

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA



Office of Catholic Schools Annual Report
2020-2021

Faith, Family & Excellence

Dear Friends of Catholic Education:

Peace and All Good!

Our Catholic schools are known for their rigorous academics and deep sense of community. A few of the successes in the development of our students' talents and their educational achievements are spotlighted in this 2020-21 Annual Report issued by the Office of Catholic Schools.

The Archdiocese of Atlanta recognizes the outstanding leadership of our entire staff and faculty in forming our children. So many people contribute to the success of our schools and students. We are most appreciative of their time and their investment in this and future generations. All students are continuously encouraged to make a difference by serving their communities through volunteering and school-sponsored service.

We are blessed with supportive parents, dedicated clergy, benefactors and stakeholders who continue to assist our efforts to maintain a system of Catholic schools that is second to none.

I would also like to express gratitude to the members of our Archdiocesan Schools' Advisory Council for their encouragement, generosity of time and hard work with many on-going initiatives to strengthen our schools.

Faith. Family. Excellence. These words continue to describe the distinctive features of the schools here. I am so proud of the many outstanding Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.

The Most Rev. Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv.
Archbishop of Atlanta



Catholic Schools
Mission Statement

As a service of the Archbishop of Atlanta, the Office of Catholic Schools provides support, assistance and guidance for the administrators, faculties, local school councils and parents in order to promote and to enhance the educational ministry of the local church.



Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Atlanta ACRE Scores 2020-21

5th Grade				
Domains	AofA Average	National Average	Catholic School Average	Parish Average
Knowledge of Faith	78.5	71	73	61
Liturgical Life	76.3	68	71	54
Moral Formation	83.5	78	80	71
Prayer	71.7	65	67	53
Communal Life	78.5	72	74	61
Missionary Spirit	67.3	54	57	41
Pillars				
Creed	77.4	70	73	59
Liturgy and Sacraments	76.3	68	71	54
Morality	79.3	72	73	63
Prayer	71.7	65	67	53
Group Average	76.1	68.3	70.6	57.0

8th Grade				
Domains	AofA Average	National Average	Catholic School Average	Parish Average
Knowledge of Faith	81.6	71	75	55
Liturgical Life	76.7	69	72	57
Moral Formation	87.5	81	83	71
Prayer	81.3	73	75	61
Communal Life	77.1	62	65	49
Missionary Spirit	86.3	76	79	60
Pillars				
Creed	80.0	69	72	52
Liturgy and Sacraments	77.9	69	72	56
Morality	86.9	79	81	68
Prayer	81.3	73	75	61
Group Average	81.7	72.2	74.9	59.0

12th Grade				
Domains	AoA Average	National Average	Catholic School Average	Parish Average
Knowledge of Faith	76.8	69	67	54
Liturgical Life	80.9	70	71	62
Moral Formation	84.4	72	72	66
Prayer	87.5	77	77	71
Communal Life	86.9	76	74	62
Missionary Spirit	82.6	72	73	64
Pillars				
Creed	82.9	71	72	59
Liturgy and Sacraments	82.6	71	72	62
Morality	84.0	72	72	65
Prayer	75.7	67	68	59
Group Average	82.4	71.7	71.8	62.4



2021 Iowa Assessment National Percentile Rank

(NPR)								
Core Composite								
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
90	71	80	79	78	79	76	81	80
Language Arts Total								
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
92	79	78	80	83	83	82	87	84
Math Total								
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
92	73	83	79	76	79	74	76	78
Social Studies Total								
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
*	70	77	77	80	80	75	80	75
Science Total								
K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
*	76	82	80	79	80	77	75	73

*Subject not assessed at this level



Hal Plummer
Superintendent of Schools

Connie Urbanski, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent

Kellie DesOrmeaux
Associate Superintendent

Brian Dooling
Director of Marketing
& Enrollment

Mary Jo Nichols
Director of
Parish Preschool Program

Nancy Dilly
School Psychologist

Laura Schwartz
Communications Specialist
and Assistant to the
Psychologist

Debra Wheeler
Program Specialist

Student Demographics

School Year 2020-21

Total Enrollment ————— 7,708
Elementary ————— 5,383
High School ————— 2,325
Minority ————— 26%
Catholic-Non-Catholic ————— 87% - 13%

National School Lunch
Program Qualified ————— 8%

Learning Needs ————— 9%
High School Graduates in 2021: 540
High School Graduation Rate — 100%
College Scholarship Totals* — \$62,049,976
(*exclusive of HOPE)

