

Bishop Lauds Role Of Catholic Schools

My dear People:

The responsibility of the Church to share the message of the Gospel belongs to each of us. Catholic parents have a special obligation to provide for their children an example and atmosphere of faith which will help them understand the depth and the personal implications of belief in Jesus of Nazareth.

Whatever the parish and the Catholic community can do to assist parents in meeting that responsibility is a very real contribution to making the kingdom of God grow and renew itself. It is in this context that the Catholic schools of our diocese are continuing to offer a distinctive contribution to all of us who are the Church. In our pastoral message of November, 1972, the United States bishops said,

"The integration of religious truth and values with life distinguishes the Catholic school from other schools. This is a matter of crucial importance today in view of contemporary trends and pressures to compartmentalize life and learning and to isolate the religious dimension of existence from other areas of human life."

["To Teach as Jesus Did" #105]

On this occasion of Catholic Schools Week (Feb. 17-23), I compliment the teachers and students of our Catholic schools who work together to build a community of faith, love, and service. In a special way I salute also the parents, the parishes, and all of the Catholic people who make it possible for these young people to meet Jesus Christ and to live the Christian message in their daily lives.

With a blessing, I remain

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Joseph L. Hogan
Bishop of Rochester



1. The mirror reflects Lillian Eveland at St. Ann's Home and her visitors from St. Margaret Mary School, [l-r] Lucy Mallo, Pat Lins and Gini Mickel.
2. Individualized attention characterizes Catholic schools such as St. James.
3. Sitting in a chapel converted from a storeroom by the students at St. Ambrose, Father James Marvin conducts a religion discussion.
4. Results of the Pupil Evaluation program by the State Education Department reveal higher median test scores in areas such as reading for Catholic school children than for pupil school children.
5. Marcia Voellinger, a senior at Bishop Kearney High School, speaks on her impressions of a Catholic education to seventh graders at St. James.
6. Tuning in to education are the intermediate students in the media resource center at St. James.