

2024-2025

**ANNUAL REPORT** on  
**CATHOLIC**  
**EDUCATION**

in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis





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# Letter of Welcome

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Dear Friends of Catholic Education,

**F**orming our Future. Educating for Life.

On December 29, 2024, our Archdiocese joined with Pope Francis and Catholics throughout the world in inaugurating a Jubilee Year in which we are all encouraged to grow in our capacity to be “Pilgrims of Hope.”

For us as believers, hope is anchored in the truth that Jesus Christ died and rose for us, and has promised a share in his eternal life to those who live in right relationship with Him. This good news and transformative truth is the foundation on which our excellent Catholic schools and parish catechetical programs are built: They exist to help us grow in relationship with Jesus Christ. It is not surprising that all Catholic education is permeated by Christian hope.

Our Catholic schools, in particular, are called to make Jesus the heart of every aspect of the educational experience: academic programs, fine arts and athletics, service and community. We are profoundly proud of this great gift that Catholic schools throughout our Archdiocese offer to tens of thousands of students and their families each year.

We are blessed that the Church, ever guided by God’s grace, articulates a clear vision for how we are to partner with parents to deliver an excellent Catholic education. The Archdiocesan Office for the Mission of Catholic Education helps our schools drive toward this vision, always with the hope that our students will thrive in a life with Christ. In that context, the Catholic School Study is one of the most significant ways in which the Office can assist a school in its important work.

This past fall, representatives from The Catholic University of America and Lumen Accreditation visited the Archdiocese to officially recognize — for the first time — the Catholic School Study’s quality assurance process and to grant accreditation to all the participating Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. (Read more on page 20.) This accomplishment would not have been possible without the hard work of our priests, Catholic school leaders, faculties and staffs. We are grateful for their unwavering dedication to the beautiful vocations that God has entrusted to them as witnesses to hope.

Please join us, moreover, in thanking God for the gift of our parish catechetical programs and leaders, and for their work to help young people grow in relationship with Jesus, especially through the sacraments. It is always inspiring to see the zeal and joy of parish catechetical leaders and volunteers in working with parents to share the truth of Jesus Christ with their children and young people. To all those who serve in our parish catechetical programs, please accept a heartfelt “thank you” for all that you do to further this important work — both seen and unseen.

Let us together pray that through these faithful efforts Catholic education will continue to flourish and that many more will come to know and live Christian hope. Thank you for your support of Catholic education in our Archdiocese! May Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, intercede for you and all those served by Catholic education, now and always.

Sincerely in Christ,



*+Bernard A. Hebda*  
Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda  
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



*Jason E. Slattery*  
Jason E. Slattery, Ed.D.  
Director of Catholic Education  
and Superintendent of Schools



## | The Work of OMCE

Forming our future. Educating for life.

In September 2024, a team of experts from Lumen Accreditation and other Catholic educational institutions from across the United States learned how the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education is exceeding the requirements for accreditation through its Catholic School Study and advancing the Church's vision of education.

Members of the Lumen Accreditation visiting team were from The Catholic University of America, the Archdiocese of Boston, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the Archdiocese of Saint Louis, the Diocese of Saint Augustine and Loyola University Chicago. This team met with OMCE, conducted 184 interviews with a cross section of stakeholder groups — including Archbishop Bernard Hebda, pastors, heads of schools, teachers, and Catholic school parents — and visited six Archdiocesan Catholic schools (K-12) to see how OMCE is maintaining the highest standards for academic excellence, character development, spiritual growth, governance, financial sustainability and all aspects that make our Catholic schools exceptional.

The visiting team commended OMCE on the following:

- Working for the good of the Catholic school system
- Supporting and partnering with Catholic school leaders and faculty

- Providing thoughtful, relevant professional development and formation
- Engaging in ongoing and effective two-way communications

The visiting team shared in its report: "OMCE staff fosters strong relationships with Catholic school leaders throughout the Archdiocese. These relationships are foundational to how the OMCE operates and brings excellent programs, resources, and support to the Catholic schools within the Archdiocese."

The team also noted areas of opportunity for OMCE to consider and work toward, such as:

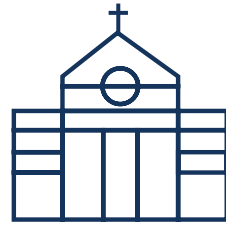
- Establishing formal training for clergy and other school leaders
- Exploring additional funding to ensure sustainability and growth
- Identifying and implementing a common system-wide assessment to streamline data collection, analysis and professional development offerings
- Ensuring that Catholic schools utilize established resources such as the Archdiocesan Evaluation Procedures for Heads of Catholic Schools

**Read more about our Catholic school system's Lumen Accreditation on page 20.**



**From the moment that a student sets foot in a Catholic school, he or she ought to have the impression of entering a new environment, one illumined by the light of faith, and having its own unique characteristics.**

*The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School: Guidelines for Reflection and Renewal, #25-26  
Congregation for Catholic Education, 1988*



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Catholic education is a priority of the Church, and Catholic schools are a premier way the Church provides for this education. Recognizing the gifts and dignity of each student, Catholic schools are uniquely poised to deliver an excellent education — preparing students for this world and for heaven — through the light of Jesus Christ.

# Catholic Schools At-A-Glance

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. MATTHEW 28:19



## ROADMAP FOR EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is committed to Catholic schools through the Roadmap for Excellence in Catholic Education. Engaging local and national experts under the Archbishop's leadership, the Roadmap directs the strategic work of ensuring our Catholic schools are faith-filled, present, excellent, inclusive and broadly supported.

## Spiritual Life

The joy and faithfulness of leaders, students and staff are helping others to know, love and serve Jesus Christ, the heart of the mission of Catholic education.

**96%**

of grade schools participate  
in weekly Mass

**86%**

of schools offer Eucharistic  
Adoration throughout the year

**3**

Catholic High School graduates  
entered religious life upon graduation

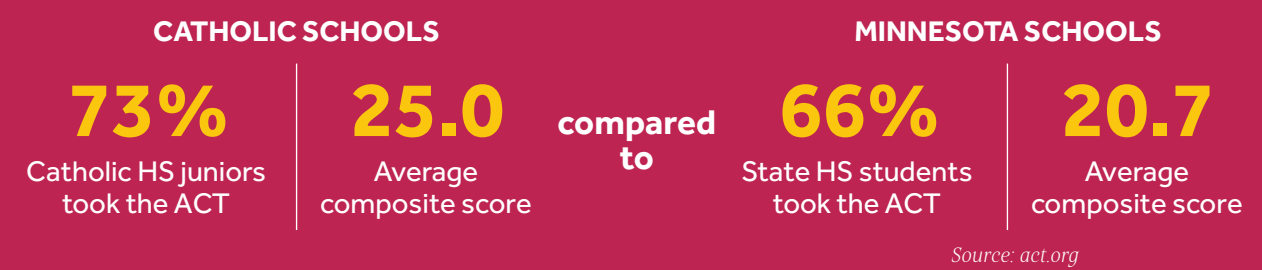
**50**

schools reported that families joined the  
Catholic Church through their school for a total of  
**193 families + nearly 400 people**

# Academic Achievement and Integration

## COLLEGE-READINESS AND HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

The **ACT test** is a curriculum-based education and career planning tool for high school students that assesses the mastery of college readiness standards. In 2024:



## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

**11**

Catholic high school students were National Merit scholars in the 2023-2024 academic year

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships. U.S. high school students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT, which serves as an initial screen of more than 1.3 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

## K-12 Catholic School Demographics

**69%**

Students who are Catholic

**4%**

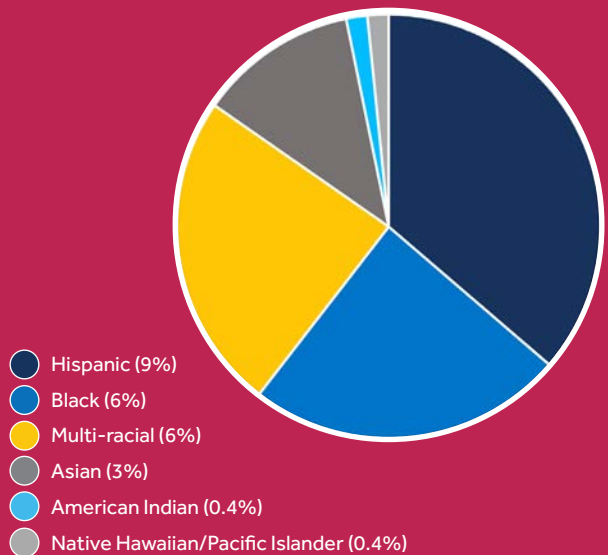
Students who are English Language Learners

**13%**

Students who qualify for free+reduced price meal program

**28%**

Students of color



# Catholic School Enrollment

Over the last five years, through the amazing efforts of Catholic school leaders, faculty, staff, families and benefactors, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis has seen enrollment activity up over 9%, and we have the privilege of serving more than 30,000 students in schools and parishes.

Stable system enrollment is a significant accomplishment amid the broader landscape of declining birth rates and economic challenges. Although enrollment alone isn't the sole factor of success of our programs, positive enrollment trends — which our Archdiocese is experiencing — do indicate the presence of steadfast leaders, zealous educators, and the continued desire of families to provide their children with the best educational foundation possible.

## System-wide Catholic School Enrollment

**27,090**

2024-2025 K-12 Enrollment

**30,907**

2024-2025 Preschool-12 Enrollment

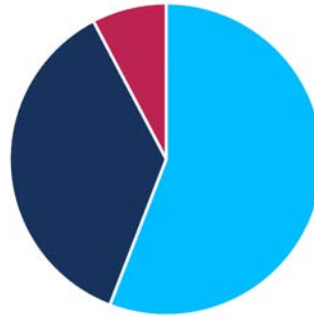


## Early Learning and Preschool Enrollment

**3,817**

2024-2025 Preschool Enrollment

**63%** of current Kindergarteners attended preschool at their Catholic school last year

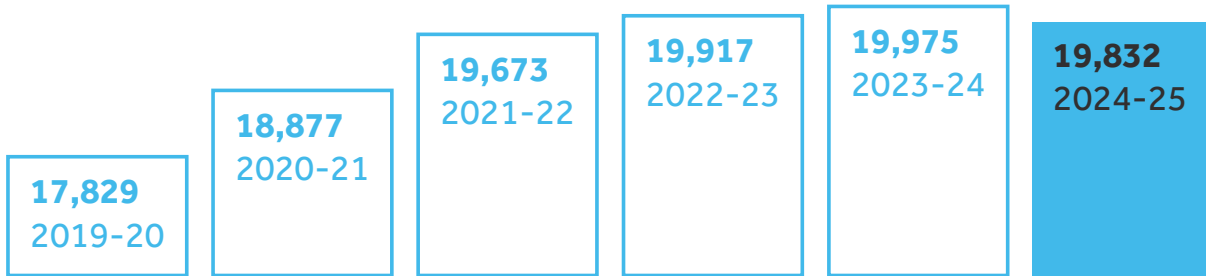


- 4-5 year-olds (2,132)
- 3 year-olds (1,391)
- 2 year-olds (294)

## K-8 Enrollment

**19,832**

2024-2025 K-8 Enrollment



K: 2,145   1: 2,147   2: 2,242   3: 2,300   4: 2,324   5: 2,203   6: 2,225   7: 2,172   8: 2,074

## High School Enrollment

**7,258**

2024-2025 High School Enrollment

**1,838**  
Freshmen

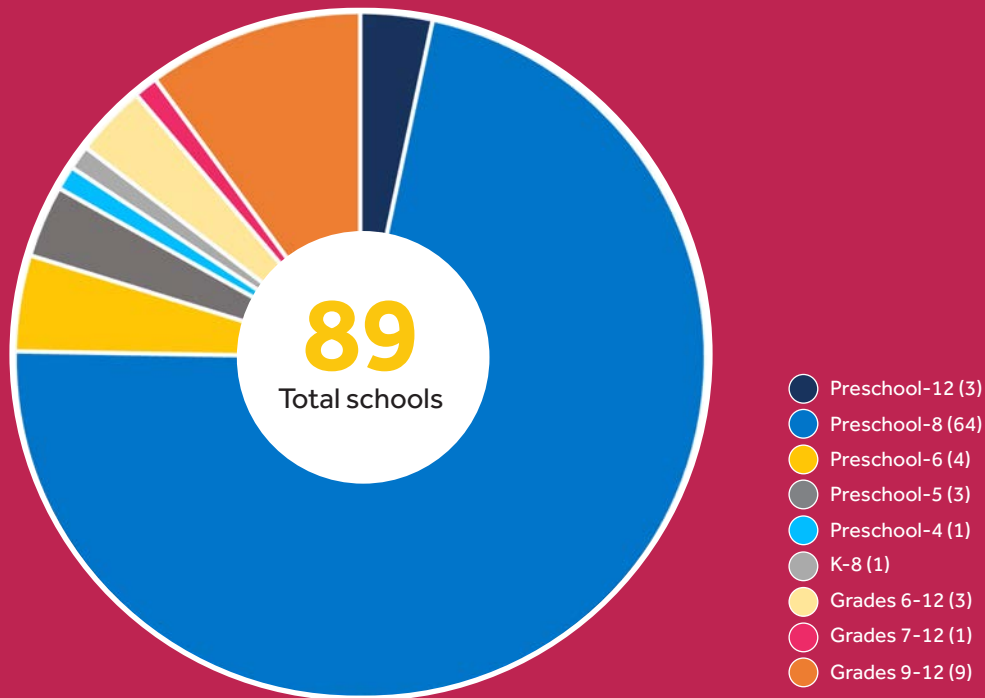
**1,856**  
Sophomores

**1,781**  
Juniors

**1,783**  
Seniors



## Catholic Schools : Grade Levels Served



## Parish Early Learning Programs

PARISHES WITH CATHOLIC EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS  
DISTINCT FROM A PRESCHOOL-8 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1. Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church, St. Paul
2. Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church, St. Paul
3. Saint John Neumann Catholic Church, Eagan
4. Saint Joseph Catholic Church, Lino Lakes
5. Saint Mark's Catholic Church, St. Paul

