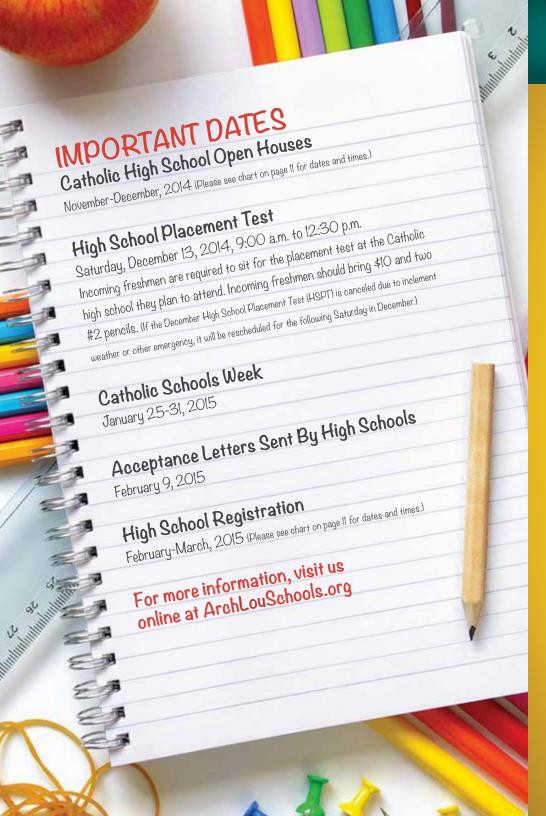


# **SELECTION GUIDE**

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE Excellence you can believe in.



## Living Faith

Our faith in Jesus Christ is the reason our schools exist. Therefore, both spiritual and academic experiences in Catholic high schools enable students to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, broaden their knowledge of their faith, and connect their faith to their daily lives. The teenage years are a critical time for faith development, and the foundation of faith around which we build our academic programs permeates every aspect of the school day and continues beyond it.

This faith-filled environment instills high degrees of self-confidence, self-respect, and self-discipline among young men and women.

Ultimately, a Catholic education should prepare students to be good stewards of God's gifts and active people of faith who serve others, make a difference in the world, and participate in their faith and civic communities.

This spiritual mission is carried out in many ways—regular school liturgies, prayer experiences, retreats, classroom instruction, service learning, and extracurricular activities. And this mission is supported by educators who are committed to fulfilling the teaching mission of Jesus Christ and who offer spiritual guidance in a faith-based environment.

We are committed to continuous improvement in this critical mission of our schools. One of the tools that we use to measure the impact of religious education is the Assessment of Catholic Religious Education (ACRE), a nationally—normed questionnaire that is administered annually to high school juniors. ACRE measures students' knowledge about their faith and offers opportunities for students to answer questions related to religious beliefs, practices, and perceptions.

Archdiocese of Louisville + Catholic High School Selecton Guide 2014-15

#### Celebrating Community



Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville rank third in the nation in the ratio of the enrollment of students to the overall number of Catholics. This ranking is a testament to the support for Catholic education among all members of the Catholic community.

Visit any Catholic school and you will notice the spirit of camaraderie among students, teachers, and administrators. Catholic schools are a "community within a community" that unites people who share common values and goals as communities of faith.

Within this supportive environment, your child has the opportunity to grow in many ways. A wide variety of extracurricular activities—from academic and social clubs to intramural sports and performing arts—allows students to explore and express their individual gifts and abilities. This atmosphere is supported by teachers who serve as role models, coaches, and counselors and who spend many hours outside of school helping with activities, leading retreats, and assisting students with their academic, personal, and spiritual growth.

Parents are an important part of this community, and parental leadership and involvement is supported and welcomed in Catholic schools. Parents become an integral part of the school community as they assist with spiritual, academic, athletic, and creative initiatives and as they get to know their children's teachers, peers, and other parents.

Catholic schools welcome students from a variety of ethnic, religious, and social backgrounds, and programs are based upon a shared sense of respect for the contributions of every student. Nineteen percent of students who attend Catholic high schools are from other faith traditions.

#### Embracing Service

As students mature within the supportive environment of Catholic high schools, they are challenged to give back to the broader community. Students visit the elderly in nursing homes, bring Christmas presents to poverty-stricken areas, build Habitat for Humanity houses, and raise money for a variety of issues. They visit civic and governmental institutions to learn about systems, how to be good citizens, and how to advocate for their beliefs. Last year, students in our Catholic high schools clocked more than 162,000 hours of community service.

Catholic schools also offer many programs in which students are encouraged to develop leadership skills and civic responsibility, including service learning programs, pro-life organizations, environmental clubs, student government, mock legislative clubs, and parish youth ministry programs. Dozens of Catholic youth are honored each year for unique contributions that they have made to their neighborhoods and communities.



