



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL

ARCHDIOCESE OF DETROIT
1234 WASHINGTON BLVD.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

January 28, 2007

My dear Friends of the Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese:

As we prepare to celebrate Catholic Schools Week, January 28-February 3, 2007, I rejoice with you in giving thanks to God for the gift and blessing of quality Catholic education within our Archdiocese and all around our country. We have been blessed with a strong tradition of support for Catholic education here in this part of the United States.

Having visited most of the schools over the years, and having regular contact with administrators of our schools, I know firsthand the excellent academic curriculum that is being offered in a faith setting with a great number of opportunities for extra-curricular activities, including sports. We can truly take pride and satisfaction in knowing that our Catholic schools are realizing the fourfold purpose of Christian education as outlined by the Bishops of our nation – providing an atmosphere in which the Gospel is proclaimed, a community setting where Christ is experienced, service to brothers and sisters, and opportunities for worship of the Lord.

I am particularly pleased at the many forms of service outreach which go on throughout the Archdiocese – a very effective and powerful way to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and to show the connection between what is learned in the classroom and the reality of the world around us. I am pleased, for example, with the number of school children around the Archdiocese who have been supportive of our military who are placing their lives at risk for the sake of our freedom.

I join the clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the Archdiocese in thanking you for the professionalism, personal sacrifices, and many ways that the Gospel message is brought to life in and through our Catholic schools. I am pleased that at the recent Prep Bowl, 48 teachers, administrators, and staff were recognized and honored for their years of service to Catholic schools of the Archdiocese.

With 92 elementary and 22 secondary Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, we have an enrollment of approximately 38,252 students. While numbers do not tell the whole story, they are a good indication that people are finding Catholic schools to be a wise investment. I could not agree more!

May the Lord continue to bless the parents, students, teachers, and staff of all our Catholic schools. Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Adam Cardinal Maida
Archbishop of Detroit