

The Ninety-Ninth Annual Conference of
The Trenton Diocesan Council of
Parent Teacher Associations



September 21, 2024

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine

Freehold, NJ

The Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, JCD

Bishop of Trenton



Ninety-Ninth Annual Conference

Trenton Diocesan Council of
Parent Teacher Associations

September 21, 2024



The Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, JCD

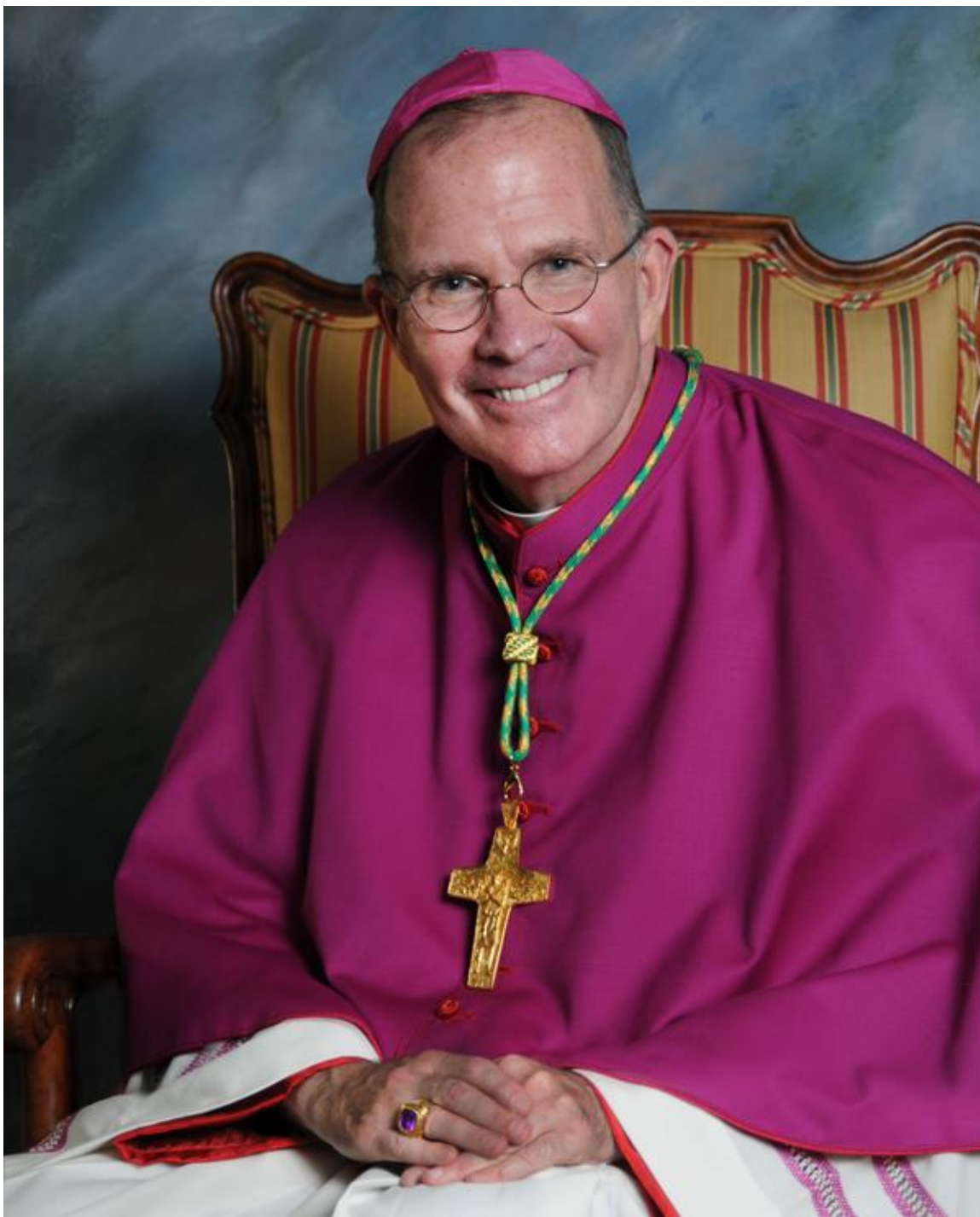
Bishop of Trenton

Dr. Vincent de Paul Schmidt

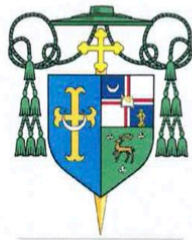
Superintendent of Schools

Jessica Jarmer

Diocesan PTA President



The Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, JCD
Bishop of Trenton



DIOCESE OF TRENTON
701 LAWRENCEVILLE ROAD
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TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08638-0147

MINISTRARE NON MINISTRARI

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 21, 2024

Mrs. Elia Landino, President
Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent-Teacher Association

Dear Elia and Members of the Diocese of Trenton PTA,

As Bishop of the Diocese of Trenton, I am delighted to greet you but most especially to thank you for your great service to our Catholic schools in the Diocese. The relationship of parents to teachers and vice-versa is so vitally important to families in the four counties. In my mind and heart, few things are as important as family. Catholic education makes that value very clear.