## Inspiring Achievement



Catholic secondary education is resultsoriented. It provides superior college preparation and produces higher test scores. While attending a Catholic high school, your teen will learn in a nurturing, challenging, and structured environment that provides a solid foundation for a lifetime of learning and growth.

Students emerge from Catholic high schools with a strong liberal arts education that is supported by technology and focused on the skills needed for today and tomorrow. Students learn decision-making skills, develop high levels of literacy in mathematics, science, and literature, apply inquiry-based experimentation and problem solving, and build understanding and appreciation for world history and cultures. They also participate in award-winning visual and performing arts

programs and have the opportunity to engage in a variety of high-quality electives and extracurricular activities.

The programs in our schools exceed state requirements. In general, test scores are significantly higher than state and national averages.

Catholic schools provide a bridge to other life experiences and opportunities. Graduates of Catholic high schools are well prepared for college and life, and up to 98% of seniors typically pursue post-secondary education. The class of 2014 earned more than \$121 million in scholarships.

Several Catholic schools have been recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence. This award represents the highest national honor presented to quality schools by the U.S. Department of Education. In addition, a number of schools have won awards for technology innovation, teaching excellence, and the arts.

The professionals who teach your children are well prepared to provide a rigorous and comprehensive education. Catholic high school teachers are certified and nearly 90 percent of Catholic high school faculty have advanced degrees.

## Inspiring Achievement Secondary Achievements and Class of 2014 Report Card 98% of graduates pursuing college/post-secondary education

15 National Merit Semi-Finalists

15 National Merit Finalists

20 National Merit Commended Scholars

47 Governor's Scholars (Class of 2015)

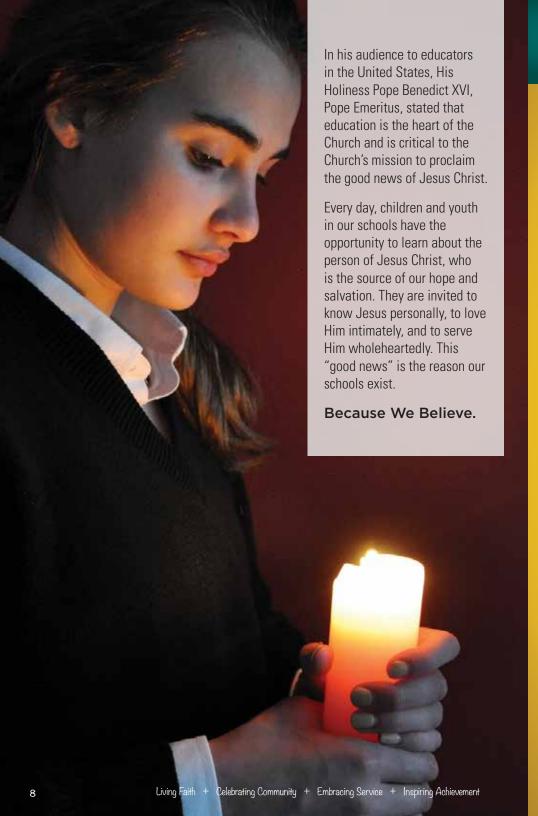
8 Governor's School for the Arts (Class of 2015)

Average ACT Score: 24.1 (99% of students took the ACT) Average SAT Score: 1215 (14% of students took the SAT)

High School Hours of Community Service: 162,024

College Scholarships: \$121,3 Million





#### Tuition Assistance Availability



Catholic schools remain accessible by offering a wide range of tuition assistance.

Tuition assistance is available from:

- Archdiocese of Louisville
- Catholic Education Foundation
- Catholic High Schools
- Parishes

Last year more than \$9.7 million was given to Catholic school students.

All tuition assistance, applications, and procedures are handled through the Private School Aid Service (PSAS) with one form that is obtained through your school. Even if you have students in more than one Catholic school, you can apply for all of your children on one PSAS form. The deadline for submitting the PSAS form for the 2015-2016 school year is March 13, 2015.

The Private School Aid Service is an independent, third-party service that provides reasonable assessments of the ability of families to pay tuition at private and parochial schools. For more information about PSAS, go to psas.org.

Copies of the PSAS analysis and forms are shared only with the contracting parish, school, or agency; no one else will receive this information. Final decisions about tuition assistance will be communicated to you from your school or the Catholic Education Foundation.

Parish membership is not required in order to receive tuition assistance.

