

## Living Faith

Our faith in Jesus Christ is the reason our schools exist. Therefore, both spiritual and academic experiences in Catholic 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 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 students.

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

This spiritual mission is carried out in many ways—regular school liturgies, prayer experiences, sacramental preparation, retreats, classroom instruction, service learning, and extracurricular activities. 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 assessment that is administered annually to students in grades 5, 8 and 11. ACRE measures students' knowledge about their faith and offers opportunities for students to answer questions related to religious beliefs, practices, and perceptions. For more information about religious education guidelines,

please visit

www.archlou.org/schools.

Excellence you can believe in!

## 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. Twelve percent of students who attend Catholic schools are from other faith traditions.

## Embracing Service

As students mature within the supportive environment of Catholic schools, they are challenged to take that gift of fellowship and 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 159,000 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 school students are honored each year for unique contributions that they have made to their neighborhoods and communities.

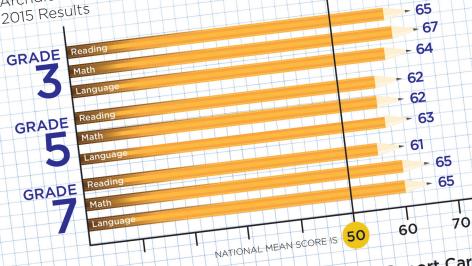


## Inspiring Achievement

Elementary Grades K-8, Terra Nova, Third Edition

Archdiocese of Louisville Catholic Schools





# Secondary Achievements and Class of 2015 Report Card

97% of graduates pursuing college/post-secondary education

17 National Merit Semi-Finalists

15 National Merit Finalists

19 National Merit Commended Scholars

53 Governor's Scholars (Class of 2016)

14 Governor's School for the Arts (Class of 2016)

Average ACT Score: 24 (99% of students took the ACT)

Average SAT Score: 1203.6 (9% of students took the SAT)

High School Hours of Community Service: 159,127

College Scholarships: \$111.8 Million

## Inspiring Achievement

Students emerge from Catholic 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 language arts and mathematics, 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, build lifelong habits of fitness, and engage in a variety of high-quality electives and extracurricular activities.

The programs in our schools exceed state requirements and are measured through regular testing. These tests show that Catholic school students in the Archdiocese of Louisville score 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 last year, 97% of seniors pursued post-secondary education. The class of 2015 earned more than \$111 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 school teachers are certified, and three out of four have advanced degrees. In addition, teachers regularly participate in continuing education opportunities to keep current with innovations in education and religious instruction.

## Tuition Assistance Availability

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

Tuition assistance is available from:

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

Last year more than \$10.8 million in tuition assistance was given to Catholic school students. Overall tuition assistance has increased due to the Catholic school elementary plan, which includes a new Archdiocesan Voucher Fund and a discount for families whose income is below 200% of the poverty level. For more information, see

#### www.archlou.org/tuitionassist

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 2016-2017 school year is Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

The Private School Aid Service is an independent, thirdparty 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 by the Catholic Education Foundation.

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



## The Elementary Enrollment Process

Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville are typically ministries of a parish or group of parish communities. If you are not a member of a parish or if you attend a parish that does not have a school, visit several schools and consider the needs of your child.

#### **Open House**

Prospective parents are invited to a special elementary school open house day on Tuesday, October 20. Tours and presentations will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Application information will be available at all elementary schools.

#### **School Visits**

In addition, many schools have regularly scheduled tours and sessions for new families, and all welcome your questions and interest.

#### **Applications**

Some Catholic elementary schools may have waiting lists for certain grades so it is a good idea to call in advance of your visit to find out their application and admission policies and procedures. Generally families apply for admission to elementary schools in January and February and are notified of their acceptance by March 1. Once notified for acceptance, families are eligible to complete the tuition assistance process, and tuition assistance forms are due to Private School Aid Service (PSAS) by mid-March. PSAS packets are available at your school.

For specific information about registration dates, tuition, and admission requirements, contact the principal at the Catholic elementary school where you plan to enroll your child. This brochure includes a map that locates each school and a listing of the schools with phone numbers, web sites, addresses, and principals' names. More information also can be found at www.archlou.org/schools.

