

Learn, Serve, Lead, Succeed.



A special Modern Saint edition in honor of Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools: A Rich Histor

Long before our nation was even formed, Catholic missionaries and families that came to these shores desired to educate young people in the faith. In fact, the very first Catholic school on these shores was founded in 1606 by the Spanish Franciscan friars who settled in what is known as St. Augustine, Florida

The Ursuline Academy in New Orleans was founded by the Sisters of the Order of Saint Ursula in 1727. This all-girls elementary and high school, still in operation, is the oldest Catholic school in the country as well as the oldest school dedicated to the education of young women in this country.

As the nation grew, Catholic schools would be established in different pockets of Catholic communities around the nation. However, it was not until the wave of mass immigration of Catholics in the 1840s, along with increased discrimination against Catholics in public schools, that Catholic schools as we know them really began to flourish.

The bishops of the country emphasized the apprentice of Catholic education when, in 152, the First Plenary Council of Baltimore declared that every Catholic parish was exhorted to have its own school. The faithful responded. Over the ensuing decades, Catholic education greatly expanded. By the end the 19th century there approximately 3,500 Catholic schools in the United States, including Catholic colleges and universities. These num-

Fun facts about Catholic schools in the United States:

- Five of our nine Supreme Court Justices attended Catholic schools.
- Catholic schools comprise the largest private school system in the United States.

• Believe it or not, the average cost per pupil at Catholic schools is \$5,847 compared to the national per pupil average is \$12,054 (NCEA; National Center for Education Statistics).

bers reached their peak in the 1960s when there were an estimated 5.5 million children enrolled in Catholic elementary and high schools.

Today, that enrollment has dropped below two million. There remain 6,352 Catholic school educating our elementary and high school age children. Cincinnati continues its long history of Catholic education. While only the 38th largest diocese, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has the sixth largest enrollment in Catholic schools, with only Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, and Cleveland. We have a lot to celebrate.

Above all, of course, we should recall the familiar quote that is often found hanging on the walls within so many Catholic schools:



Be it known to all who enter here that

is the reason for this school, the unseen but ever-present Teacher in all its classes, the Model of its faculty, and the Inspiration for its students.

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A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, January 27th, 2019

1:00-3:00PM

- Parish School For St. Max
- 100% Pass Rate on the High School Algebra 1 End of Course Exam
- Weekly Mass at St. Gabriel Church
- Busing Provided From 4 School Districts
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"As soon as you walk into our school you feel like you're in a big, happy family" - Allison, 4th grade

"Everyone at Saint Gabriel is treated equally. The masses every Thursday and the Religion classes let you grow closer to God" - Eli, 6th grade



Why do you love StAnn



Catholic School

"St. Ann Catholic School has an amazing faculty and staff. While the school focuses on being a community, the teachers give the individualized attention the students need. In the last three years, I've had the pleasure of watching my child grow mentally, educationally, and spiritually and I have St. Ann's to thank for it." We look forward to your family joining our community!

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, January 27, 2019

12:00-3:00 p.m. www.SaintAnnCS.com



451 Ridgelawn Avenue Hamilton, Ohio (513) 863-0685 www.stpeterinchains.org



Come and see what sets us apart! Open House / January 27 / 2-4 p.m.

THE MODERN SAINT JANUARY 2019



A 2018 Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



"We are learning about the Good News, about lesus."

"Our school is built on one thing, and that is love. At our school, we not only have an environment where the teachers are there for us, but the student body loves and respects one another."

-Evan E., Class of 2018

Learn more at OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, January 27th 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.



513-779-6585 • mtces.org 7197 Mother Teresa Lane . Liberty Township, OH 45044



OPEN HOUSE - January 27

Now Enrolling Preschool thru Grade 8

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ROYALMONT ACADEMY A PreK - Grade 12 Private Catholic School



OPEN HOUSE January 30th 6:00-8:00 PM

Royalmont.org Forming Christian Leaders Since 1996



St. Max helps Make Catholic Schooling Affordable: Tuition Subsidy for Catholic Grade Schools

Have you always thought about sending your children to Catholic Elementary Schools, but thought that you couldn't affor it?

Since 1996, St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish has awarded well over \$2,000,000.00 in tuition subsidies to our parish families with children in Catholic grade schools! This extraordinary amount over twenty-plus years is a clear witness to the strong commitment our parish has to support our families seeking a Catholic grade school education for their children. For the 2019-20 school year, we will continue to award our tuition subsidies to families who apply and meet the eligibility criteria. Application forms will be available on the parish website in February.



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THE MODERN SAINT JANUARY 2019



(Left to Right) Olivia, Emma and Maddie Klenke

The Klenke

Family: Investing in Catholic Education

Cincinnati is unique in its love and admiration for their Catholic high schools. If you've ever been asked the question, where did you go to school, you soon find out that your college alma mater is not the information needed. The high school you attended is where your expected allegiance should lay. One family at St. Max makes a strong case for choosing Catholic school education, especially in Cincinnati. Brian and Jennifer Klenke, 12 year parishioners of St. Max parish, have made a conscious choice to put "God and the church at the center" of their family, which includes their four children ages 13-6.

Both Brian and Jennifer came from a strong public school background with family members holding leadership and teaching roles in the public school system. However, when it was time for their son Will to enter school, the spiritual aspect of Catholic school was too tempting to ignore. "We wanted to create a strong foundation and have that foundation woven into the fabric of who they are," and Catholic school, namely St. Gabriel Consolidated School has provided that for their family.

Over the years they have received countless confirmation on their choice. "I like that I know every one there and know that my kids are not getting lost in the shuffle," Jenn explains. Brian and Jennifer say that the dedication of the teachers, who receive far less pay than public school teachers, is phenomenal! "They are very in sync with one another and the kids. The learning environment is enriching," Brian says, "and they are well prepared for high school."