## Retention

# 89%

Average retention rate for elementary and high schools

# 47%

Eighth-grade Catholic school graduates who enroll in Catholic high school



## Preschool-12 Enrollment by School

School + City	Number of Students
Academy of Holy Angels, Richfield	612
All Saints Catholic School, Lakeville	500
Annunciation Catholic School, Minneapolis	385
Ascension Catholic School, Minneapolis	291
Ave Maria Academy, Maple Grove	208
Benilde-St. Margaret's, St. Louis Park	1,060
Bethlehem Academy, Faribault	222
Blessed Trinity Catholic School, Richfield	203
Carondelet Catholic School, Minneapolis	407
Chesterton Academy, Hopkins	169
Community of Saints Regional Catholic School, West St. Paul	236
Cretin-Derham Hall, St. Paul	911
Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, Minneapolis	413
DeLaSalle High School, Minneapolis	699
Divine Mercy Catholic School, Faribault	270
Epiphany Catholic School, Coon Rapids	326
Faithful Shepherd Catholic School, Eagan	469
Frassati Catholic Academy, White Bear Lake	233
Good Shepherd School, Golden Valley	352
Highland Catholic School, St. Paul	454
Hill-Murray School, Maplewood	1,058
Holy Cross Catholic School, Webster	128
Holy Family Academy, St. Louis Park	223
Holy Family Catholic High School, Victoria	531
Holy Name of Jesus Catholic School, Wayzata	483
Holy Spirit Academy, Monticello	62
Holy Spirit Catholic School, St. Paul	208
Holy Trinity Catholic School, South St. Paul	108
Immaculate Conception Catholic School, Columbia Heights	180
Mary, Queen of Peace Catholic School, Rogers	107
Maternity of Mary-St. Andrew Catholic School, St. Paul	111
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic School, Montgomery	58
Nativity of Mary School, Bloomington	324
Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School, St. Paul	700
Notre Dame Academy, Minnetonka	283
Our Lady of Grace, Edina	909
Our Lady of Peace, Minneapolis	218
Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School, Mound	166
Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School, Belle Plaine	38
Presentation of Mary, Maplewood	174
Providence Academy, Plymouth	954
Risen Christ Catholic School, Minneapolis	315
Sacred Heart Catholic School, Robbinsdale	175
Saint Agnes School, St. Paul	835
Saint Ambrose Catholic School, Woodbury	727

School + City	Number of Students
Saint Anne's School, Le Sueur	132
Saint Bart's School, Wayzata	91
Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic School, Minneapolis	362
Saint Croix Catholic School, Stillwater	409
Saint Dominic School, Northfield	112
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Hastings	202
Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School, Buffalo	330
Saint Helena Catholic School, Minneapolis	119
Saint Hubert Catholic School, Chanhassen	750
Saint Jerome School, Maplewood	210
Saint John Paul II Catholic School, Minneapolis	228
Saint John the Baptist Catholic Montessori School, Excelsior	88
Saint John the Baptist Catholic School, Jordan	152
Saint John the Baptist Catholic School, New Brighton	460
Saint John the Baptist Catholic School, Savage	343
Saint John the Baptist Catholic School, Vermillion	112
Saint John's Catholic School, Little Canada	257
Saint Joseph Catholic School, Waconia	208
Saint Joseph School, Rosemount	335
Saint Joseph's Catholic School, West St. Paul	463
Saint Jude of the Lake Catholic School, Mahtomedi	330
Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic School, Delano	99
Saint Michael Catholic School, Prior Lake	381
Saint Michael Catholic School, St. Michael	492
Saint Odilia School, Shoreview	734
Saint Pascal Regional Catholic School, St. Paul	128
Saint Peter Catholic School, Forest Lake	324
Saint Peter Catholic School, North St. Paul	225
Saint Peter Claver Catholic School, St. Paul	87
Saint Raphael Catholic School, Crystal	200
Saint Rose of Lima Catholic School, Roseville	177
Saint Stephen's Catholic School, Anoka	370
Saint Therese Catholic School, Deephaven	391
Saint Thomas Academy, Mendota Heights	562
Saint Thomas More Catholic School, St. Paul	328
Saint Timothy School, Maple Lake	149
Saint Vincent de Paul Catholic School, Brooklyn Park	530
Saint Wenceslaus Catholic School, New Prague	200
Shakopee Area Catholic School, Shakopee	572
The Way of the Shepherd Catholic Montessori School, Blaine	89
Totino-Grace High School, Fridley	689
Transfiguration Catholic School, Oakdale	121
Unity Catholic High School, Burnsville	66
Visitation School, Mendota Heights	566

# Leadership, Faculty and Employees

Our Catholic schools are filled with passionate leaders, faculty and employees committed to the work of Catholic education. No matter their role, each member knows they're part of something special — ensuring our Catholic schools are truly excellent and that our students are reaching their full potential in a life with Christ.

## ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP BANQUET

The Office for the Mission of Catholic Education hosted its third annual Catholic School Leadership Banquet Oct. 10 at St. Mary's Chapel at The Saint Paul Seminary, and the University of St. Thomas.

Along with Archbishop Bernard Hebda, we were blessed to gather with 200 guests to celebrate Mass, install new leaders, recognize heads of Catholic schools reaching milestones, honor clergy for their dedication to Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and award grants to Catholic schools that recently completed the Catholic School Study. ■



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONVOCATION

In April, the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education welcomed heads of Catholic schools, clergy and guests to its first Archdiocesan Catholic School Leadership Convocation.

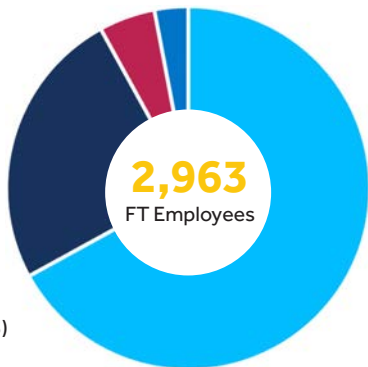
Archbishop Bernard Hebda and concelebrating clergy opened the event with Mass, and OMCE hosted partners from the Institute for the Transformation of Catholic Education at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Mary Pat Donoghue, executive director of the Secretariat of Catholic Education at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, gave a keynote on how Catholic education can help address disaffiliation in the Church.

It was a refreshing two days of professional development and fraternity with our Catholic school leaders as we unite around a shared vision of Catholic education in all our Archdiocesan schools, particularly through Lumen Accreditation and the Catholic School Study. ■



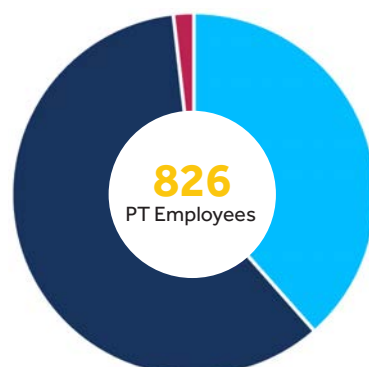


### Full-time K-12 Employees



- Faculty (2,055)
- Staff (686)
- Other leadership (133)
- Head of School (89)

### Part-time K-12 Employees



- Faculty (318)
- Staff (493)
- Other leadership (15)

