

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS Teaching Values

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I am a 1983 graduate of Our Lady of Good Counsel School, and now a sophomore at Aquinas Institute. At both schools I have learned to be and to live a good Christian life. The dedication and special attention given to me by my teachers has encouraged me to work to the best of my abilities. I am sure that any success I achieve can be traced to the excellent education I have received in these two schools.

**Peter Kurdt**  
Student  
Rochester

Catholic schools have had a positive impact in my life. Overall, I feel I am a more caring and loving person because of religious teachings early in my life. I was taught to love my neighbor as myself. This has fostered a non-selfish attitude which I have carried with me at home and in business. I find much pleasure in working with others to help them succeed. The discipline aspect has also helped me throughout life. The daily atmosphere of the school taught me to follow schedules, do all you are supposed to, and behave in a respectful manner even if you aren't happy with another person. This discipline is necessary in everyday life in order to keep a job going successfully. Instead of running to do something fun, I work until everything is done and I have put my best effort forward. My life style is more positive from what I have learned throughout the years and I only hope I can pass this attitude on to others.

**Teresa Magee**  
Advertising account executive  
Gannett Newspapers  
Rochester

Whether a child is Catholic or not, the value of receiving a Catholic education is priceless.

Besides teaching secular courses on a smaller, more personal level, a Christian attitude can be seen permeating throughout the faculty and students.

The Catholic education not only teaches the dogmas of Catholicism, but more importantly, how to act like a Catholic, too.

As a sophomore at the University of Notre Dame, I feel my teachers not only taught me to feel good about myself, but helped make me feel good about others, too. There is no substitute for an education such as this.



**Deborah M. Ragus**  
Student  
Univ. of Notre Dame  
Fairport

I feel that a Catholic education has had a great impact on my life. It afforded me a top-rate education, taught me self-discipline and self respect, and taught me to deal with people with true Christianity.

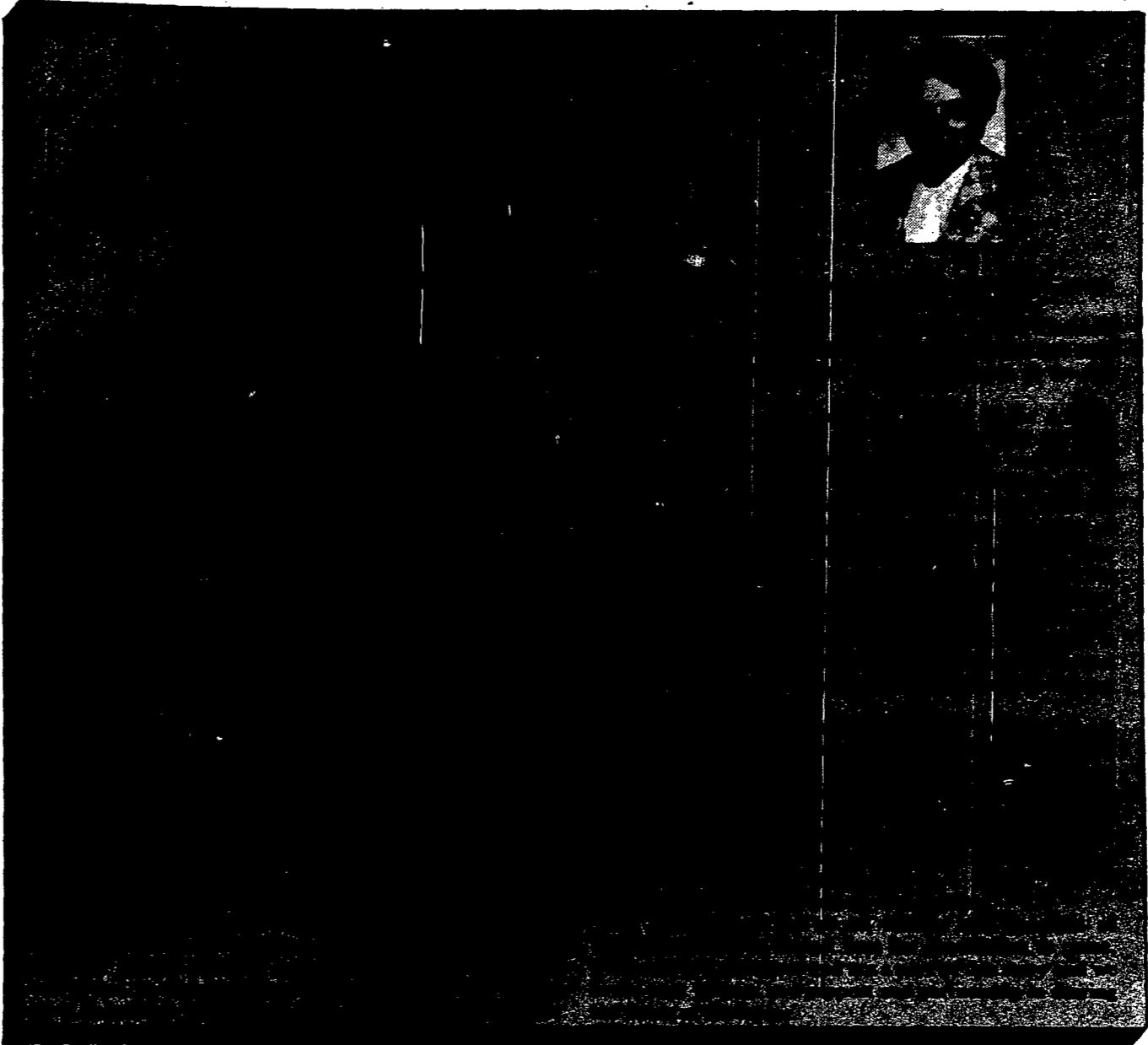
My education formed a solid building block for my eventual career as a computer programmer. And now, as a mother, I can see how important the whole Catholic community was in shaping my basic character and sense of morality.

