

***PHILOSOPHY OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION
DIOCESE OF SAN BERNARDINO***

The Catholic elementary and secondary schools within the Diocese of San Bernardino are recognized as part of Christ's church and its evangelizing mission. Under the authority of the Bishop, the schools share a common Catholic vision, resources, and responsibilities as they strive to serve the youth that are reflective of the diverse cultural, ethnic, and economic population of San Bernardino and Riverside counties. The schools are committed to include the economically poor in Catholic school education. If the school is part of a parish it is considered a ministry to the parish and it is directly under the pastor/pastoral coordinator.

The tenets and the tradition of the Catholic faith are an integral component of the philosophy and goals of each school. All facets of Catholic Education contribute to the faith development of the students. All teachers are expected to reflect the commitment to teach and model Catholic principles, to promote the Good News as proclaimed by the Roman Catholic Church in contemporary society in this richly diverse diocese.

The schools are expected to prepare youth to respect the sacred dignity of the person, to be a responsible member of the community, and to be willing to translate the Good News into action through service projects and engage in respectful treatment of peers and adults.

Parents, who have the primary responsibility for the moral and religious development of their children, are partners in the educative process. Home and school, together, participate in the development of school policies, curricula, and budgetary processes based on Catholic values through School Boards, Parent Group Activities and Principal/Teacher initiatives.

Therefore, the Catholic school is committed to provide:

- * a foundation in Catholic teaching and traditions;
- * activities that allow students to experience prayer and liturgy;
- * educational opportunities for students of varied academic abilities;
- * financial aid programs to assist families unable to assume full financial responsibilities;
- * opportunities for students to serve others;
- * a values-permeated atmosphere for developing a true faith community.

In this way, the Catholic school will be a community of faith in which the Catholic message, the experience of community worship, and social concern are integrated into a total life experience. Our mission is to impact the family, neighborhood, and society with hope through Catholic Education.