When speaking to a gathering of Catholic parents and teachers in Rome ten years ago, Pope Francis spoke eloquently of the purpose of Catholic education:

True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life (May 10, 2014).

May God's blessings be yours as you continue your dedicated commitment to our children, to your children in our Catholic schools!

God bless you!

Respectfully yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton



DIOCESE OF TRENTON

Department of Catholic Schools

Fall 2024

Members of the Diocese of Trenton Parent Teacher Association,

Today, I ask you an important question. As active members of the various groups to which you belong: *"Why are you doing this?"*

All too often, folks respond to that with, *"It's how we have always done it."*

Whether you are in a class parents' group, team parent group, a member of a fraternal organization like the Eagles or the Knights of Columbus, and/or the PTA in the Diocese of Trenton, the *"Why"* question must be asked often, and *"that's how we've always done it"* is NOT an acceptable answer.

I honestly can say that membership in the PTA is not a resume booster, nor will it elevate your social standing in your community. I believe the reason *"why"* for the PTA is quite simple, and honestly, most humbling. As members of the PTA, you are putting others first, and in this case, those *"others"* are our students, faculty and staffs. Since that is a dynamic target, *"How you have always done it"* will not always get the job done when dealing with these needs. The real beauty of the PTA is how many different ways you have found to put others first to meet those needs.

The Parent Teacher Association is a critical part of the life of our Catholic schools, and the overall success of the schools. By the way, the job description is ever changing. Not solely a fundraising arm, like so many other PTA groups, the Diocese of Trenton's PTAs are dedicated to the full support of the schools' mission and bringing that mission to the greater community of the schools. Our PTAs are critical support pieces for students, families, and the educators that work, tirelessly, within our schools. I have never seen an organization so dedicated, so professionally organized and so supremely engaged in improving the daily lives of Catholic school students in a school environment, as I have witnessed in the Diocese of Trenton with our PTAs.

It is obvious that every PTA member acts as the protector of the school, its students, and its mission, and therefore clearly knows its *"why"* within each school. The PTAs are comprised of a dedicated team to support the Catholic mission, and all the operations of school as well as to those within the school community...to bring the *"why"* to life.

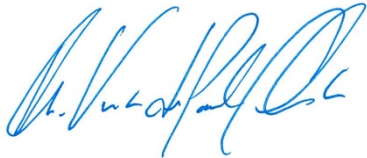
Thank you, Parent Teachers Association, for all your efforts on behalf of our Catholic students. It will be an outstanding year filled with faith opportunities, academic growth, social development, and fun all supported by the PTA.

Please take a moment every day to say a prayer in thanksgiving for the continued blessing of the communities within our Catholic schools here in the Diocese of Trenton.

The mission of Catholic education continues to grow stronger each day and with PTA's support, will continue to forge the future of our faith with students understanding the Gospel, living a life of service, and becoming true disciples of Christ...for others.

Thank you for your constant support of our Catholic schools and knowing "why" you are called to serve.

Warmest regards,



Vincent de Paul Schmidt, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools





DIOCESE OF
TRENTON

Department of Catholic Schools • Office of Curriculum & Instruction

September 2024

Dear Friend of Catholic Education,

In the Book of Psalms, we read the following in Psalm 133: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity! This is such a positive and uplifting thought. The beauty of it lies in its simplicity.

For a moment, transport yourself back to your childhood and your time in school. On the first day of school, perhaps you were shy and all of the other students were unfamiliar to you. Then, you slowly began to develop friendships. Each of us, I think, has a longing to be welcomed as a part of the group; we are looking for that unity. We naturally want to be involved in the group project, the after school activity, or just a game that is played during lunchtime recess. We yearn for that unity of spirit.

Because of your kindness and generosity, the schools of the Diocese of Trenton are seeking to remove some of the stumbling blocks to the unity that all children seek to find and develop. On occasion, however, difficulties that we experience in school can make us feel withdrawn from the group. These difficulties might make us feel that we are not as good, as talented, or as smart as others. Because of you, we are helping teachers to use the tools at their disposal to help those children to feel more confident and secure in who they are and to feel that they are part of the group.

This year, twenty-seven teachers from across the Diocese took advantage of the annual Orton-Gillingham Summer Institute. During this four-day workshop, teachers were introduced to various approaches and methodologies to assist students who suffer with reading difficulties. This was solely thanks to you. For the last six years, your financial assistance has provided our teachers with the opportunity to expand their abilities and to **remember why** they chose to become teachers. Newly acquired strategies will help these teachers to come to the rescue of students dealing with reading difficulties so that they will no longer feel left-out, but rather a part of a unified group. Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity!

With much respect and gratitude,

Daniel T. O'Connell, M.S.Ed.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

701 Lawrenceville Road • Trenton, NJ 08648
dtboc@dioceseoftrenton.org • 1-609-403-7149

Letter From President Emerita Elia Landino

Romans 8:28

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

September 2024

As we begin a new school year, we are excited to embrace our PTA theme for this year: “Remember Why.” This theme captures the heart of our mission and serves as a meaningful reminder of why we come together as a school community.