#### The High School Enrollment Process

### Catholic High Schools



#### **Shadowing**

Shadowing is an opportunity for students in grades 7 and 8 to experience a typical high school day. Call the Catholic secondary school at least 72 hours in advance to schedule a shadowing experience for your child. Shadowing is for students only. Parents may schedule a tour of the building at a later and more convenient time for the school. Eighth-grade students shadow during the fall semester, and seventh-grade students shadow during the spring semester. Shadowing should be scheduled on days when elementary schools are not in session.

#### **Open House**

Open houses provide opportunities for students and parents to visit Catholic secondary school campuses. Open houses may include tours, special programs, and demonstrations. The format of the open house is interactive, and parents and students will have the opportunity to ask questions. Refer to the listing of secondary schools for the open house dates for each high school.

#### **Placement Test**

All students who plan to attend a Catholic secondary school must take the placement test at the secondary school they plan to attend. The test is scheduled for Saturday, December 13, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If the December High School Placement Test (HSPT) is canceled due to inclement weather or other emergency, it will be rescheduled for the following Saturday in December. Students need to bring \$10 and two #2 pencils. The placement test is timed and generally takes three hours. Extended time of up to one and a half hours may be granted to students with special needs, with appropriate documentation sent from the elementary school to the secondary school three weeks prior to the test date.

The placement test helps Catholic secondary schools determine the most appropriate course work and academic path for meeting the needs of individual students. The placement test is only one of several tools used for academic placement. There are many variables that help determine whether or not students are accepted into the secondary school of their choice. Taking the placement test does not guarantee admission to a Catholic high school.

#### **Acceptance Letters**

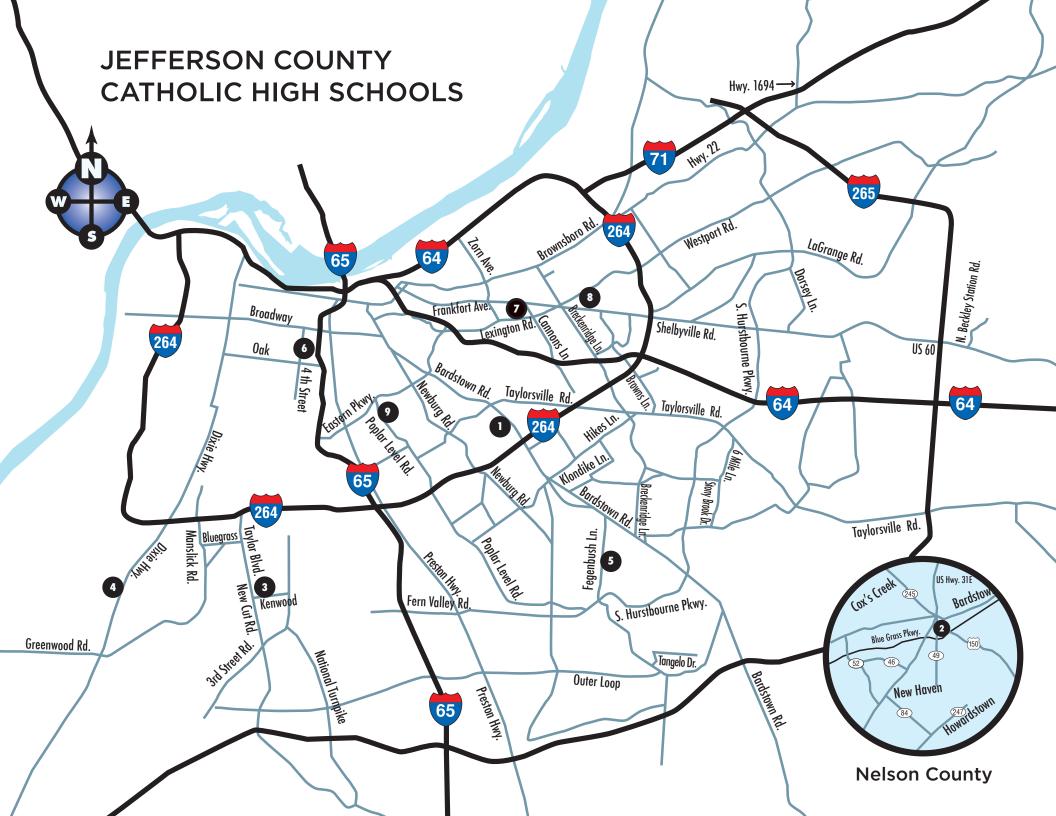
Acceptance letters and notification of registration will be sent by all Catholic secondary schools on February 9, 2015. For the registration dates of individual Catholic secondary schools, please refer to the school listing on page 11.

