

# IMPORTANT DATES Catholic High School Open Houses

November-December, 2015 (Please see chart on page II for dates and times.)

High School Placement Test Saturday, December 12, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Incoming freshmen are required to sit for the placement test at the Catholic high school they plan to attend. Incoming freshmen should bring \$10 and two #2 pencils. (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.)

Catholic Schools Week January 24-January 30, 2016

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Acceptance Letters Sent By High Schools Tuesday, February 9, 2016

High School Registration February-March, 2016 (Please see chart on page II for dates and times.)

For more information, visit us online at ArchLouSchools.org

# 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 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, 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 assessment 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.

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# **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. Sixteen 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 159,000 hours of community service.

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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.

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Living Faith + Celebrating Community + Embracing Service + Inspiring Achievement

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# 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 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 guality 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 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 taking ACT) Average SAT Score: 1203.6 (9% of students taking SAT) High School Hours of Community Service: 159,127 College Scholarships: \$111.8 Million



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#### When he was Cardinal of Argentina, Pope Francis said about Catholic schools:

"The education of children and young people is such an important task in forming them as free and responsible human beings.... And because education truly forms human beings, it is especially the duty and responsibility of the Church, who is called to serve mankind from the heart of God and in such a way that no other institution can."

Every day children and youth have the opportunity to learn "from the heart of God" as they are invited to know Jesus personally, to love Him intimately, and to serve Him wholeheartedly.

#### Because We Believe.



# **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 \$10.8 million in tuition assistance 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 2016-2017 school year is Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

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. Archdiocese of Louisville + Catholic High School Selection Guide 2015-16

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# The High School Enrollment Process

## **Catholic High Schools**



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#### 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 12, 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.