“Remember Why” reflects our shared commitment to the success and well-being of our students, and it also aligns with the values we hold dear in our Catholic faith. Our faith teaches us the importance of community, service, and compassion, guiding us in our efforts to provide a nurturing and enriching environment where each child can thrive and is valued.

This year, let us focus on strengthening our community by fostering connections and supporting one another. By living out our faith in our daily interactions, we build a more connected and supportive environment that reflects the love and care we are called to show each other. Each event we plan and every initiative we undertake will be driven by our goal to enhance our students' experiences, ensuring that our efforts are grounded in the values of kindness, respect, and dedication.

It is also important that we value each contribution within our school community. Every parent, teacher, and community member plays a vital role. Recognizing these contributions, helps us amplify our positive impact on the children we serve, thus answering the question... “Why.” Let's remember to celebrate both the big and small achievements throughout the year, acknowledging the hard work and dedication that each person brings to our school, and honoring the spirit of service that our faith encourages.

As I move into a new role, I'd like to first and foremost, thank Bishop O'Connell, for your support and encouragement throughout the years. I also give a very special thank you to the Diocese of Trenton's Office of Catholic Education for their guidance and support. Dr Schmidt, thank you for your support as moderator of the Diocesan PTA Board. I also appreciate the friendship and help so generously extended to me by Linda Anzano and Paul Signorelli. And, of course, a very special thank you to the board, Roseann Leibrock, Lisa Honing, Jessica Jarmer, Cyndi Primerano, Brianna Starkey and Tracey Boone. It has been a pleasure serving with each one of you.

As we move forward, let “Remember Why” inspire us in all our endeavors, guided by the principles of our Catholic faith. Our shared purpose and values will help us make this year exceptional for our students, families, and the entire school community.

As in the past, I ask for your prayers to accomplish our goals of advancing Catholic Education and strengthening our schools. Please know that you are in my heart and in my daily prayers. God bless you.

Kind regards,

Elia Landino
Diocese of Trenton
President Emerita

September 21, 2024



Mass

9:00 a.m.

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert of Bellarmine
Freehold, NJ



The Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, JCD
Bishop of Trenton
Principal Celebrant

Breakfast Meeting to Follow
Hosted by Diocese of Trenton PTA

Welcome	Elia Landino <i>Diocesan PTA President Emerita</i>
Invocation	<i>Co-Cathedral</i> <i>St. Robert of Bellarmine</i>
Pledge of Allegiance	Students <i>Schools of the Diocese of Trenton</i>
President's Address	Jessica Jarner <i>Diocesan PTA President</i>
Yearbook Dedication.....	Elia Landino & Jessica Jarner <i>President Emerita & President</i>
Superintendent's Remarks	Vincent de Paul Schmidt <i>Diocesan Moderator</i>
Making Connections	Bonnie Micek
Guest Speakers	Mr. & Mrs. Hewski <i>Lauren's Light</i>
Scholarship Winners Presentation	Jessica Jarner <i>Diocesan PTA Vice President</i>
Benediction	Brianna Starkey <i>Diocesan Monmouth Ocean Regent</i>

Ninety-Ninth Annual Conference

2024 Yearbook Dedication

Dr. Vincent de Paul Schmidt

We are honored to celebrate and recognize Dr. Vincent de Paul Schmidt for his unwavering support of Catholic education and his dedication to the PTA in the Diocese of Trenton.

Dr. Schmidt has spent his life dedicated to education, earning two bachelor's degrees from Southern Illinois University, first in business and then in education. After earning his degrees, Dr. Schmidt began his teaching career, taking a position in his former grammar school named Transfiguration in his hometown of St. Louis. While teaching, Dr. Schmidt attended St. Louis University where he earned a master's degree and then a PhD in education.

His first administrative role was as a principal in the oldest continually operating parish in the United States- Holy Family in Cahokia, Illinois. From a principal position, Dr. Schmidt moved on to an associate superintendent in the Diocese of Kansas City in Missouri.

Building his leadership skills there for several years, it was time to take a position as head superintendent, so the Schmidt Family moved to Wheeling, West Virginia where they lived for 6 years as Dr. Schmidt

became the superintendent of the Wheeling-Charleston Diocese. He then went on to accept a job as the superintendent in the diocese of Toledo in Ohio where he remained for three years before accepting a position as the superintendent in the Diocese of Trenton.

After meeting with Bishop O'Connell, he knew he had found his family's new home.

In 2020 the Schmidt family made the move from Ohio to New Jersey. Dr. Schmidt started his tenure here navigating the schools of the Diocese of Trenton through the pandemic. It was a challenging time but with Dr. Schmidt's leadership and support, the schools in the diocese thrived.



Today we are 30 schools strong.

In addition to being a superintendent, Dr. Schmidt's most important roles are in his home. He is a husband to his wonderful wife Dana, a father to his sons Gus, Jonas and Max and a foster father to his exchange student Caesar.

When their son Jonas was born in 2001 with down syndrome, the Schmidt family wanted to do something that would benefit the down syndrome community. They founded The Jenson-Schmidt Tennis Academy. The academy travels the country working with children who have down syndrome. With the help of volunteers, they use motivational

exercises to enhance physical conditioning as well as mental and social abilities. All proceeds of the foundation are used to ship the equipment to different areas of the USA. As a



former tennis professional who has worked in the industry for over 30 years alongside teaching, Dr. Schmidt found a way to merge his love of tennis with his love of education.