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1	Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 3-4, 5-9 p.m.		1	925
2	Nov. 2, 12:30-2:30 p.m.	Feb. 19 & March 3, 3:30-6:30 p.m.	1	1	304
3	Nov. 16, 1-3 p.m.	Feb. 17, 6 p.m.	1		313
4	Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m.	Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m.	1	1	263
5	Nov. 22, 10 a.m 1 p.m.	March 3-4, 6:00 p.m.		✓	551
6	Nov. 23, 12-3 p.m.	March 3, 7:00 p.m.		1	270
7	Dec. 7, 2-4:30 p.m.	March 10, 6-7:30 p.m.		1	844
8	Nov. 9, 12-5 p.m.	Feb. 24, 26 & March 3 7 p.m.	1		1275
9	Nov. 9, 12-4 p.m.	Mar. 2 & 4, 6-8:15 p.m.	1		1350
	2 3 4 5 6	1 6:30 p.m.  2 Nov. 2, 12:30-2:30 p.m.  3 Nov. 16, 1-3 p.m.  4 Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m.  5 Nov. 22, 10 a.m1 p.m.  6 Nov. 23, 12-3 p.m.  7 Dec. 7, 2-4:30 p.m.  8 Nov. 9, 12-5 p.m.	1 6:30 p.m. 5-9 p.m.  2 Nov. 2, 12:30-2:30 g.m.  3 Nov. 16, 1-3 p.m. Feb. 17, 6 p.m.  4 Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m. Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m.  5 Nov. 22, 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m.  6 Nov. 23, 12-3 p.m. March 3, 7:00 p.m.  7 Dec. 7, 2-4:30 p.m. March 10, 6-7:30 p.m.  8 Nov. 9, 12-5 p.m. Feb. 24, 26 & March 3 7 p.m.	1 6:30 p.m. 5-9 p.m.  2 Nov. 2, 12:30-2:30 p.m.  3 Nov. 16, Feb. 17, 6 p.m.  4 Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m. Feb. 19, 6:30 p.m.  4 Nov. 22, 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m.  5 Nov. 22, 10 a.m. 7:00 p.m.  7 Dec. 7, 2-4:30 p.m. 6-7:30 p.m.  8 Nov. 9, Feb. 24, 26 8 March 3 7 p.m.  9 Nov. 9, Mar. 2 & 4, ✓	1 6:30 p.m. 5-9 p.m. 7  Nov. 2, 12:30-2:30 p.m. 7  Nov. 16, 1-3 p.m. 7  Nov. 23, 4-6 p.m. 7  Nov. 22, 10 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7  Nov. 23, 12-3 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7  Dec. 7, 2-4:30 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 3, 7 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 3, 7 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 3, 7 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 4, 6-7:30 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 3, 7 p.m. 7  Nov. 9, March 4, 7







### A Letter From Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.

Dear Parents,

May God bless you! In his apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Pope Francis reminds us, "The word of God constantly challenges those who believe in Him to 'go forth.'" The refrain of our Holy Father's to go forth and proclaim the good news of salvation is at the heart of our mission of Catholic education.

Over the last couple of years, the Archdiocese has embarked on a planning process for Catholic schools, which will introduce initiatives to invite others to experience the wonderful gift of Catholic school education. We are challenging ourselves, as our Holy Father challenges us, to go forth by reaching out even more to those most in need. We stand on the shoulders of generations of Catholics who sacrificed to build our wonderful Catholic schools, and as we give thanks for this legacy, we are reminded of the words in the Gospel according to St. Luke: "Much will be required of the person entrusted with much..." I am thankful for the efforts of our Catholic Education Foundation and many individual parishes and schools who seek to assist those families who cannot afford a Catholic school education and who provided more than \$9.7 million in assistance last year.

This guide details the gifts of our Catholic schools. We are proud of the stellar academic and learning environment that Catholic schools provide, and I hope you review the excellent

report card that our graduating class of 2014 posted. With a record \$121 million in scholarships, 98% are continuing their education beyond high school, and nearly two-thirds of the class received an academic scholarship. The average ACT score of 24.1 is well above state and national averages. In addition, the 3rd and 7th grade mean scale scores on the Terra Nova test exceed the Blue Ribbon cut scores for the current year, which puts our archdiocesan scores in the top 15% of standardized test scores in the country.

I hope that this information is helpful as you discern what is best for your children. Please know of my prayers for all parents in our Archdiocese as you seek to support your children in the school of love that is the family.

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Sincerely yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D. Archbishop of Louisville



# HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

Saturday, December 13, 2014 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Incoming Freshmen \$10 & Two #2 pencils

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

EXCELLENCE YOU CAN BELIEVE IN

Archdiocese of Louisville P.O. Box 1073 Louisville, KY 40201-1073 ArchLouSchools.org