



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Diocese to Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

(HOLLIDAYSBURG, PA) – The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will celebrate Catholic Schools Week January 29-February 4, 2017. The theme is *Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service*. There are 14 Catholic elementary schools and four independent Catholic high schools in the Diocese, with a total enrollment of more than 4,100 students. All of the school communities will observe Catholic Schools Week with their own Masses and unique celebrations.

In his Catholic Schools Week letter to the faithful, the Most Rev. Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, saluted the students, parents, administrators, teachers and staff who make up *Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service* in our schools. He recalled some of his recent conversations with students on the Diocesan *Proclaim!* Television Ministry.

“It is awesome to hear our students articulate their awareness and gratitude for their education in an environment where the Sacred Liturgy, daily prayer, the Word of God, seasonal devotions, and other acts of faith are integral to their education and formation,” Bishop Bartchak said. “The word Catholic means universal. Our students have the universal perspective through which the Gospel is to be shared and lived everywhere.”

Bishop Bartchak’s letter is available on the Diocesan website, www.dioceseaj.org. *Proclaim!* will also feature special segments in celebration of Catholic Schools Week on January 29 at 10:30 a.m. on WATM ABC 23.