He travels the country and spends his weekends running the program and then returns to spend his week overseeing the schools in the diocese.

We are grateful to have Dr. Schmidt as our superintendent. His love and dedication to catholic education is evident by the way he leads his schools.

May God Bless Dr. Schmidt and the entire Schmidt family!

Scan for more information on
The Jensen-Schmidt Tennis Academy



Guest Speakers



Lauren's Light is a 501c3 charity organization with programs and events that help young women in grades 6 through 12 discover and develop the qualities they need to succeed. Lauren's Light is committed to building a future where girls learn, live, and compete in a pro-girl world. A world where they can

confidently embrace their power, nurture their authenticity, and celebrate their success. A world where the "Leave No Doubt" about who they are and what they can accomplish. Through our three pillars - be bold, be boundless, be beautiful - girls are encouraged to live life with passion, curiosity, and confidence. Together, we are lighting the way for a future where every girl can boldly pursue her dreams and reach her full potential. For more information email kim@laurens-light.org or visit laurens-light.org.



Youth Tuition Scholarship Contest

During the last school year, the Diocesan PTA awarded its third round of Youth Tuition Scholarships. All students attending Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Trenton were invited to submit an entry to receive a \$500 tuition scholarship. Students were asked to answer questions based on the theme of the

year of Reverence, Respect & Responsibility

Three levels were created for submission: K-3 Artwork based on Reverence, 4-5 an essay based on Respect & 6-8 an essay based on Responsibility.

Please join us in congratulating our winners!

Thank you to all of the students that participated.

Ava Maria Szablewski
St. Catharine School

Helene Corvino
St. Paul School- Burlington

Olivia Kartholl
St. Benedict School

Elizabeth Foley
St. Paul School- Princeton

Ayla Ergunay
St. Peter School

Kaitlin O'Neil
Our Last of Sorrows

Diocese of Trenton PTA Burlington-Mercer Region

September 2024

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 99th Annual Conference of the Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent-Teacher Associations. Our theme this year is “Remember Why.” What a wonderful time to reflect as we embark on a new school year together, serving our Catholic schools and communities.

You may have many reasons why you are serving on your school’s PTA: perhaps your service fulfills a longing to give back to your school community; or the PTA may be a vehicle to share your talents; or like me, the PTA is a great way to foster relationships with others who have the same goals to advance Catholic education and create a unique culture for our children.

Whatever your reason, there will be times when you may feel frustrated or overwhelmed; I invite you to “Remember Why.” Conversely, there will be times when you feel accomplished and successful; I also invite you to “Remember Why.” Our reasons provide clarity, motivate us, and strengthen our commitment to each other.

I would like to thank our Superintendent for Catholic Schools and Moderator, Dr. Vincent De Paul Schmidt, our Diocesan PTA President, Mrs. Elia Landino, and our Diocesan Board for their continued support and guidance. I would also like to thank our Burlington/Mercer Region Board members: my Advisor, Mrs. Maureen Tuohy, Vice Regent, Mrs. Stacy Neltner, Secretary Mrs. Elisa Winter, and Treasurer, Mrs. Danielle Gill.

We welcome all of you here today. Whether this is your first or 10th Fall Conference, we hope this won’t be your last. Your continued prayers and endorsement of Catholic education are warmly received and appreciated. Thank you for sharing your ideas, helping each other, and cultivating the spirit of kindness and leadership.

Wishing everyone a safe and blessed school year!

With gratitude,
Cyndi Primerano
Burlington/Mercer Regent

Burlington/Mercer Region Annual Report

2023-2024

Regent: Cyndi Primerano

Location	Association	Yr. Orig.	Moderator	Advisor	President(s)
Burlington	St. Paul	1923	Fr. Jerome Guld	Maria Spirito	Sarah Brodzinski & Teresa Ciepluch
Cinnaminson	St. Charles Borromeo	1964	Fr. Daniel E. Kirk	Jeffrey Johnson	Aubri Hilsee & Angela Martin
Marlton	St. Joan of Arc	1965	Msgr. Richard LaVerghetta	Sr. Patricia Pycik	Kori Budzitzkowski
Medford	St. Mary of the Lakes	1954	Fr. Daniel F. Swift	Maria Sobel	Toni Hopkins & Carolyn Mazur
Moorestown	Our Lady of Good Counsel	1929	Fr. Jim Grogan	Cynthia Smith	Tara Banasz & Elizabeth Kirchner
Mt. Holly	Sacred Heart	1944	Fr. John Czahur	Joanna Barlow	Giselle Roberts
Lawrenceville	Notre Dame High School	1957	Matthew Greeley	Michele Martinez	Debbie Carr & Jennifer Moog
Hamilton	Our Lady of Sorrows	1955	Rev. Msgr. Thomas Gervasio	Maureen Tuohy	Annmarie Sivilie
Lawrenceville	St. Ann	1963	Rev. Leandro Delacruz	Ameriquin Dalmasy	Christa Savela
Hamilton Square	St. Gregory the Great	1966	Rev. Michael McClane	Jason Briggs	Christa Bendas
Princeton	St. Paul	1925	Fr. Miguel Valle	Kim Clauss	Fred Pugliese & Gayle Lundy
Hamilton	St. Raphael	1951	Fr. Genaro Daguplo	Joseph H. Slavin III	Jennifer Petrino

Diocese of Trenton PTA Monmouth-Ocean Region

Dear Friends,

As your Monmouth/Ocean Regent, I want to welcome you all to a new year of school and a new year of PTA. If this is your first year as a PTA member, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to each of you. If you are a "seasoned" member, I know that you are as excited as I am to be starting the school year up again. The work that you will do in each of your schools this year is so important in maintaining and strengthening the foundation of our Catholic Schools.