## The High School Enrollment Process

#### **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 secondary 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 opportunities to ask questions. Refer to the enclosed listing of high schools for specific open house dates.

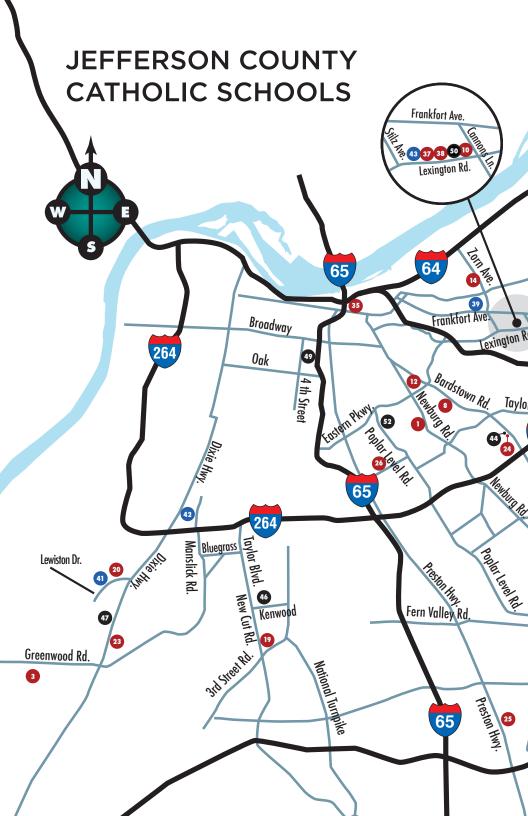
#### **Placement Test**

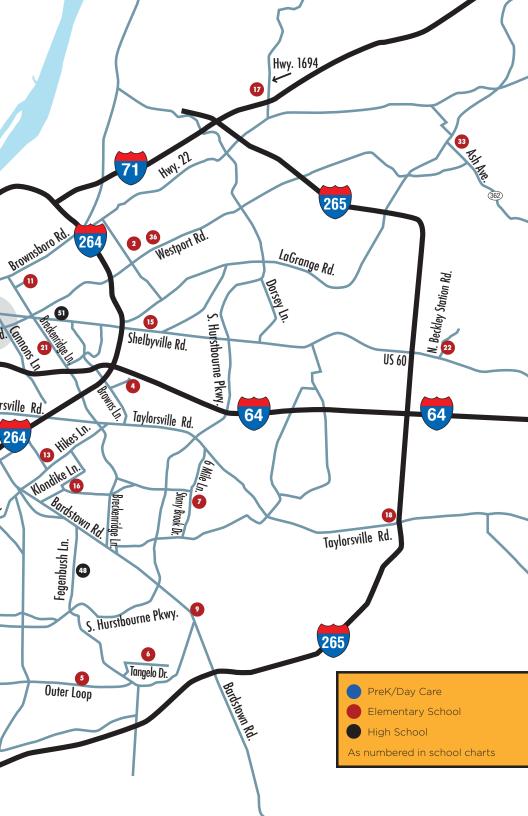
All students who plan to attend a Catholic secondary school must take the placement test at the secondary school they plan to attend. The test is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students need to bring \$10 and two #2 pencils. If the December High School Placement Test (HSPT) is canceled due to inclement weather or any other emergency, it will be rescheduled for the following Saturday in December. 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 into a Catholic secondary school.

#### **Acceptance Letters**

Acceptance letters and notification of registration will be sent by all Catholic secondary schools on Tuesday, February 9, 2016. For the registration dates of individual Catholic secondary schools, please refer to the enclosed listing of high schools.





