



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

NEWS ADVISORY

Feb. 1, 2011

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2011 IS JAN. 30-FEB. 5

OVER 800 CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, STAFF TO ATTEND SPECIAL MASS

WHO: Most Rev. Walter A. Hurley, Bishop of Grand Rapids, to celebrate Catholic Schools Week Mass

WHAT: Catholic Schools Week 2011: “Catholic Schools: A+ for America”

WHEN: Tuesday, Feb. 1, 11 a.m.

WHERE: Cathedral of Saint Andrew (265 Sheldon Blvd., Grand Rapids, Mich.)

FAST FACTS:

- The 31 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Grand Rapids, including 27 elementary schools and four high schools, integrate faith into the academics and daily life of over 6,100 students.
- Over 800 students as well as teachers, principals and pastors from schools throughout the diocese will be present at the Mass on Tuesday at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew.
- Catholic schools across the diocese are marking the week-long observance of Catholic Schools Week with activities including community service projects, open houses, Masses, and other special events. For details, visit dioceseofgrandrapids.org.
- Students from several Catholic schools have been participating in the “Change for Water, Water for Change” Project, which educates students about the need for fresh water throughout the world and encourages them to take part in a global outreach effort to help others. Students have collected coins to be donated to “The Malawi Connection”, a charitable organization that drills wells for villages without water in the Mangochi District of Africa.
- Catholic Schools Week, celebrated annually by Catholic schools nationwide, was first observed in 1974. It is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).
- According to the NCEA (ncea.org), the 2011 Catholic Schools Week theme, “Catholic Schools: A+ for America” was selected to highlight that Catholic education is an added value (“a plus”) for the nation. Because of our traditionally high academic standards and high graduation rates, all supported by strong moral values, Catholic schools and our graduates make a definite contribution to American society.

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