## Priests, Religious Sisters and Religious Brothers Serving in Catholic Schools

**17**  
Schools with priests, religious sisters and religious brothers

**17**  
Priests

**20**  
Religious sisters

**3**  
Religious brothers

## K-12 Employees Who Are Catholic

**98%**  
of heads of schools

**64%**  
of other leadership

**70%**  
of faculty

**62%**  
of staff

## K-12 Employees with Advanced Degrees

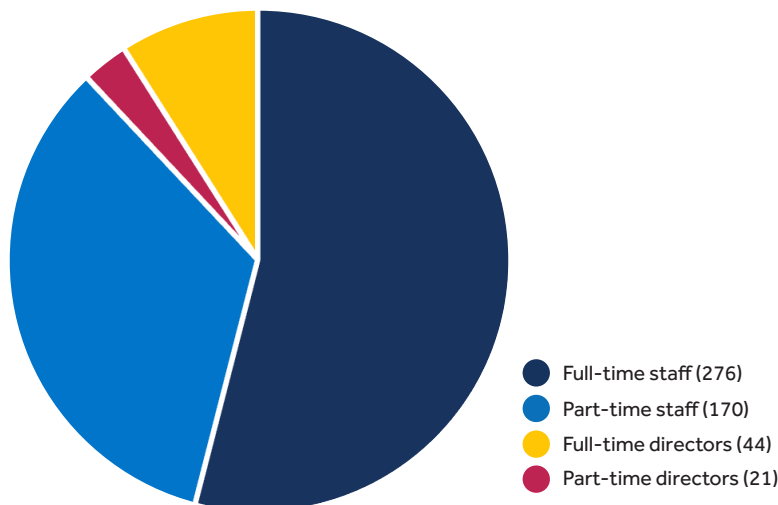
**97%**  
of heads of schools

**53%**  
of other leadership

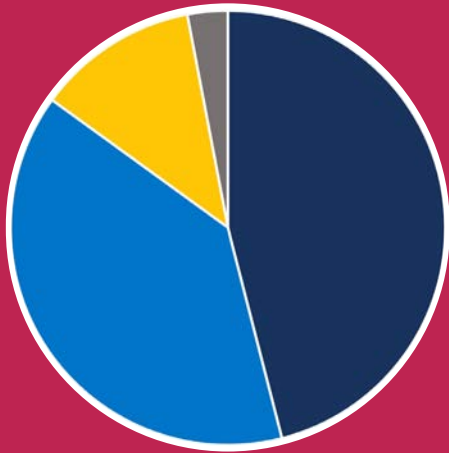
**44%**  
of faculty

**9%**  
of staff

## Early Childhood Learning and Preschool Employees

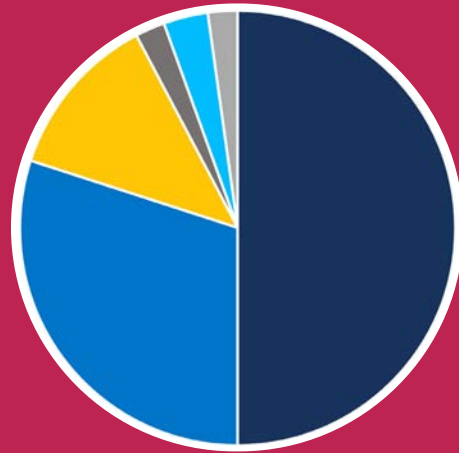


## K-12 Head of School Highest Degree Attained



- Education Specialist degree (41/46%)
- Master's degree (35/39%)
- Doctoral degree (11/12%)
- Bachelor's degree (2/3%)

## K-12 Head of School Years of Experience



- 0-4 years (44/50%)
- 5-10 years (27/30%)
- 11-15 years (11/12.3%)
- 16-20 years (2/2.2%)
- 21-25 years (3/3.3%)
- 26+ years (2/2.2%)

## Preschool-8 Head of School Turnover

74 Elementary Schools

### PRESCHOOL-8 SCHOOLS WITH A HEAD OF SCHOOL TRANSITION

2021-2022  
**23%**  
17 HIRES

2022-2023  
**20%**  
15 HIRES

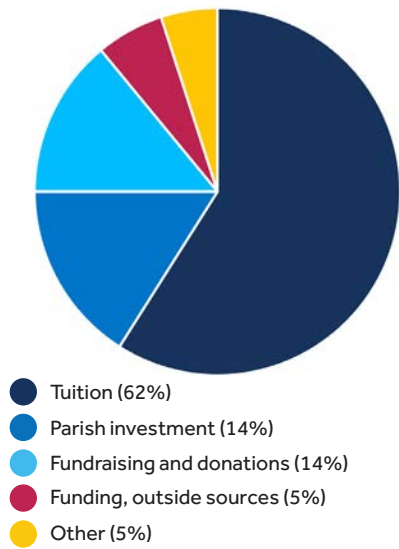
2023-2024  
**12%**  
9 HIRES

2024-2025  
**26%**  
19 HIRES

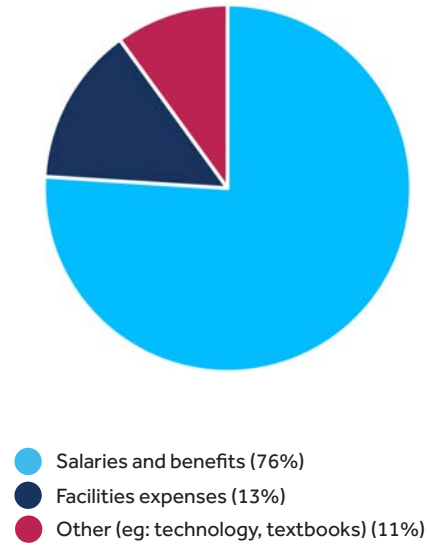


# K-8 Tuition and Financial Data

## Operating Revenues FY 2024



## Operating Expenses FY 2024



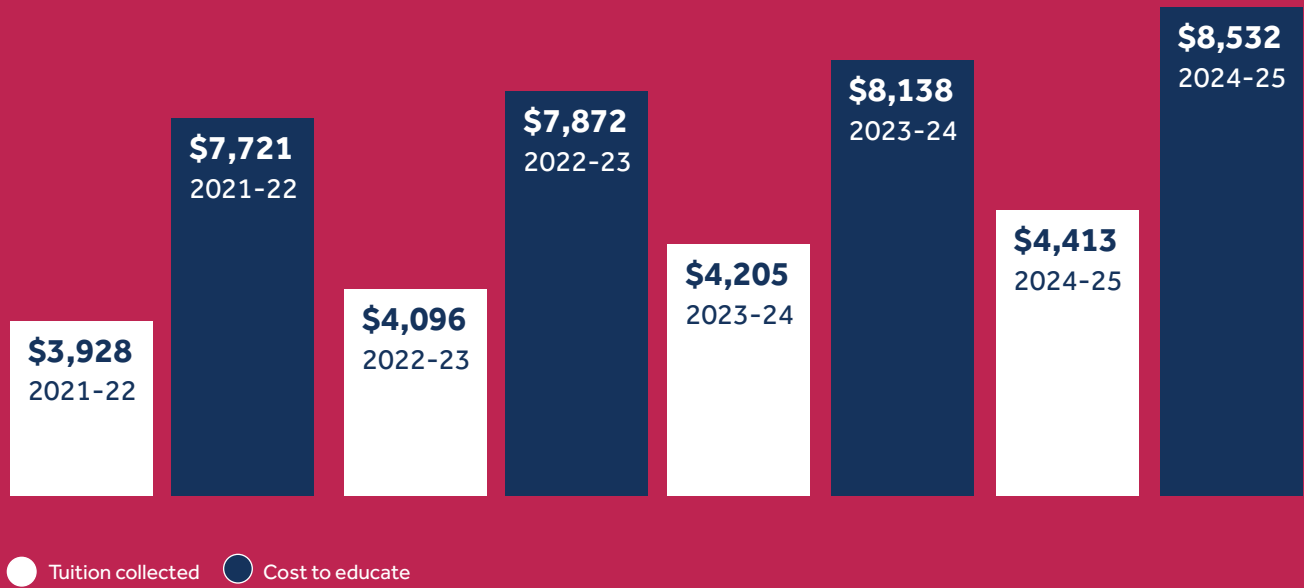
## Average Costs per K-8 Student FY 2024