As I embark on this next year as your PTA Regent, I am looking forward to continuing our regional board's working partnership with the Diocese of Trenton, our Diocesan PTA Board, School Administrators, our amazing Teachers and Staff and local PTAs. I have been inspired this past year to see the tremendous work you all do in your schools.

This year's Fall Conference theme "Remember Why" provokes much important reflection. Author Simon Sinek said, "If we want to feel an undying passion for our work, if we want to feel we are contributing to something bigger than ourselves, we all need to know our WHY."

Our why is our purpose, the driving force that keeps us going when times feel hard and keeps us diligent when things are going well. We may have a different why from our neighbor, but there are often common threads- Love, connection, success. Defining your "Why" will help serve to strengthen your collective missions this year as you serve on your PTA boards. Let your "Why" guide you as you do this most essential work.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to all of our PTAs, school administrators, teachers, staff and families for the continued support you provide to our schools and our children.

I would like to thank our Superintendent for Catholic Schools and Moderator, Dr. Vincent De Paul Schmidt, our Diocesan PTA President, Mrs. Elia Landino, and our Diocesan Board for their continued support and guidance. I would also like to thank our Monmouth/Ocean Region Board members: my Advisor, Mrs. Donna White, Vice Regent, Mrs. Nicole Minnella, Secretary Mrs. Nancy Walsh, and Treasurer, Mrs. Kim Cuzzo. I am blessed to have your guidance, friendship, and support.

God Bless,

Brianna Starkey

Monmouth-Ocean Region Annual Report 2023-2024

Location	Association	Yr. Orig.	Moderator	Advisor	President(s)
Rumson	Holy Cross Academy	2019	Fr. Michael Manning	Christopher McCarrick	Nancy Walsh
Asbury Park	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel	1931	Fr. Miguel Virella	Katie O'Meara	Lou Carlson
Holmdel	St. Benedict	1963	Fr. Garry Koch	Nicholas Cammarano	Jennifer Rodriguez
Spring Lake	St. Catharine	1932	Fr. Damian McElroy	Donna White	Stephanie Bradley & Stefanie Dugan
Brick	St. Dominic	1958	Fr. Brian Patrick Woodrow	Elizabeth Tonkovich	Shannon Simpson & Stacie Bradley
Red Bank	St. James	1922	Msgr. Joseph M. Rosie	JoAnn Giordano	Samantha Fogliano & Tricia Sirico
West Long Branch	St. Jerome	1957	Fr. Sheldon Amasa	Sr. Elizabeth Dalessio	Lori DeLeonardis & Jennifer Grant
Toms River	St. Joseph	1950	Fr. G. Scott Shaffer	Madeline Kinloch	Joji Babuschak & Christina Velardi
Lincroft	St. Leo the Great	1981	Fr. John T. Folchetti	Caroline Fitzgerald	Maureen Doehner
Manahawkin	St. Mary Academy	2019	Msgr. Ken Tuzeneu	Lizanne Coyne	Evelyn Wasilik & Tara Sawyer
Middletown	St. Mary	1954	Fr. Jeffrey J. Kegley	Craig Palmer	Jennifer Fialo
Point Pleasant	St. Peter	1928	Fr. Pedro de Oliveira	Tracey Kobrin	Meredith Palumbo
Freehold	St. Rose of Lima	1926	Fr. Jim Conover	Cynthia Reimer	Gina Mancini
Belmar	St. Rose Grammar	1957	Msgr. Edward Arnister	Jennifer Conover	Kelley McGee
Toms River	Donovan Catholic	1962	Fr. G. Scott Shaffer	Jillian Kelly	Kathy Winch & Lisa Wacha
Red Bank	Red Bank Catholic	1930	Robert Abatemarco	Karen Falco	Kate Gotta
Holmdel	St. John Vianney	1986	Fr. Garry Koch	Margaret Kane	
Belmar	St. Rose High School	1958	Msgr. Edward Arnister	Robert Dougherty	Lisa Clayton

Diocese of Trenton
Parent Teacher Association

Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Roseann Leibrock

TD Bank Operating Account
July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Beginning balance: \$52,338.86

Deposits:

Fall Conference Assessment.....	420.00
Scholarship Fund.....	1,500.00
Fall Conference-Raffle Proceeds.....	1,390.00
Misc.....	.01

Total Deposits 3,310.01

Expenses:

Fall Conference.....	10,156.70
2022 Fall Conference Host Gift.....	300.00
Bank Fees.....	36.00
Principal Meetings.....	2,399.15
Diocese Meeting	347.14
Scholarship Winners.....	3,000.00
Service Pins.....	891.40
Donations/Gifts.....	263.91