Archdiocesan School Advisory Council

Beth Clark Morrison, Chair
John Cryer, Vice Chair
Marcos Arias
Rev. Neil Dhaliwala, Pastor
Cathy Kennedy Harris
Robert Heilmann
Brian Hershberger
Stacy Lewis
Maureen McAbee
Jennifer Prindiville
Michelle Raney
Christopher White

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
Saint Brigid Catholic Church
Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church
Saint Clare Catholic Church
Saint Joseph Catholic Church
The Cathedral of Christ the King
Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church
Saint Peter Chanel Catholic Church
Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church

Faith, Family & Excellence

- 18 archdiocesan Catholic schools – 3 High Schools and 15 Elementary Schools – approximately 7,700 students enrolled.
- Our rigorous curriculum is aligned to national standards and by any measure, our schools deliver a top-notch education.
- Our certified teachers and staff partner in order to develop the “Whole Child:” Mind, Body and Spirit.
- We also teach children about the deeper underlying themes of society and equip them with the ability to recognize how their knowledge can impact and better the world around them.

75 percent of our schools

have received the coveted National Blue Ribbon School Award of Excellence, placing our schools in the top 10-15 percent nationally from a performance perspective.



Catholic school graduates

are more likely to volunteer for community services and to be active participants in their own parishes later in life.

SY 2020-21 Advanced Placement Exams

1,013 students • 2,277 exams • 27 subjects
3.2 average score • 78% of students
scored 3 or higher



- Continued outstanding performance results on ACRE, IOWA, SAT and ACT testing.
- The cultural diversity of our local church provides opportunities to embrace different cultures in our school communities and to recognize God's image in all whom we encounter.
- Parents are the primary educators of their children; working together, the sense of family and a faith community create an atmosphere of trust, love and partnership.
- We are extremely blessed to have such wonderful leaders, administrators, teachers, staff and students in our Catholic school community.



Tuition Assistance



Catholic Schools

GRACE Scholars

Georgia taxpayers can make a no-cost contribution to GRACE Scholars, a Student Scholarship Organization (SSO) founded by the bishops of Georgia. GRACE Scholars provides Catholic schools scholarship dollars to award to students with financial need. Contributions are "no cost," as they are eligible for a 100 percent tax credit against income taxes.

In school year 2020-21, \$5.2 million was contributed from donors throughout the state, of which \$3.4 million was collected right here in the Archdiocese of Atlanta. As a result, 753 students in archdiocesan schools received \$3.1 million in scholarship dollars for the 2020-21 school year.

Archbishop's Banquet for Catholic Education

Through the generosity of sponsors for the annual Archbishop's Celebration of Catholic Education, the Office of Catholic Schools awarded six scholarships, in the amount of \$3500.00 each, to children of school, parish and chancery employees in the 2020-21 school year.

Financial Aid Funding Sources

During the 2020-21 school year, applicants for financial aid demonstrated need totaling \$12.8 million dollars. Through archdiocesan and local school efforts, 77 percent (\$9.9 million) of the need was satisfied, easing the financial strain for families wishing to secure a Catholic education for their children.

- Archdiocesan financial aid — \$2,900,000
- Local tuition assistance from schools — \$3,900,000
- Other aid — \$900,000
- GRACE (One-Year Award) — \$2,200,000

Total assistance awarded — \$9.9 Million

Archdiocesan Catholic schools are supported by parishes through an assessment of approximately 10.9 percent of parish ordinary income. These resources are used to reduce construction debt from five schools built in 1999-2000 and to provide tuition assistance to Catholic families.



School Tuition and Cost to Educate Rates

Archdiocesan Median Catholic Tuition Rates:

- Elementary \$8,809
- Secondary \$13,600

Archdiocesan Median Cost to Educate*

- Elementary \$10,658
- Secondary - \$15,626

**Includes bond subsidy for Catholic Education North Georgia, Inc. (CENGI)*

Federal Program Participation

Archdiocesan Catholic schools participate in several federally funded compensatory programs to provide services to students and professional development to faculty and staff. All archdiocesan schools and the Office of Catholic Schools participate in the E-rate program for reimbursement of telecommunication expenses.

Office of Catholic Schools Revenue Sources

The services provided by the Office of Catholic Schools are predominantly funded in three ways: the archdiocesan budget, school pupil assessment (\$34 per student) and the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

- Archdiocesan Budget — \$354,376
- Pupil Assessment — \$261,936
- Archbishop's Annual Appeal — \$50,000
- Other — \$91,544

Office of Catholic Schools Expenses — \$707,906