**\$8,532**  
Cost to Educate

**\$5,780**  
Published Tuition

**\$4,413**  
Tuition Collected

## K-8 Tuition Collected vs. Cost to Educate, FY 2024



## K-8 Costs and Tuition Average per Student, 2024-25 School Year

	Published Tuition
Average	\$5,780
Minimum	\$1,400
Maximum	\$9,875

**24**

schools offer a parishioner discount

**69**

schools offer a multi-child discount

**82**

schools offer an employee discount

**9,585**

total number of K-12 students who receive financial aid

**54%**

of Catholic high school students receive financial aid

**\$30M**

total financial aid awarded to high school students

**23**

schools offer other discounts

# Lumen Accreditation and Catholic School Study

## ARCHDIOCESAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS GRANTED LUMEN ACCREDITATION

Representatives from The Catholic University of America (CUA) in Washington, D.C., visited the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis Oct. 3 to formally award Lumen Accreditation to its system of 89 Catholic schools.

In a milestone more than a year in the making, the ceremony officially recognized the Archdiocese as the first Lumen-accredited diocese in the country.

Dr. Peter Kilpatrick, president of CUA, presented the Archdiocese's Lumen Accreditation certificate to Archbishop Bernard Hebda during a ceremony at Ave Maria Academy in Maple Grove. He was joined by Dr. Jason Slattery, the Archdiocese's director of Catholic education and superintendent of schools, and Dr. Emily Dahdah, director of educational quality and excellence. Dr. Kilpatrick also presented certificates of achievement to Ave Maria Academy and, later in the day, to Saint John Paul II Catholic School in Minneapolis.

In speaking to Ave Maria Academy students, faculty, staff and guests after reciting a decade of the rosary, Archbishop Hebda highlighted that the most important work of Catholic schools is passing on the faith to young people.

"Ave Maria is an excellent school; we're trying to make sure that this school and all our

Catholic schools are more excellent," the Archbishop said. "Not only do we pray about that and try to do our best, but we also seek the help of experts from around the country."

Lumen Accreditation, the Archbishop noted, provides that expertise and the best resources in what makes an excellent Catholic school — how they're forming young minds, "not only in coming to know Christ, but also to thrive in so many areas."

In his remarks, Dr. Kilpatrick said the Lumen Accreditation process helps schools think more deeply about how to be even better, and he was proud to present the very first Lumen Accreditation certificates to Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

**Lumen Accreditation is a hopeful undertaking for the good and future of Catholic schools.**

**DR. JASON SLATTERY**

Director of Catholic Education and Superintendent of Schools



*Photo: From left, Archbishop Bernard Hebda; Dr. Jason Slattery, director of Catholic education and superintendent of schools; Ericka Walz, interim principal of Ave Maria Academy; and Dr. Peter Kilpatrick, president of The Catholic University of America, pose with the Archdiocese's first Lumen Accreditation certificates after a ceremony Oct. 3, 2024.*

## INTENSIVE ONSITE VISIT

The accreditation ceremonies came just weeks after a team from Lumen Accreditation and other Catholic educational institutions from across the United States completed an onsite visit in the Archdiocese to learn how its Office for the Mission of Catholic Education is advancing the Church's vision of education and meeting the requirements for systems accreditation through its Catholic School Study, which each school participates in.

This team met with OMCE, conducted more than 100 interviews with a cross section of stakeholder groups — including Archbishop Hebda, pastors, heads of schools and Catholic school parents — and visited six Catholic schools to see how the Archdiocese is maintaining the highest standards for academic excellence, character development, spiritual growth, governance, financial sustainability and all aspects that make its Catholic schools exceptional.

"Lumen Accreditation is a hopeful undertaking for the good and future of Catholic schools — not only here in the Archdiocese, but also across the United States," Dr. Slattery said. "We are grateful to our Catholic schools for their partnership in this important work to advance an integrated vision of educational quality and excellence across our system in a way that is consistent with our mission and tradition."

## Schools that have completed the Catholic School Study through the 2024-2025 academic year:

- Ave Maria Academy, Maple Grove
- Epiphany Catholic School, Coon Rapids
- Highland Catholic School, Saint Paul
- Hill-Murray School, Maplewood
- Holy Cross Catholic School, Webster
- Holy Family Catholic High School, Victoria
- Holy Spirit Academy, Monticello
- Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School, Saint Paul
- Notre Dame Academy, Minnetonka
- Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School, Mound
- Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine
- Saint Croix Catholic School, Stillwater
- Saint Dominic School, Northfield
- Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Hastings
- Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School, Buffalo
- Saint Hubert Catholic School, Chanhassen
- Saint Jerome School, Maplewood
- Saint John's Catholic School, Little Canada
- Saint John Paul II Catholic School, Minneapolis
- Saint Joseph Catholic School, Waconia
- Saint Maximilian Kolbe Catholic School, Delano
- Saint Raphael Catholic School, Crystal
- Saint Timothy's School, Maple Lake
- Transfiguration Catholic School, Oakdale
- Unity Catholic High School, Burnsville

# Catholic School News and Highlights

## Drexel Mission Schools

A strategic priority of the Roadmap for Excellence in Catholic Education is to support Catholic schools that serve the highest concentration of children and families in need. Named for the great American patroness of Catholic schools, Saint Katharine Drexel, the Drexel Mission Schools Initiative provides extra support to these schools that are transformational partners with the families they serve.

Ascension Catholic School, Minneapolis

Blessed Trinity Catholic School, Richfield

Community of Saints Regional Catholic School, West Saint Paul

Immaculate Conception Catholic School, Columbia Heights

Risen Christ Catholic School, Minneapolis

Saint Helena Catholic School, Minneapolis  
*(beginning 2025-2026 academic year)*

Saint Jerome Catholic School, Maplewood

Saint John Paul II Catholic School, Minneapolis

Saint Pascal Regional Catholic School, Saint Paul

Saint Peter Claver Catholic School, Saint Paul

City Connects continues to provide wraparound services to students and their families to support their basic needs, safety and extracurricular



opportunities. At each of the 10 Drexel Mission Schools, these services include social and emotional support as well as academic intervention for children. City Connects coordinators also connect families to various resources as needed.

All but one of the Drexel Mission Schools now offer preschool in addition to their K-8 programming. These early connections to families have assisted schools in their efforts to grow enrollment and support families sooner.

### DMS BY THE NUMBERS

90% of Drexel Mission School leaders have been serving their current school for more than 4 years. This growing retention rate demonstrates leaders' strong commitment to the success and mission of these Catholic schools.

Drexel Mission Schools continue to serve families from a variety of ethnic backgrounds while being united by one Catholic faith.