For the past several years the Klenke family has delved into new territory and began the task of finding a high school for their oldest child, Will. "We started shopping around when Will was in 7th grade, attending open houses and participating in shadowing days," Brian explains. When choosing high schools, some families follow tradition and continue their family's legacy. For the Klenke's that was not the case. Their son had narrowed his choices down to a few and Brian and Jennifer thought that his final choice was a foregone conclusion. Will's high school of choice became clear after a shadow visit and a "feeling" that one particular school was right for him. The Klenke's have a strong opinion that they want to find a school that best suits their child and not pigeon hole their child to a school.

Catholic high schools come with many positives but also a high cost. Jennifer says, "It's an investment. There is a lot of financial aid, scholarship and college

A Pioneer in Catholic Education:

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

As we celebrate Catholic schools, we would be remiss if we did not honor one of the most influential figures in the history of Catholic education in the United States, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley was born in New York City in 1774 into a wealthy Episcopal family. She married William Seton in 1794. In the following years, the Setons were blessed with five children, but they also faced serious financial and family difficulties. The Setons eventually faced bankruptcy.

William's health deteriorated as the financial pressures increased. In 1803, their doctor suggested a sea journey for William's health. Against Elizabeth's better judgment they set sail for Italy to visit their friends. William died in Pisa, at the age of thirty-seven.

While waiting to return to America, Elizabeth attended the churches of her Italian friends where she was deeply impressed by the Catholic belief in the Real Presence. It was



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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Spring Showcase Event

Thursday, April 4 • 7–8:30 p.m.

6000 Oakwood Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45224 681-1800 x2272

www.mercymcauley.org





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November 4th, 2018 2-5pm

Purcell Marian High School 2935 Hackberry Street Cincinnati, OH 45206 purcellmarian.org/admissions



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Religious Education at St. Max



RFY classes go to adoration monthly

Our parish community has the responsibility of supporting and partnering with all parents in their role as the primary educators of their children in the Faith. For parish youth who attend local public schools, we offer catechesis in our Religious Formation of Youth (RFY) program for preschool through grade eight. Students in our classroom programs are led by volunteer catechists from our parish community who quickly realize the many benefits that come from this role, including personal spiritual growth. We also offer a family home study program where catechesis occurs in the home with parent and child working together. The primary aim of our catechetical programs is to increase faith by fostering a growing relationship and adherence to Jesus Christ. In addition, we want to provide opportunities for the youth to experience the richness of our Catholic faith. In the RFY grade school program, monthly adoration encourages a

deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through practicing silence and Lectio Divina. Large group activities nurture a spirit of community with peers, and prayer services foster a spirit of community with our parish family. Each year our students are involved in a Catholic Social Teaching project to support neighbors in need, locally and beyond. We are also committed to incorporate St. John Paul II's teaching of Theology of the Body (TOB) in our programs. Over the past two years we have piloted Rooted: Theology of the Body curriculum for K-12 and look forward to a more comprehensive inclusion of TOB in the future.

Sacsed Heart of Jesus Home School Group: A Community of Families

Catholic home schooling is one option some parents have chosen to embrace their role and responsibility to be the primary educators of their children.

The Catholic home school classroom is an extension of the home and a classroom in virtue. Working so closely with one another, the home school environment provides unique opportunities for growth in patience, charity, fortitude, generosity, and so much more! Most home schooling families use the same resources for faith formation as traditional Catholic schooling—Scripture, the Catechism, stories of the saints. Additionally there is also a large component of living and witnessing to the faith that goes beyond the books and is woven through every-day life—simple things, like throwing out the schedule for the day to tend to the needs of a neighbor or family member or to just decompress because life is crammed too full of stuff. No home schooling parent is perfect or has all the answers. Even this is a lesson in itself for both parents and children as they learn mercy and forgiveness!

Over the past 20 years, the Sacred Heart of Jesus (SHoJ)

home school group, founded by St. Max families, has provided community and support to local home schooling families in a variety of ways. Currently the group comes together on first Fridays to serve in liturgical ministry at daily Mass to worship together with the St. Max community. The group also provides many informal opportunities for community and support as well.

If you are currently home schooling or are considering home schooling and would like more information about the SHoJ group, please email HomeSchool@saint-max.org



Homeschool children after serving after All Souls' Day Mass



Catholic Church

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A Rich History, Continued from page 1

through the Eucharist that Elizabeth truly felt the Lord calling to her.

Elizabeth returned to the United States and on March 14, 1805, she became a Roman Catholic. Zealous to share the faith and to serve others, in 1810, Elizabeth founded the St. Joseph's Academy and Free School dedicated to the education of young Catholic women. It is considered the first parochial school in the United States.

She also founded the first congregation of religious sisters in the United States, the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's, which was dedicated to the care of the children of the poor.

Mother Seton, as she became known, dedicated the rest of her life to nurturing Catholic education in America, knowing that instilling the seeds of faith in the nation's youth was the best way to cultivate the Church in America.

Elizabeth Seton died on January 4, 1821. Pope Paul VI officially canonized Mother Seton on Sept. 14, 1975, making her the first native-born American saint.

The order she founded, the Sisters of Charity have made the education of children a consistent part of their work, including service in Archdiocese of Cincinnati that continues to this very day.

The Klenke Family, Continued from page 5

afforded to graduates of these strong academic schools." Also, if a student plans to stay in the Cincinnati area, a strong benefit is the connection to the high school alumni. Alumni of the Greater Cincinnati area Catholic high school can and have opened many doors and led many students to greater opportunity.



Will Klenke ready for High School

For Information about Catholic Schools in the Archdioces of Cincinnati and ways that can make this choice more affordable visit:

CatholicBestChoice.org