Total Expenses \$17,394.30

Ending Balance: \$38,254.57

Diocese of Trenton
Parent Teacher Association

Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Roseann Leibrock

TD Bank Continuing Ed Account
July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Beginning balance: \$31,488.29

Deposits:

Continuing Ed Payments.....	4,500.00
Misc.....	1.00
Total Deposits	\$4,501.00

Expenses:

Orton-Gillingham Course.....	10,000.00
Teacher Scholarship Award.....	500.00
Bank Fees.....	30.00
Total Expenses	\$10,530.00

Ending Balance: \$25,459.29

The Diocese of Trenton PTA Executive Board extends its gratitude to all the schools whose generous contributions to the PTA Continuing Education Fund make it possible to provide financial support to our dedicated teachers who pursued graduate level education during the 2023-2024 school year.

Department of Catholic Schools

(609)403-7149

Dr. Vincent de Paul Schmidt

Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Daniel T. O'Connell

Associate Director for Curriculum and Instruction

Bonnie Milecki

Associate Director for School Development and Operations

Marissa Marcille

Coordinator/Financial Analyst Department of Finance

Sherri Sporek

Administrative Assistant for the Department of Catholic Schools

Thank You for All You Do!

Principals

Elementary

Burlington	Our Lady of Good Counsel	Cynthia	Smith
Burlington	Sacred Heart School	Joanna	Barlow
Burlington	St. Charles Borromeo School	Jeffrey	Johnson
Burlington	St. Joan of Arc School	Sr. Patricia	Pycik
Burlington	St. Mary of The Lakes School	Maria	Sobel
Burlington	St. Paul School	Maria	Spirito
Mercer	Our Lady of Sorrows School	Maureen	Tuohy
Mercer	St. Ann School	Ameriquin	Dalmasy-Laccetti
Mercer	St. Gregory the Great Academy	Jason	Briggs
Mercer	St. Paul School	Kim	Clauss
Mercer	St. Raphael School	Joseph	Slavin
Monmouth	Holy Cross School	Christopher	McCarrick
Monmouth	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School	Katie	O'Meara
Monmouth	St. Benedict School	Nicholas	Cammarano
Monmouth	St. Catharine School	Donna	White
Monmouth	St. James School	JoAnn	Giordano
Monmouth	St. Jerome School	Sr. Elizabeth	Dallessio
Monmouth	St. Leo The Great School	Caroline	Fitzgerald
Monmouth	St. Mary School	Craig	Palmer
Monmouth	St. Rose Grammar School	Kevin	Donahue
Monmouth	St. Rose of Lima School	Kathy	Leonetti
Ocean	St. Dominic School	Mara	Tiernan
Ocean	St. Joseph School	Madeline	Kinloch
Ocean	St. Mary Academy	Lizanne	Coyne
Ocean	St. Peter School	Tracey	Kobrin

Secondary

Mercer	Notre Dame High School	Michele	Martinez
Monmouth	Red Bank Catholic High School	Vanessa	Pereira
Monmouth	St. John Vianney High School	Margaret	Kane
Monmouth	St. Rose High School	Robert	Dougherty
Ocean	Donovan Catholic High School	Jillian	Kelly

Schools in the Diocese Take Part in AdvancED Accreditation

With a commitment to focused improvement, our elementary schools and high schools received certification in January 2016, through the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), a nationally-recognized accreditation division of AdvancED.

With attention to continuous school improvement and increased student performance, this accreditation assures parents that the school is meeting nationally accepted standards for quality and successful professional practice.

NCA CASI is one of three divisions of AdvancED which has accredited over 32,000 institutions in over 70 countries and has served over 20 million students.

We salute the pastors, administrators, faculty and staff of our 25 elementary schools and 5 high schools for their commitment to student learning and continuous improvement.

Burlington County

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Moorestown
Sacred Heart, Mount Holly
St. Charles Borromeo, Cinnaminson
St. Joan of Arc, Marlton
St. Mary of the Lakes, Medford
St. Paul, Burlington

Mercer County

Notre Dame High School, Lawrenceville
Our Lady of Sorrows, Mercerville
St. Ann, Lawrenceville
St. Gregory the Great, Hamilton Square

Monmouth County

Holy Cross Academy, Rumson
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Asbury Park
Red Bank Catholic High School, Red Bank
St. Benedict, Holmdel
St. Catharine, Spring Lake
St. James, Red Bank
St. Jerome, West Long Branch
St. John Vianney High School, Holmdel
St. Leo the Great, Lincroft
St. Mary, New Monmouth
St. Rose Grammar, Belmar
St. Rose High School, Belmar
St. Rose of Lima, Freehold

Ocean County

Donovan Catholic, Toms River
St. Dominic, Brick
St. Joseph, Toms River
St. Mary Academy, Manahawkin
St. Peter, Pt. Pleasant



