



**Most Reverend Raymond J. Boland**  
**Bishop Emeritus**  
**Diocese Kansas City ~ St. Joseph**

**Importance of Catholic School Teachers**  
January 6, 2002

My Dear Friends in Christ,

There is no greater threat facing education today than the national teacher shortage. This situation affects all schools – Catholic, public and private.

Today, our Catholic schools employ more than 1,000 of our community's finest. They model our values. They prepare students for life's important races: those that require the head *and* the heart. They clearly are an important asset in the continuation of our faith.

At the end of this school year, some teachers will retire and others will choose to be at home with their own families. I am asking you to help us recruit the next generation of Catholic school and early childhood teachers.

Your child's teacher could be sitting beside you in this church or living next door. Ask him or her to contact our Diocesan School Office. We want them not only for their knowledge but also, and most importantly, their faith.

Finally, we all know that our teachers make financial sacrifices to teach in our schools. We can do our part by remembering them in our prayers and by being faithful with stewardship of time, talent and treasure.

With warmest best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Raymond J. Boland, DD  
Bishop of Kansas City ~ St. Joseph