**Kathleen Trotta**  
Computer programmer  
Mount Kisco

My Catholic school background has given me a lasting value of the importance of community in my life. The sense of "family" that I have was nurtured by my Catholic school training. I was raised with a sense of Church, God and family being very important. Catholic schools affirmed my parents' teaching.



**Fr. Edward Palumbos**  
Co-Pastor  
Good Shepherd Church  
Henrietta



At the time, I was concerned only with the fact that my public school friends "had it better" than I did. They seemed to come and go with little regard for discipline. They had no dress code to concern themselves with. And the public schools had better equipment; a larger gymnasium, a wood shop and a football field.

However, it is only in retrospect that I realized the value of my early school years. Eight years in a parochial school put me about a full year ahead upon entering public high school. I had a head start in area such as critical thinking and effective writing.

**Brian G. Bourke**  
Journalist  
Auburn

The most lasting impression that Catholic education has made on me is the presence of God in every classroom. He does not disappear when you leave theology class. God is there in the math teacher who will stay an hour or two after school to help you. He is there in the chemistry teacher who is always interested in your questions. He is there in the English teacher who makes you realize that striving for and not attaining perfection is what human beings are all about. Finally, He is there in the priest that makes you realize that there are other "I's" out there, and it is only in becoming vulnerable to them that we can fulfill ourselves. People like this are the ones who have made my Catholic education so valuable.



**John R. Buck**  
Student  
McQuaid Jesuit H.S.

The first and obvious impact the Catholic education had on my life could be seen in my vocation to the priesthood. However, that should not overshadow the other effects which now, with hindsight, appear less important but during the time of school were more important. Most important was the reinforcement of family and a large concern for family members. Of equal importance was the faith element in learning worship and practice and finally the real sense of good study habits.

**Fr. David Bonin C.P.P.S.**  
Pastor  
Most Precious Blood Church

St. Augustine's School had a major impact on my life. In addition to self-discipline, I was taught to have respect for my family, friends and others; to take interest in my community; to be charitable; to take pride in my job, etc. I believe that it is because of this training that I have a terrific family life and have become involved in my parish, community and employment. I am on St. Augustine's finance committee; a Eucharistic minister; vice-chairperson of the 1985 St. Patrick's Day Parade for Downtown Rochester; and an office at Monroe Abstract & Title Corporation.



**Kathryn A. Shelly**  
Rochester

The primary value of a parochial education is the development of a logical, moral framework valuable to the student in making the transition from childhood and adolescence to a full, responsible and meaningful adulthood. The individual and society benefit in that such successful transitions result in citizens with a much more mature social conscience.

**Dr. Joseph McCormick**  
Surgeon  
Hornell

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

## Feb. 3- Feb. 9

