



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

January 21, 2009

Catholic Schools Week Message from Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley

My dear friends,

Catholic schools throughout the diocese are celebrating Catholic Schools Week Jan. 25-31. In the face of demographic changes and economic uncertainties, our Catholic schools continue to provide faith-based education to 5,000 students in 29 elementary schools and 1,700 students in four high schools. While the future will bring changes, our commitment is firm.

Each year, our parishes provide over \$17 million in subsidies beyond tuition to support our Catholic schools. In addition, the Catholic community provides \$1.5 million dollars in scholarships. Catholic schools seek to integrate faith into the life of each student in an atmosphere that strives for academic excellence.

I extend gratitude to all who have and continue to support Catholic school education.

Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley
Bishop of Grand Rapids