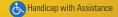
## Catholic Elementary Schools

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ST. AGNES Julianna Daly, Principal 1800 Newburg Road, Louisville, KY 40205 www.stagneslouisville.org, jdaly@stagneslouisville.org	1		1		K-8	419
ST. ALBERT THE GREAT 1395 Girard Drive, Louisville, KY 40222 www.stalbert.org, bcooper@stalbert.org	2		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	627
ST. ANDREW ACADEMY 7724 Columbine Drive, Louisville, KY 40258 www.saintandrewacademy.org nicolerouse@saintandrewacademy.org  **Total Rouse, Principal (502) 935-4578 ext 237	3	1	1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	231
ASCENSION Terry Mullaney, Principal 4600 Lynnbrook Drive, Louisville, KY 40220 (502) 451-2535 www.ascension-parish.com, susthomas@ascension-parish.com	4	1	1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	187
ST. ATHANASIUS Marjorie Reece, Principal 5915 Outer Loop, Louisville, KY 40219 (502) 969-2345 www.stathanasiuslouisville.com, reecem@athanasiusschool.org	5	<b>\</b>	1	4 (School Year)	PreK-8	390
ST. BERNARD Fred Klausing, Principal 7500 Tangelo Drive, Louisville, KY 40228 (502) 239-5178 www.stbernardlou.com, fklausing@stbernardlou.com	6	<b>\</b>	1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	460
ST. EDWARD  David Bennett, Principal 9610 Sue Helen Drive, Louisville, KY 40299  (502) 267-6633  www.stedwardchurch.com, dbennett@stedward.school	7		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	403
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  1938 Alfresco Place, Louisville, KY 40205  www.sfalouisville.org, sfrommeyer@ccsfa.org	8	1	1	4 (School Year)	PreK-8	245
ST. GABRIEL  5503 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40291  www.stgabriel.net/school, phuelsman@stgabriel.net	9		1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	756
HOLY SPIRIT Doris Swenson, Principal 322 Cannons Lane, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 893-7700 www.hspiritschool.org, dswenson@hspiritschool.org	10		1	Age 4 (PreK School Year; Summer Program for K-8)	PreK-8	420
HOLY TRINITY 423 Cherrywood Road, Louisville, KY 40207 www.ht-school.org, jrichards@ht-school.org  Jack Richards, Principal (502) 897-2785	11		1	4 (School Year)	PreK-8	747
ST. JAMES  Jeff Purichia, Principal  1818 Edenside Avenue, Louisville, KY 40204 (502) 454-0330 ext. 11  www.stjamesbluejays.com, jpurichia1@stjamesbluejays.com	12	1	1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	185
JOHN PAUL II ACADEMY 3525 Goldsmith Lane, Louisville, KY 40220 www.jp2a.org, lwilt@john-paul-academy.org	13	1	1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	210

## Catholic Elementary Schools

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ST. LEONARD  Mary Parola, Principal  440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 897-5265  www.stleonardlouisville-school.org, mparola@stleonardlouisville.org	14		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	175
ST. MARGARET MARY 7813 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40222 www.stmm.org, wsims@stmm.org Wendy Sims, Principal (502) 426-2635	15		<b>√</b>		K-8	709
ST. MARTHA Kellie Hood, Principal 2825 Klondike Lane, Louisville, KY 40218 (502) 491-3171 www.stmarthaschool.org, khood@stmarthaschool.org	16	1	1	Age 3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	397
SAINT MARY ACADEMY Mary Alice Zettel, Principal 11311 St. Mary Lane, Prospect, KY 40059 (502) 315-2555 www.saintmaryacademy.com, mazettel@saintmaryacademy.com	17		1	3-4 (PreK School Year)	PreK-8	586
ST. MICHAEL  3703 Stone Lakes Drive, Louisville, KY 40299  (502) 267-6155  www.stmlou.org, stackett@stmichaellouisville.org	18		<b>√</b>	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	634
ST. NICHOLAS ACADEMY 5501 New Cut Road, Louisville, KY 40214 (502) 368-8506 www.sna-panthers.org, kdelozier@sna-panthers.org	19		1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	377
NOTRE DAME ACADEMY  1927 Lewiston Drive, Louisville, KY 40216 www.ndasaints.org, b.scherr@ndasaints.org  Bernice Scherr, Principal (502) 447-3155	20	1	1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	428
OUR LADY OF LOURDES 510 Breckenridge Lane, Louisville, KY 40207 www.ourlourdes.org, jenniferb@ourlourdes.org  Jennifer Barz, Principal (502) 895-5122	21		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	454
ST. PATRICK  Dr. Michael Bratcher, Principal 1000 North Beckley Station Road, Louisville, KY 40245 (502) 244-7083 www.stpatrick-lou.org, dr.mbratcher@stpatrick-lou.org	22		1	4 (School Year)	PreK-8	679
ST. PAUL Kevin Brever, Principal 6901 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40258 (502) 935-5511 www.saintpaulschool.net, Kevin.brever@saintpaulschool.net	23	1	1	Age 3 Preschool Age 4 PreK (School Year)	PreK-8	215
ST. RAPHAEL Michelle Brandle, Principal 2131 Lancashire Avenue, Louisville, KY 40205 (502) 456-1541 www.straphaelschool.org, mbrandle@sraparish.org	24		1		K-8	379
ST. RITA Neil Hulsewede, Principal 8709 Preston Highway, Louisville, KY 40219 (502) 969-7067 www.saintrita.net/school, nhulsewede@stritacatholicschool.com	25		1	Age 4 (School Year)	PreK-8	188
ST. STEPHEN MARTYR  2931 Pindell Avenue, Louisville, KY 40217  www.ssmartyr.org/school.html, tschmitt@ssmartyr.org	26		1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care All Year)	PreK-8	323