Diocesan Advisory Board 2024 - 2026

Vincent de Paul Schmidt
Diocesan Moderator

Jessica Jarmer
*President**

Cyndi Primerano
*Vice President**

Elia Landino
President Emerita

Diocesan Executive Board

Paul Signorelli
*Treasurer**

Lisa Honnig
*Recording Secretary**

Cyndi Primerano
*Burlington Mercer Regent**

Maureen Tuohy
Joseph Slavin
Burlington Mercer Advisors

Brianna Starkey
*Monmouth Ocean Regent**

Donna White
Monmouth Ocean Advisor

Roseanne Leibrock
Hospitality

Diocesan Executive Board Directory

September 2024 – September 2026

Diocesan Moderator.....	Vincent de Paul Schmidt Moderator & Superintendent of Schools Office of Catholic Education 701 Lawrenceville Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 609-406-7400 Ext. 5545
Diocesan President.....	Jessica Jarmer 87 Broadway Ocean Grove, NJ 07756 908-447-1308 jessicajarmer@gmail.com
Diocesan Treasurer.....	Paul Signorelli 3418 West Hurley Pond Road Wall, NJ 07719 848-333-3709 psignorelli@fordham.edu
Burlington Mercer Regent & Diocesan VP.....	Cyndi Primerano 222 Old York Road Chesterfield, NJ 08515 Cmprim519@gmail.com 609-947-0287
Burlington Mercer Treasurer.....	Jennifer Petrino 245 Elmore Avenue Hamilton, NJ 08619 jenniferpetrino@hotmail.com 609-731-2266
Monmouth Ocean Regent.....	Brianna Starkey 41 Brunswick Drive Howell, NJ 07731 starkeyshorecounseling@gmail.com 732-896-4001
Monmouth Ocean Treasurer.....	Kimberly Cuozzo 67 Picadilly Drive Jackson, NJ 08527 kimcuozzo@optimum.net 973-714-4291

*Please note: Per Capita Tax is mailed to the Regional Treasurer
(Please do not remit to the Diocesan Treasurer)*

Thank You

*To all who contributed to the success of the
99th Annual Conference!*

The Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, CM, JCD
Bishop of Trenton

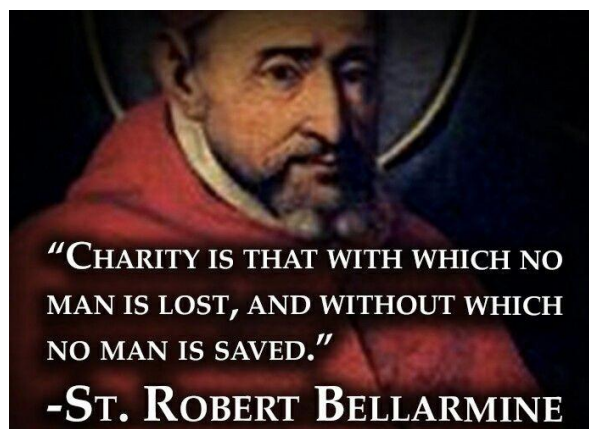
Msgr. Sam Sirianno
Rector, Co-Cathedral St. Robert of Bellarmine

Vincent de Paul Schmidt
Daniel O'Connell
Marissa Marcille
Bonnie Milecki
Sherrie Sporek

Students and Parents who Participated with Us Today
Renee Weber, Cantor & Music Director, Co-Cathedral St. Robert of
Bellarmine

Frank Estremera, Facilities, Co-Cathedral St. Robert Bellarmine
Congregation and Parish Staff
Co-Cathedral St. Robert Bellarmine
Grace Magee
Rose O'Connor

The Diocesan PTA Board



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.



Words of Thanks for Dr. Schmidt from around the Diocese

Dear Dr. Schmidt,
Congratulations on having the PTA 2024 Yearbook dedicated to you. What an honor! The administration, staff and students here at Saint Joseph Grade School are so grateful for your leadership and guidance. It is heartwarming and extremely reassuring as an administrator to know you are always just a phone call away. Thank you for your words of wisdom, your calmness in dealing with matters brought to your attention and your dedication to the mission of Catholic Education.

Madeline Kinloch
St. Joseph School

Dr. Schmidt,

The dedication and commitment that you have shown for Catholic school education is paramount to the success of every school in the Diocese of Trenton! Your support and guidance for all staff and students is greatly appreciated! From the entire administrative team at St. Benedict School - THANK YOU!
Peace and Blessings.
Nicholas J. Cammarano

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Nicholas J. Cammarano
Principal
St. Benedict School

St Ann's

Dear Dr. Schmidt,
Thank you for everything you have done for St Ann School and for me personally, as a new principal.
Thank you for opening so many doors, creating opportunities and encouraging me to do and be the best I can be.
God Bless you today and always.
Sincerely,
Ameriquin Dalmasy-Laccetti

"Dr. Vincent de Paul Schmidt has been instrumental in providing enrichment opportunities for teachers and students alike.

His efforts are greatly appreciated."

