

January 29, 2023

Dear Catholic School Educators and Staff Members,

As we mark yet another Catholic Schools Week celebration with the aptly chosen theme once again of "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service", I am grateful that many of our celebrations this year may resume in-person. Even as we emerge from the unprecedented and challenging times brought on by the pandemic, we, of course, face new and different challenges. Yet, I remain ever in awe of the amazing dedication and commitment our Catholic Schools educators and staff exhibit on a daily basis, in good times and challenging ones. Your sharing of your talents for the Catholic Schools community makes a significant impact on the precious lives of our students as well as their families. That impact is multiplied as our students go forth into the world with the best formation, body, mind and spirit. Thank you!

Each year thanks to your unwavering commitment our Catholic school students in the diocese encounter Christ alive in our schools and it is my prayer that our hard work and commitment to them today will ensure that opportunity for all generations tomorrow.

I echo the inspiring words of Pope Francis who said, "Catholic education is also evangelization: bearing witness to the joy of the Gospel and its power to renew our communities and provide hope and strength in facing wisely the challenges of the present time."

Extending my heartfelt gratitude for all that you do, and assuring you of my prayers for you and your families, and humbly asking for your prayers for me and for our Diocese, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley Bishop of Kalamazoo

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