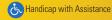




## Catholic Elementary Schools

HARDIN COUNTY						
ST. JAMES  Jimmie Dee Kelley, Interim Principal 401 Robinbrooke Blvd., Elizabethtown, KY 42701 (270) 765-7011 www.edline.net/pages/sjs-etown, sjs@stjames-etown.org	27		1	3-4 (PreK & Extended Care School Year)	PreK-8	463
MARION COUNTY						
ST. AUGUSTINE  Virginia Hamilton, Principal 236 South Spalding Avenue, Lebanon, KY 40033 (270) 692-2063  www.staugustinecatholicschool.net, vhamilton@saintaschool.net (Principal) awhitlock@saintaschool.net (Office)	28		<b>&gt;</b>	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	216
NELSON COUNTY						
ST. ANN Lois Ann Cecil, Principal 7500 Howardstown Road, Howardstown, KY 40051 (502) 549-7310 staschool@hughes.net	29				K-8	20
ST. CATHERINE Jo Renee O'Bryan, Principal 413 First Street, New Haven, KY 40051 (502) 549-3680 www.stcatherineacademy.net, jobryan@saintcatherineschool.com	30			3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	93
ST. GREGORY John Westerfield, Principal 350 Samuels Loop, Cox's Creek, KY 40013 (502) 348-9583 www.stgregoryparish.org, john.westerfield@stgregoryparish.org	31	1	1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	168
ST. JOSEPH Margaret Bowen, Principal 320 West Stephen Foster Avenue, Bardstown, KY 40004 (502) 348-5994 www.stjoeelem.org, mbowen@stjoeelem.org	32		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	445
OLDHAM COUNTY						
ST. ALOYSIUS  Maryann Hayslip, Principal 122 Mount Mercy Drive, Pewee Valley, KY 40056 (502) 241-8516 www.staloysiusky.org, schooloffice@staloysiuspwv.org	33		1	Older 3-5 (School Year)	PreK-8	405
WASHINGTON COUNTY						
ST. DOMINIC Pamela Breunig, Principal 309 West Main Street, Springfield, KY 40069 (859) 336-7165 www.stdominicelem.org, pbreunig@stdominicelem.org	34		1	3-4 (School Year)	PreK-8	186









## Outside Jefferson County



HARDIN COUNTY



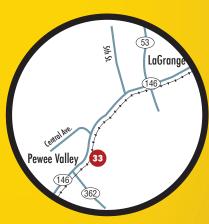
MARION COUNTY



WASHINGTON COUNTY



NELSON COUNTY



**OLDHAM COUNTY** 

- PreK/Day Care
  Elementary School
- High School

As numbered in school charts

## Catholic Private Schools



	Now N	861018	4/fer	A Second	S. S	3/1/2 NA
NATIVITY ACADEMY AT ST. BONIFACE Carol Nord, Executive Director • Thomas Kallay, Principal 529 East Liberty Street, Louisville, KY 40202 (502) 855-3300 www.nativitylouisville.org, tkallay@nativityacademy.org	35	1	<b>√</b>		5-8	74
PITT ACADEMY Renee Doty, Principal 7515 Westport Road, Louisville, KY 40222 (502) 966-6979 www.pitt.com, rdoty@pitt.com (Pitt Academy is a school for students with special needs and learning differences.)	36		>		K-12	56
Ann Carol Grant, Principal 3107 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206 www.shslou.org, khaering@shslou.org  (502) 896-3931	37		<b>√</b>	Ages 1-5 and Jr. K	PreK-8	358
SACRED HEART SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS Dr. Anna Jo Paul, Interim Executive Director 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 897-1816 www.shslou.org, apaul@shslou.org	38				All Ages	393