Kim Clauss, Principal of St. Paul School of Princeton

Dear Dr. Vince,

Thank you for your constant support, insights and guidance. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate that you always take my calls, hear me out, and provide wise counsel. In all my years in education, I've never had such supportive leadership from a superintendent. It is truly unprecedented but deeply appreciated. God bless you and your family,

Sincerely,

Donna White, Principal
St. Catharine School

It is an honor and a privilege to work with Dr. Schmidt! He is extremely supportive of the principals and is the go to person when a challenging situation arises at school. Dr. Schmidt genuinely cares about Catholic education and understands the enormity of our responsibility as principals. With his great sense of humor, he can always make you smile. I truly appreciate being able to call Dr. Schmidt for anything at any time, and when I send him an email with a question, I can pretty much guarantee that my phone will ring in about 30 seconds. I thoroughly enjoy his visits to my school, although I often wonder if he comes mainly to get his favorite bisque down the street!!

With much appreciation -
Tracey Kobrin, St. Peter School

--

Mrs. Tracey Kobrin
Principal

"Thank you to our Superintendent, Dr. Schmidt, for supporting Catholic education and always visiting our faculty and staff. We appreciate all you do!" ~
Mrs. Kelly, Principal at Donovan Catholic

Thank you
Mrs. Kelly
Principal

Donovan Catholic High School

During my forty years in education I have worked with many Superintendents. When I came aboard as a Principal in the Trenton Diocese I was immediately impressed with Dr. Schmidt's leadership style. He is a caring leader who takes the time to make sure you have what you need to support a Christian school. He is the textbook definition of an effective leader and a truly amazing individual!

Joseph Slavin
St. Raphael School

I cannot even begin to imagine what it must have been like to begin as a superintendent of schools in the midst of a global pandemic. But there you were. Looking back, I don't think that I could ever count the many things that you have done since coming here to the Diocese of Trenton. I simply know that you have done so very much in your four short years with us.

Daniel

Daniel T. O'Connell, M.S.Ed.

Assistant Superintendent
Department of Catholic Schools
Diocese of Trenton

The thing I love most about Dr. Schmidt is his continued support in providing resources for his principals to assist in cultivating and nurturing our students both in our faith and our academics. He is the true definition of a leader with an understanding of all the variables associated with being an administrator. His continued guidance, no matter the situation, is always presented with positivity, compassion, and occasionally some humor! Thank you, Dr. Schmidt, for everything you do I truly appreciate it.

Caroline Fitzgerald, M.A.Ed.S.

Principal

Dear Dr. Vince,


On behalf of the faculty and staff, I can't thank you enough for your support of St. Mary Academy, your commitment to Catholic education, and your leadership within the Diocese of Trenton. We enjoy having you on campus whether visiting on Silly String the Principal Day, or during the annual PreK-K Prom, or just walking through our building (accompanied by an administrator...LOL).

Thank you for your tireless work and for helping to make St. Mary Academy, the place where children learn, grow, love, and serve.

Warmly,
Lizanne Coyne

Dear Vince,

Thank you for recognizing the importance of developing catholic school teachers to be administrators. You understand the value of a catholic school teacher and what he or she brings to a school community. The Catholic Leadership Academy is a prime example on you are developing future Catholic school leaders. The sessions are informational and enable future and present principals to learn from one another. Of course it goes without saying that the pizza and the fried

pickles are a definite draw for some us .

Thanks for all you,

JoAnn Giordano

Dedicating the 2024-2025 PTA yearbook to Dr. Schmidt is not only well-deserved but so appropriate. In the years since taking over the helm of the schools in the Diocese of Trenton, he has truly lived by the mantra that "every child deserves a Catholic education, regardless of financial situation or academic ability". Understanding the true purpose of Catholic schools, "to go and make saints", Dr. Schmidt has worked tirelessly to ensure that our schools are well-attended, staffed by people who believe in the schools' mission, and everyone in the school community feels appreciated and valued. Thank you Dr. Schmidt for your continued support and love demonstrated on a daily basis of Catholic education in the Diocese of Trenton.

Craig E. Palmer
Principal
Saint Mary School

Dear Dr. Schmidt,

We wanted to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support of Sacred Heart School. Your leadership and dedication to creating a positive learning environment for our students are truly inspiring.

We are especially grateful for your support in transforming our hallways into a colorful and inviting space. This vibrant update puts smiles on the faces of everyone who enters our building.

Thank you for coloring our world!

With gratitude,

Principal Joanna Barlow and the entire Sacred Heart School Community

Thank you for your energy and enthusiasm! I am grateful for the opportunities you put in front of us so that our school communities can continue to grow spiritually and academically. Your continued belief in the value of a Catholic education helps define who we are as a Diocese, as well as fully supports our efforts to create and build schools that make a difference. Thank you for your creativity and vision, it has led to new and successful initiatives that benefit the principals and the faculty. I appreciate all you do for us!

Mrs. Maureen Tuohy, Principal
Our Lady of Sorrows School
609-587-4140



NCEA Annual Convention & Exposition

April 22-24, 2025
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL

Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent Teacher Association Executive Board Meetings

November 2024
February 2025
June 2025

Fall Conference September 2025



CONGRATULATIONS

and Thank You!

The Diocese of Trenton
Department of
Catholic Schools is
excited to celebrate
your recognition and
grateful for your
continued leadership!



DR. VINCENT DEPAUL SCHMIDT

Superintendent



Best Wishes!

Daniel O'Connell, Bonnie Milecki, Sherrie Sporek,
Dennis Guida, and Marissa Marcille

