



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LAS CRUCES

Office of the Bishop

January 28, 2021

Re: Catholic Schools Week

Dear Principals, Teachers, Staff and Students:

I greet you and the students, faculties and staff of the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Las Cruces, during Catholic Schools Week, January 31 – February 6, 2021. This week, sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and Catholic schools across the United States, allows the good work done by our schools to shine forth where all can see and appreciate the gift of a Catholic education.



Your parents, with the support of your parishes, teachers and the United in Ministry donors, make great effort to provide Catholic schools for our children because we understand that the schools bring the gifts of:

- ✓ **FAITH** in Jesus Christ and His word that each person is a child of God, made in His image;
- ✓ **EXCELLENCE** in the work of teachers and in the success of every student's learning about the world created by God; and
- ✓ **SERVICE** that all will know the love of God that inspires our children to serve their neighbor.

The message that Catholic schools are a gift should be shared with everyone and it is best proclaimed by each boy and girl that attends our Catholic schools. You, marked by faith, excellence and service are the best witness anyone could give about the benefit of a Catholic education.

This special blessing of a Catholic education is made possible for you by the significant sacrifice and encouragement of your parents. You receive your education woven within the fabric of your Catholic faith under the dedicated leadership of your principal and the loving guidance of your teachers and school staff and that prepares you to live faithfully, and to know that God really matters in your life, now and for eternity!

I pray for each of you. Please pray for me.

Sincerely yours,

+ *Peter Baldacchino*

Most Reverend Peter Baldacchino
Bishop of Las Cruces