## Catholic Preschools & Daycares

	Maplo	Before S.	Affer School	Pesch Car	100110		O/R.D.
ST. JOSEPH CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER  Angela Jacobi, Director (502) 893-0241 ext. 312 2823 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206 7 a.m. — 6 p.m. www.sjkids.org angelaj@sjkids.org	39		1	1	1	6 Wks- Age 12	110
ST. JOSEPH MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S CENTER Dr. Kathleen Filkins, Director (502) 348-1540 161 West Drive, Nazareth, KY 40048 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. www.stjosephmontessori.org kfilkins@stjosephmontessori.org	40	1	1	1		Ages 3-6 Extended care and summer camp for grades K to age 12	45
ST. LAWRENCE CHILD ENRICHMENT CENTER Suzanne Stewart, Director Preschool; Before and After School Care and Summer Care. (502) 449-4021 1925 Lewiston Drive, Louisville, KY 40216 6:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. (See also Notre Dame s.stewart@ndasaints.org Academy in school listing)	41	/	1	1		Preschool (ages 3 and PreK), Extended Care for PreK-Gr. 8	60
MARY QUEEN OF PEACE PRESCHOOL Gloria Haines, Director (502) 447-0760 4007 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40216 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. www.mqopshivelyky.org MQOP@twc.com School Year Only.	42		1	1		PreK (ages 3-4), Extended Care for PreK-Gr. 5	30
SACRED HEART PRESCHOOL Lisa Houghlin, Director (502) 896-3941 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. www.shslou.org lhoughlin@shslou.org (See also Sacred Heart Model School in school listing)	43	1	1	1		PreK (ages 1-5), Junior Kindergarten	255

Please also see listing of schools; many parish schools offer preschool programs and school-age extended care programs.