- An average of 87% are students of color.
- 38% of students are English language learners.
- An average of 69% of students qualify for the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program. ■



## Divine Mercy Catholic School opens new building

A Catholic school is a tangible sign of hope in a community. In August, Divine Mercy Catholic Church in Faribault celebrated the blessing and ribbon cutting of the parish's new Catholic school building.

"For years, the Divine Mercy parish and school were separated by miles, and now — through the prayers and sacrifices of many — they are together under one roof," said Dr. Jason Slattery, the Archdiocese's director of Catholic education and superintendent of schools. "A word of gratitude to the pastor, Father Cory Rohlfing, and the principal, Mrs. Gina Ashley, on their incredible efforts to help bring this project to fruition: such a testament to what can be accomplished through a strong pastor and principal team aided by God's grace."

"Through the years, this community has been steadfast in their support and desire to pass on the faith to our children through a Catholic education that nurtures young hearts and minds and instills knowledge and virtue through the lens of that faith," said Principal Gina Ashley. "I do not believe it is a coincidence that this project comes to completion almost 15 years to the day from when Divine Mercy Catholic Church was dedicated. It is miraculous." ■

## Catholic School Visual Arts Exhibition

Twenty-seven students representing 14 schools of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis were finalists in the Catholic School Visual Arts Exhibition May 3 at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center in Saint Paul. The students' artwork depicted the theme of "The Eucharist." Independent artist Bernadette Gockowski, iconographer Nicholas Markell and interior designer James Noble served as judges and selected winning pieces from seven Catholic school students.

The students received certificates and monetary prizes, and their artwork was displayed at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center.

The 2025 exhibition will be May 2 at the Hoedeman Gallery of Sacred Art at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. ■

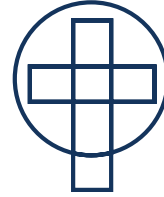
Scan the QR code to learn more about the Catholic School Visual Arts Exhibition:





**// The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ: Only He can lead us to the love of the Father in the Spirit and make us share in the life of the Holy Trinity.**

St. John Paul II, *Catechesi Tradendae*, 5



# PARISH CATECHETICAL PROGRAMS

Faith formation, religious education and catechesis all describe efforts to teach the Catholic faith in ways that draw people closer to Jesus Christ and deepen their participation in His Church.

# Catechetical Programs At-A-Glance

One who is being instructed in the word should share all good things with his instructor. GALATIANS 6:6

Forming children and young people in the Catholic faith is an integral part of the life and mission of the Church. Their relationship with Jesus Christ grows through systematic formation, prayer and sacramental preparation. Parish catechetical staff and volunteers provide a credible witness to children and families along the path of discipleship.

The following pages highlight and provide an overview of the most essential data on parish catechesis and sacramental preparation in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.



## Catechetical Program Enrollment

# 21,580

Total number of students enrolled  
in parish catechetical programs

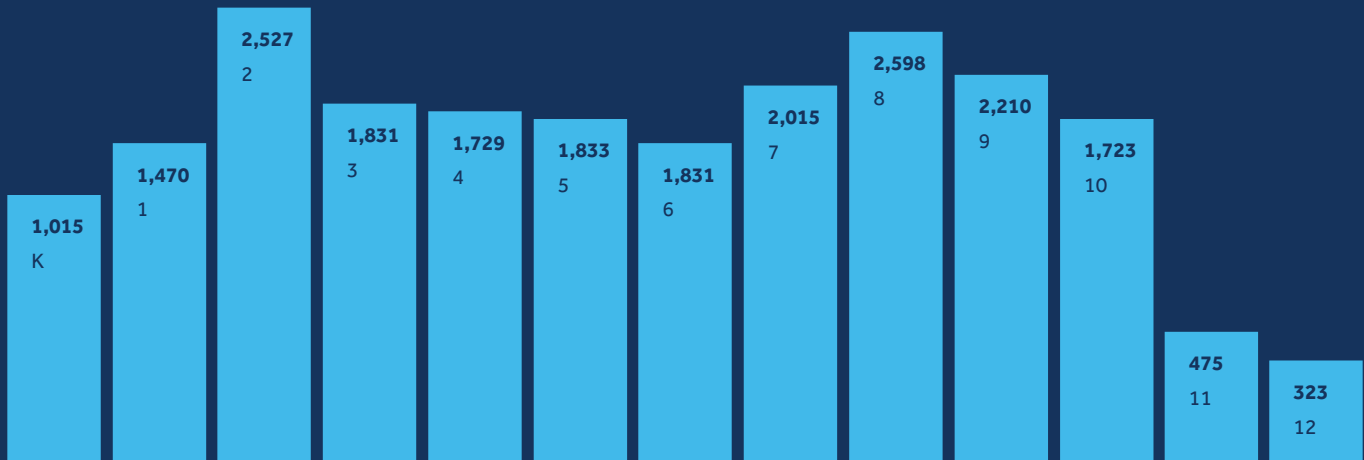
# 164

Catechetical  
programs

# 100%

of parishes reporting  
(185/185 parishes)

## Students Per Grade in Catechetical Programs



## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

**57**

of 164 reporting parishes (35%) use  
The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Method

**57**

CGS programs use  
Level 1 (ages 3-6)

**31**

CGS programs use  
Level 2 (ages 6-9)

**13**

CGS programs use  
Level 3 (ages 9-12)

## Spanish Language Track

**15%**

of parish programs  
(25 programs) have a  
Spanish language track

## Family Formation Model

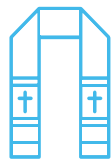
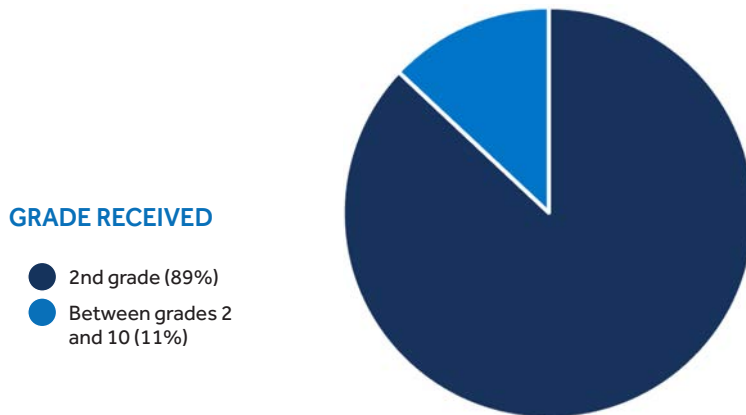
**36%**

of parish programs  
(59 programs) use the  
Family Formation Model

# | Sacramental Preparation

Sacraments are outward signs instituted by Christ to give us grace.  
CCC 1084 and 1131

