12,756, Catholic schools provide \$22 billion in savings each year for the Nation.

A recent research paper, byDavid Figlio, discussed the findings of test scores of students on the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship, also known as the Step Up Scholarship, who attended Catholic schools as compared to test scores of students who attended other non-public schools. The findings suggest, "...that FTC Program participants who spend numerous years in Catholic schools tend to move up substanially in the national test score distribution." (pg.6)

Thank you to our teachers and staff who are comitted to excellence at St. Catherine School and Pre-School!



Excellence...

Some more highlights of December:

- Our kindergartners learned to write their first sentences.
- 7th and 8th-graders completed final exams in math, ELA, Science, Social Studies, & Religion.
- Our Christmas Raffle was a huge success THANK YOU. We raised \$28,230!
- Our December Book Fair raised over \$1,000 in "Scholastic Dollars" for our school.



New Year's Resolution: The Pope Francis List (January 23, 2020)

Fr. Jose shared this beautiful article in our Parish Bulletin recently. I encourage you to read the entire list, but as educators, we can teach our young people #9, "Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord", he says, "some of you may not know what you will do with your lives. Ask the Lord, and he will show you the way."

 The Faculty & Staff wish all our families & friends a Happy & Healthy New Year!

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 New Year!