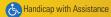


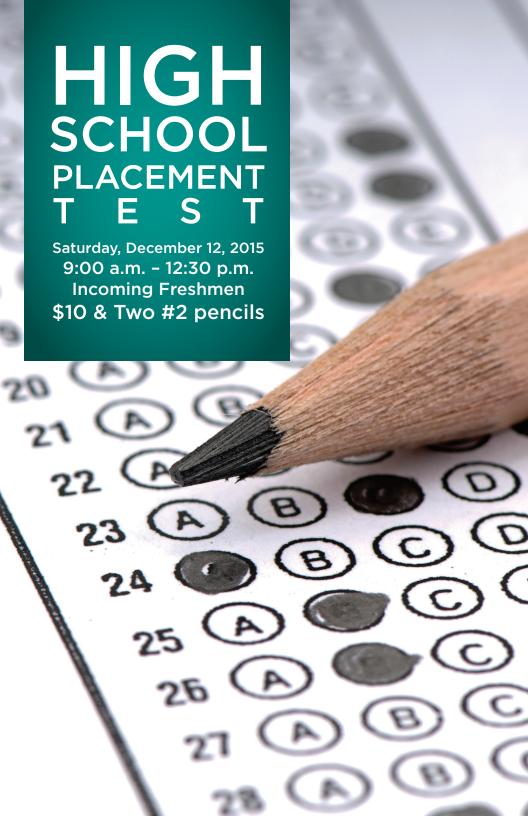
## Catholic High Schools



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ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL Mary Lang, President • Martha Tedesco, Principal 2170 Tyler Lane, Louisville, KY 40205 (502) 458-9551 www.ahsrockets.org, elisabeth.russo@ahsrockets.org	44	Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 10, 5-9 p.m.		✓	900
BETHLEHEM HIGH SCHOOL Tom Hamilton, Principal 309 West Stephen Foster Avenue, Bardstown, KY 40004 (502) 348-8594 www.bethlehemhigh.org, kjohnson@bethlehemhigh.org or cmedley@bethlehemhigh.org	45	Dec. 3, 5-8 p.m.	Feb. 18 & March 15, 3:30-7 p.m.	1	<b>√</b>	287
DESALES HIGH SCHOOL Doug Strothman, President • Suzanne Barnett, Vice Pres. of Academics/ Principal 425 W. Kenwood Drive, Louisville, KY 40214 (502) 368-6519 www.desaleshighschool.com, justin.lewis@desaleshs.com	46	Nov. 15, 12-3 p.m.	Feb. 16, 6 p.m.	1		320
HOLY CROSS HIGH SCHOOL Tim Weihe, President • Danielle Wiegandt, Principal 5144 Dixie Highway, Louisville, KY 40216 (502) 447-4363 www.holycrosshs.com, kfoushee@holycrosshs.com	47	Nov. 22, 4-6 p.m.	Feb. 18, 6:30-9 p.m.	1	1	256
MERCY ACADEMY Michael Johnson, President ● Amy Elstone, Principal 5801 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, KY 40228 (502) 671-2010 www.mercyacademy.com, almorris@mercyjaguars.com	48	Nov. 21, 10 a.m 1 p.m.	March 1-2, 6 p.m.		1	543
PRESENTATION ACADEMY Sr. Christine Beckett, SCN, President • Barbara Wine, Principal 861 South 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40203 (502) 583-5935 www.presentationacademy.org, jback@presentationacademy.org	49	Nov. 22, 12-3 p.m.	March 1, 7 p.m.		✓	283
SACRED HEART ACADEMY Dr. Cynthia Crabtree, President • Mary Lee McCoy, Principal 3175 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206 (502) 897-6097 www.shslou.org, Lhitron@shslou.org	50	Dec. 6, 2-4:30 p.m.	March 14, 6-7:30 p.m.		>	858
TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL  Dr. Robert Mullen, President ● Daniel Zoeller, Principal 4011 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 895-9427 www.trinityrocks.com, browning@thsrock.net	51	Nov. 15, 12-4 p.m.	Feb. 24, 29 & March 2 6-7:30 p.m.	1		1230
ST. XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL Dr. Perry Sangalli, President • Francisco Espinosa, Jr., Principal 1609 Poplar Level Road, Louisville, KY 40217 (502) 637-4712 www.saintx.com, cwhite@saintx.com	52	Nov. 8, 12-4 p.m.	Feb. 29 & March 2, 6-8:15 p.m.	1		1358







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

Dear Parents,

In the opening line of *Misericordiae Vultus*, the document announcing the Year of Mercy that we will celebrate beginning December 8, Pope Francis reminds us: "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy." Our Catholic schools are ideal communities in which your children receive and celebrate mercy, as daily we invite our students to know Jesus personally, to love Him intimately, and to serve Him wholeheartedly.

Through a Catholic school education, your children continue to receive the gift of mercy, first experienced through God's grace in your families. Catholic schools offer the rich sacramental and liturgical life of the Church as well as education in the faith. At regular Masses, students encounter the paschal mystery and the depth of God's mercy in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Sacrament of Reconciliation offers a profound experience of God's mercy and grace, and my hope is that our school families take advantage of this wonderful opportunity in a special way during this year.

Catholic schools also challenge students to share the gift of mercy with others. We can point to numerous examples of students practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy through service opportunities in their families, neighborhoods, parishes, and the broader community. In addition, schools call students to show respect and hospitality in their daily interactions with others and to reach out without question to all. "Love...can never be just an abstraction," our Holy Father reminds us, but "indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes and behaviors that are shown in daily living."

I have long been impressed with how Catholic schools couple service with education about Catholic social teaching so that students understand the systems and structures that perpetuate the issues that they encounter in their service projects. In this way, your children begin to understand how justice and mercy work together to reveal the fullness of God's love.

We have much to look forward to this year with our Holy Father's visit, the Synod on the Families, and the Year of Mercy. As we observe this special time in our Church, please know of my prayers for all parents in our Archdiocese as you seek to support your children in the school of love and mercy that is the family.

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Sincerely yours in our Lord,

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





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