## Sacramental Preparation and Reception: First Penance and First Eucharist



### First Penance and First Eucharist Enrollment

# 4,389

Students enrolled





## Confirmation Enrollment and Requirements

**4,706**

Students enrolled

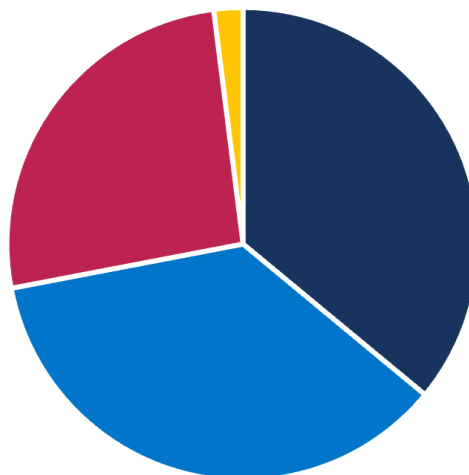
**73%**

of Confirmation programs have a **service hour requirement**

**94%**

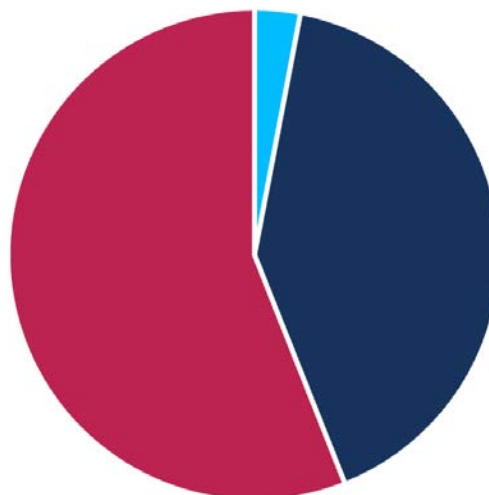
of Confirmation programs have a **retreat requirement**

## Confirmation Grade



- Grade 8 (37%)
- Grade 9 (36%)
- Grade 10 (26%)
- Other (1%)

## Length of Preparation for Confirmation



- 2 years (55%)
- 1 year (44%)
- Less than 1 year (1%)

# Catechetical Leaders

## Employment Status of Parish Catechetical Leaders / 110 Parishes Reporting

**79%**

Full-time  
(87 leaders)

**18%**

Part-time  
(20 leaders)

**3%**

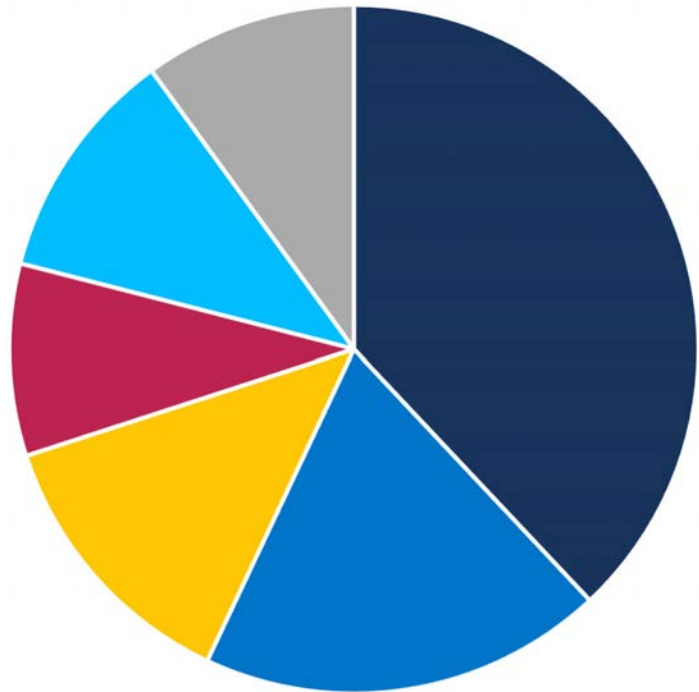
Volunteer  
(3 leaders)

## Institution From Which Degree Was Obtained

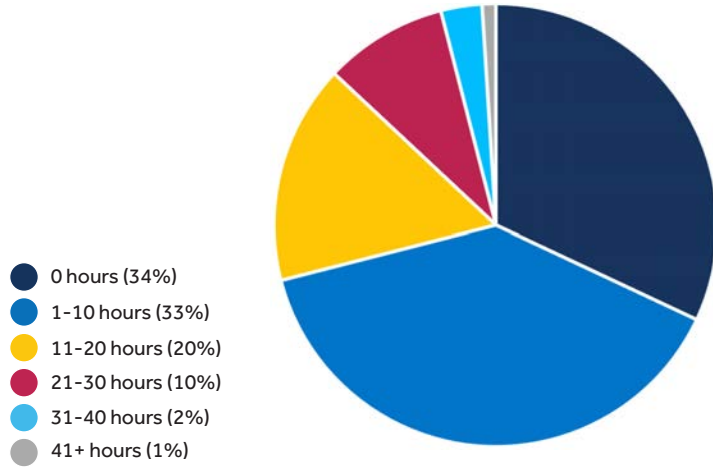
**68%**

of leaders (75) have a degree in Catholic Theology, Catechesis, Religious Education, Religious Studies or Catholic Studies

- University of St. Thomas (38%)
- Franciscan University (19%)
- Other (13%)
- St. John's University (9%)
- University of Mary (11%)
- University of Notre Dame (10%)



### Professional Development Hours



### Years in Catechetical Ministry

**37%**

5 years or less

**31%**

6-15 years

**18%**

16-25 years

**14%**

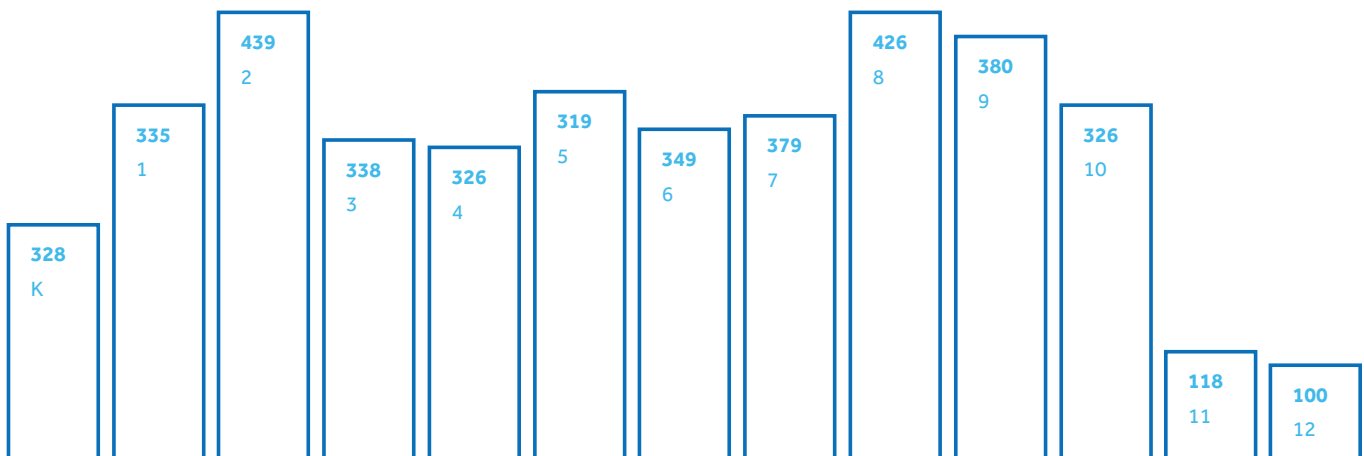
26 or more years

### Volunteer Catechists

**4,163**

Total volunteer catechists in all parishes

### Volunteer Catechists by Grade in Reporting Parishes



# Notes

## **NOTES ON CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Since Catholic schools do not collect demographic data in the same way, the number of students who are Catholic; the number of students who qualify for free/reduced meals; and the number of students who are English Language Learners are likely higher than what is reported here.

