



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
DIOCESE *of* DES MOINES

Dear Diocese of Des Moines Catholic School Families,

During this most Holy Advent season, I want to extend a warm Christmas blessing to each of you. I know this year has been unlike any other in recent memory. Yet, you have risen to the challenges presented by COVID-19, working collaboratively with our faculty and staff to ensure education continues for all our students. Thank you for entrusting your children to our care and for the unwavering support you show our Catholic schools and parishes.

This year has presented all of us with numerous challenges that felt insurmountable at times. It is serendipitous that our theme for this school year is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." As we near the mid-point of the school year, I am confident that our students will continue to learn, grow, and thrive in the months ahead.

We are called to trust in Christ, not only during times of joy but also during times of trial. It is my sincerest hope that you find strength in this verse and the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The events of 2020 have served as an unfortunate reminder that we are not in control, but God's love for us is everlasting. And if we open ourselves to receiving His love, we will persevere.

You are all in my prayers and I wish you a safe, healthy, and joyful Christmas. May God's Love be your true blessing this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

In Christ,



Donna Bishop, ED.S
Superintendent of Catholic Schools