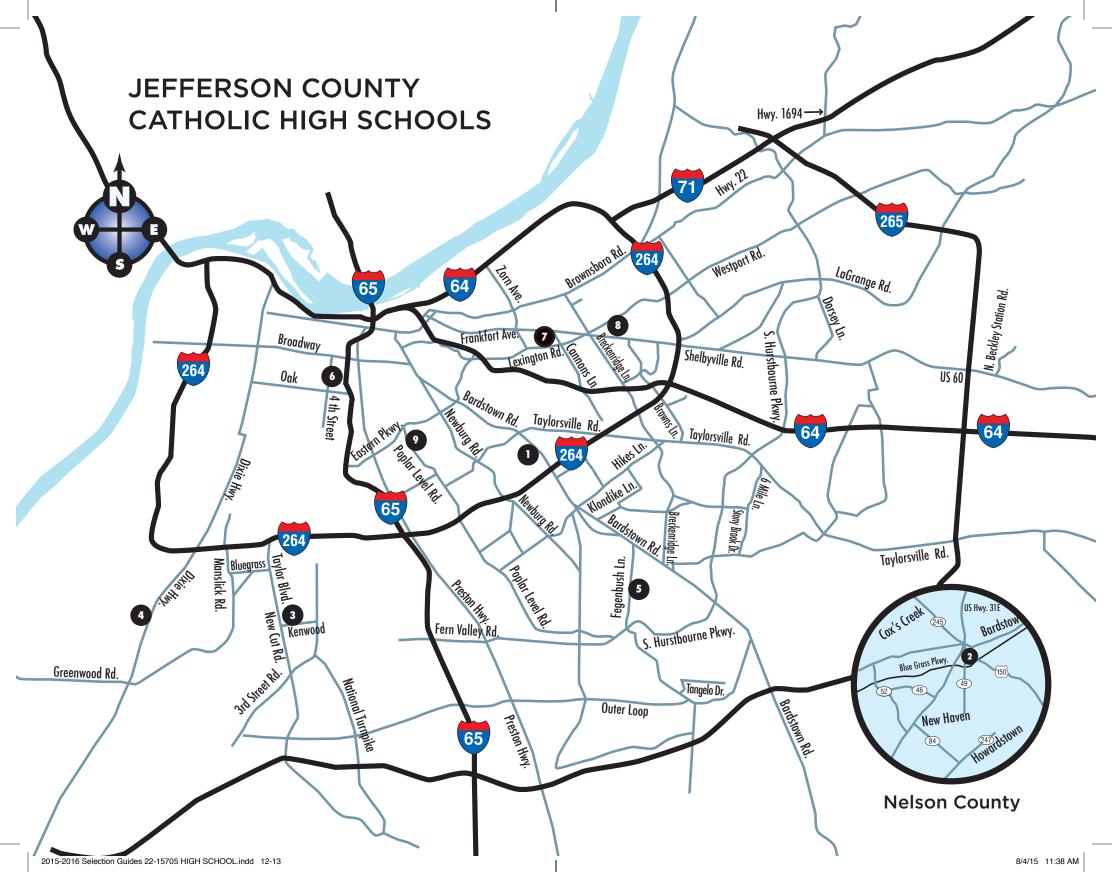
#### **Acceptance Letters**

Acceptance letters and notification of registration will be sent by all Catholic secondary schools on Tuesday, February 9, 2016. For the registration dates of individual Catholic secondary schools, please refer to the school listing on page 11.

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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	1	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	2	Dec. 3, 5-8 p.m.	Feb. 18 & March 15, 3:30-7 p.m.	~	~	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	3	Nov. 15, 12-3 p.m.	Feb. 16, 6 p.m.	~		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 🗞	4	Nov. 22, 4-6 p.m.	Feb. 18, 6:30-9 p.m.	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	5	Nov. 21, 10 a.m 1 p.m.	March 1-2, 6 p.m.		~	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	6	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	7	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 🕹	8	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 (502) 1000	9	Nov. 8, 12-4 p.m.	Feb. 29 & March 2, 6-8:15 p.m.	1		1358

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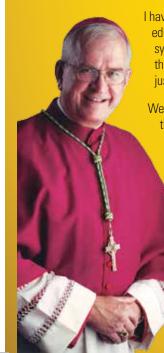
# A Letter From Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.

#### 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."



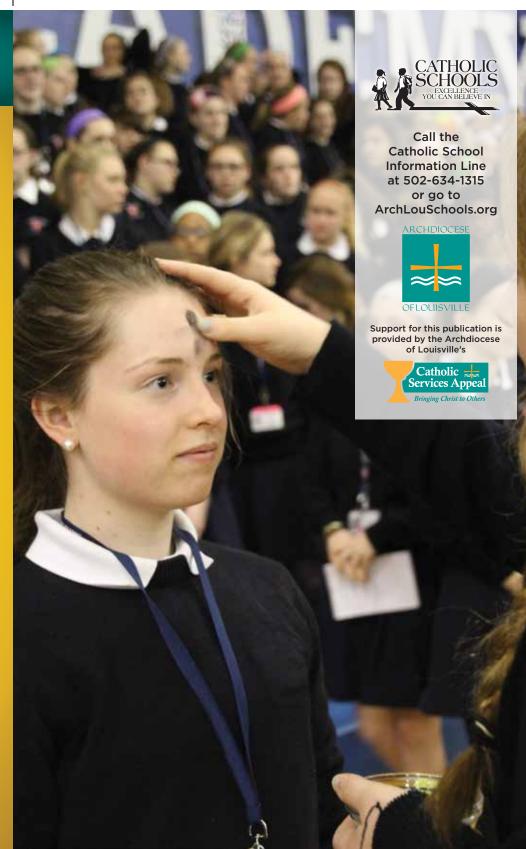
I have long been impressed with how Catholic schools couple service with education about Catholic social teaching so that students understand the systems and structures that perpetuate the issues that they encounter in their service projects. In this way, your children begin to understand how justice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

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

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



# HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

Saturday, December 12, 2015 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Incoming Freshmen \$10 & Two #2 pencils



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