



FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year, Catholic Schools Week begins today, Sunday, January 29 through Saturday, February 4. The three-time Blue Ribbon awarded School of St. Mary's will celebrate 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. The School is very grateful for the support of benefactors of our parish.

The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2023 is "**Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.**" Under the direction of Mrs. Kathy Thompson, School Principal, her assistant Mrs. Sarah Rouse, and the hard-working faculty, the School of St. Mary is a community where faith, excellence, and service are shared and taught. For more information about the many activities and events of Catholic Schools Week, as well as information about registering children at the School of St. Mary for next year, you can reach out to Mandy Castle, Director of Admissions, at: mcastle@schoolofstmary.org.

Fr. Radley teaches and tries to inspire the students in as many ways as the Holy Spirit guides him. Recently he has been sharing the **Liturgical ABCs** with the faculty and students. How many of the following do you know?

- A – Adoration** (praying/worshipping/talking to God)
- B – Bulletin**
- C – Canonization**
- D – Doxology** (expression of praise to God) Greek "doxa" which means "glory".
Doxology, therefore, means glorification.
- E – Epiclesis** (calling down the Holy Spirit)
- F – Feast Day**
- G – Genuflect**
- H – Homily**
- I – Incense** (prayers rising up to God)
- J – Jubilee** (big celebration; forgiveness of sins)
- K – Kerygma** (proclamation of the Good News)
- L – Lavabo** (priest washes his hands during offertory)
- M – Monstrance** (used during adoration)
- N – Novena** (9-day prayer)
- O – Offertory** (bringing up gifts and ourselves)
- P – Parish** (travel/pilgrims on a journey, place to gather for strength)
- Q – Quiet**
- R – Real Presence** (Eucharist)
- S – Sanctuary** (sacred space)
- T – Trinity**
- U – Universal** (meaning of Catholic and to spread the Gospel everywhere)
- W – Word of God** (Bible/scripture)
- X – Examen** (reflection of day to identify God at work in our lives)
- Y – Yes**
- Z – Zeal** (great energy or enthusiasm, passion)

Plan now for a wonderful Mostaccioli Dinner following the 5:00pm Mass next Saturday, February 4, in the School Upper Grade Center Cafeteria.

May we turn to God who strengthens us in living with Christ in 2023,

Fr. Mike Nacur