



## Most Reverend Robert W. Finn

Bishop

Diocese of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph

### Bishop's Statement

#### Catholic Schools Week

January 29, 2012

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph, I invite you to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. With Catholic schools across the country, we are focused this week on the work and accomplishments of our Catholic schools.

For generations we have been dedicated to successfully forming students in faith, academics and service.

What makes our Catholic schools exceptional?

- Children in our Catholic schools learn about **faith**: students learn the truths of Christianity, and they also live their faith as a relationship with God.
- Our students excel in **academics**. Students learn well in a safe and nurturing environment where each student can reach his or her potential.
- Our students are engaged in **service** – offering their time, their talents and efforts to help others – as a sign of both living faith and good citizenship.

Catholic schools are anchors for our neighborhoods. The parents of our students, and our whole Catholic community makes a significant investment that will pay dividends for generations to come. Why do we make such a commitment? Because children need and deserve an educational experience that supports them in mind, body, and spirit, and ultimately leads them to God.

Please join me in expressing heartfelt appreciation to the many teachers, staff, administrators, and volunteers that serve and support our Catholic Schools.

Today, and every day, we give thanks for the vital work they do on behalf of our most valued resource – our children.