## **NOTES ON CATHOLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**

*K-12 School Leaders:* Employees primarily responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations of the school.

*K-12 Faculty:* Employees whose primary responsibility is teaching. This includes classroom teachers and specialists.

*K-12 Staff:* Employees whose primary responsibility is focused on the support of faculty and school leaders.

Not all Catholic schools collect data on their employees in the same way. The number of employees who are Catholic and the number of employees with advanced degrees are likely higher than what is reported here.

## **NOTES ON CATHOLIC PRESCHOOLS**

Preschool students are grouped by their age as of September 1 in order to project their kindergarten cohort. Four- and five-year-olds will likely be entering kindergarten next year. The total number of preschool directors and staff includes only those individuals who are employed by the Catholic school or parish. It does not include employees of the independently-operated early learning programs leasing space in our Catholic school buildings. Catholic schools were not asked to report religious affiliation or degree level of employees serving preschool students.

## **NOTES ON OPERATING REVENUES AND OPERATING EXPENSES**

All financial data is provided through a partnership with Emmaus Partners (formerly Catholic Finance Corporation) for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024 (the most recent data available). The source of the financial data is from the accounting system of each individual school or parish. Although many schools use the same accounting software and chart of accounts, there still remain differences in accounting software, chart of accounts and accounting practices. Currently there is inconsistency in reporting accounting for donor restricted income and expense. This is due to software limitations, chart of account limitations and variation in accounting practices. There is an effort to address these differences and improve reporting for this activity. Emmaus Partners works with each school in order to prepare school reports in a consistent manner. The school reports are useful for demonstrating trend, scope and magnitude. The percentages here represent the aggregate of the K-8 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese based on the individual school reports prepared by Emmaus Partners.

## **NOTES ON TUITION AND FEES**

*Published Tuition:* Highest stated tuition a school charges before applying any discounts and financial aid.

*Mandatory Fees:* A flat-rate fee charged to all students in all grades in addition to tuition (e.g. enrollment/re-enrollment fee; fundraising fee; technology fee) as reported by the school.

Each K-8 Catholic school has its own unique tuition, mandatory fee, and discount structure.

The data on the Catholic School Financial Overview page includes all K-8 parochial and K-8 private Catholic schools in the Archdiocese. Private Catholic high schools and private K-12 Catholic schools were excluded from these figures. If a school charges different rates for students in middle school and elementary school, the two rates were averaged. Data on average cost to educate and average tuition collected comes from Emmaus Partners for the 2023-2024 fiscal year (the most recent available). All other data is from the 2024-2025 Archdiocesan Schools Report as reported by each school.

When analyzing school financial data for the Archdiocese, averages may be calculated in one of two ways: 1) based upon aggregate totals; or 2) based on averages of the schools. For further information, please see the current year Vitality Index.

# Methodology

All data in this annual report comes from the Archdiocesan Schools Report (ASR) and the Fall Parish Survey conducted by the Office of the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs.

The ASR has been a vital fixture in data reporting for schools across the Archdiocese and provides the quantitative basis for understanding demographics and financial trends and comparisons. In 2016, the ASR was revised significantly so that those who help provide for Catholic schools have access to meaningful and accurate data.

The 2024-2025 ASR continues to benefit from the work of Emmaus Partners, which facilitated the collection and analysis of key financial indicators for our K-8 Catholic schools based on the fiscal year ending in June 2024.

All demographic questions use a single date of October 1, 2024, for reporting purposes. Schools self-report all data, and OMCE followed up with more than 10% of schools to confirm various data points. As in years past, we continue to have 100% participation.

New to the 2024-2025 ASR is the expansion of our definition of preschool to include all parish-sponsored early learning programs across the Archdiocese. To accomplish this goal, we utilized data from the Parish Fall Survey. An early learning program (those associated with a Catholic school or parish) is defined as a childcare program (including preschool or pre-K) that operates during the workday for children aged 0-5 (not yet attending kindergarten in the current year).

While our strategic vision for Catholic schools looks at the totality of education from early learning through high school, we continued to report for Catholic early learning students and the dedicated employees who serve them differently from K-12 students. Educational funding, policy and law in the United States are based on a K-12 system, and so it is important to have data that aligns with our reporting requirements.

All employee counts are based on those who serve K-12 students and those who serve preschool. K-12 employees are divided according to their role as faculty (teaching positions), staff (positions primarily for the support of teachers or administrators) or school leaders (positions responsible for the instructional leadership and daily operations of the school).

The Fall Parish Survey provides essential data on the landscape of parish catechesis and sacramental preparation across the Archdiocese. The 2024 data represents all 185 parishes in the Archdiocese with the total number of catechetical programs at 164 due to combinations and collaborations between some parishes. Unless otherwise noted, the data represents the 164 parish catechetical programs.

# | Data and Governance

## Privacy Policy governing the Archdiocesan Schools and Catechetical Report

### **DEFINITIONS**

“Data” is all information collected via the Archdiocesan Schools Report or the Archdiocesan Catechetical Report. “School” is a Catholic school within the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

### **PRIVACY STATEMENT**

Representing the Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education (OMCE) serves the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese. Schools and catechetical programs are required to accurately disclose requested information to OMCE. In turn, the Catholic schools and parish catechetical programs within the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis have the right to know how this data will be used and who will have access to it.

### **INFORMATION OWNERSHIP**

OMCE is the administrator of the ASR and ACR and owner of the data collected on schools and parish catechetical programs.

### **INFORMATION PURPOSE**

Data is used by OMCE in order to advance the mission of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. Examples of data use include, but are not limited to, planning purposes, public relations, funding, and internal archdiocesan decision making.

### **INFORMATION ACCESS**

Data is considered private. OMCE, archdiocesan directors, and bishops have access to the data on each individual school. Information processors have access to the raw data yet have no authority to share or distribute the data. Data on individual schools will be shared with the National Catholic Educational Association, the Minnesota Catholic Conference, and any other organization, foundation, or benefactor authorized by OMCE or the bishops in order to advance the mission of Catholic education in the Archdiocese. Data on an individual schools that is already publicly available, such as total enrollment and the name of the principal, may also be shared publicly. With the written authorization of the head of school or pastor, administrators of individual schools may request to see the data of their particular school.

### **SECURITY**

OMCE uses the Qualtrics platform for data collection. Qualtrics Security Statement can be accessed here: <https://www.qualtrics.com/security-statement/>.

### **UPDATES**

This privacy policy governing may change without notice. Any changes or updates will be communicated.

### **QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS**

If any school or parish administrator has questions or concerns about this policy, he or she may contact OMCE.



## Prayer for the Intercession of Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom

O God, infinitely wise,  
in order to raise the fallen,  
you decreed that the Virgin Mary  
should be the dwelling place of your Wisdom.

Through her intercession  
may we avoid the spirit of pride  
and, following her example,  
serve you with a true spirit of humility.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,

Amen.



At the service of the Archbishop, the Office for the Mission of Catholic Education provides vision, support, and direction to those who teach in the name of the Church within the Archdiocese so they can achieve their mission to proclaim Christ and form authentic disciples of Jesus Christ.



**Catholic Schools**  
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF  
SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

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