



SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Five Marks of Catholic School Identity

Mark 1: An excellent Catholic school is grounded in a Christian anthropology.

In a Catholic school we...

- Believe that each person is created in the image of God.
- Know that each person has an eternal destiny.
- Embrace the dignity of all.
- Recognize and celebrate the gifts and talents of others.
- Allocate resources to support and enhance the wellbeing and the physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual development of staff and students.

Mark 2: An excellent Catholic school is imbued with a Catholic worldview.

In a Catholic school we...

- Share a Catholic worldview through activities and events.
- Create physical spaces in our schools that reflect our Catholic perspective.
- Foster a Catholic worldview of reflection, service, and sacramentality
- Make decisions rooted in Gospel teaching.
- Embed sacramental routines (prayer, mass, liturgies, scripture, and worship) and reminders in the culture of the school and district.

Mark 3: An excellent Catholic school is animated by a faith-infused curriculum.

In a Catholic school we...

- Incorporate a religious dimension in all learning.
- Advocate for a sacred perspective within a secular context.
- Encourage a critical evaluation of contemporary culture.
- Provide opportunities for staff to develop their abilities to infuse faith into curriculum and pedagogy.
- Teach Catholic values by fostering a love for wisdom and truth.

Mark 4: An excellent Catholic school is sustained by Gospel witness.

In a Catholic school we...

- Witness to others a life lived in relationship with Jesus.
- Participate actively in the life of the Church.
- Pray personally and lead others in prayer.

- Demonstrate a knowledge of faith and commit to faith development.
- Create a vision for evangelization and ministry.

Mark 5: An excellent Catholic school is shaped by a spirituality of communion.

In a Catholic school we...

- Live in community, spiritual unity, and relationship.
- Recognize that God will be found in each other.
- Foster reconciliation.
- Develop priorities and protocols to address the needs of the marginalized.
- Honor parents/guardians as primary partners in education.