



Dear St. Mary School Parents,

Thank you for trusting St. Mary's for the education of your children. "Education" is a word that refers to what a person is being led to. Proper education is never just about remembering facts. The purpose of education is to lead a person to the truth. In this Truth, we can know and have confidence in our purpose.

All things have a purpose. Take any object that is within your reach right now. It could be a pen, a phone, a car, a television, a book, a purse, a wallet etc. We can describe the purpose of any of those things. In fact, it can be fun to guess what the purpose of things that we are unfamiliar with. A pen is for writing, a car for driving, a book for reading, etc. Most of the objects we used every day are designed to fulfill a specific purpose. When they do fulfill that end, we have confidence in them. When they do not, we lose trust in them. We have a purpose too.

What is our purpose? What are we designed for? Believe it or not, God has designed us for happiness. It is the one universal human desire. Happiness is what parents most desire for their children. Many wise and educated people have attempted to describe what a person must do to be happy. Many of those proposals have been tried and ultimately failed. These methods often leave deeper sadness in their wake. Human happiness comes from understanding the purpose of life. This is similar to how we understand the purpose of objects. We are not simply objects. We are persons. Our ultimate purpose is relational. We want love and to be loved. Not in an overly sentimental sense. Emotions do not last very long. We want a genuine, everlasting and perpetual love. Human love can get close, but only God can ultimately fulfill that purpose for which we were created.

As we continue to form disciples of Jesus Christ through quality Catholic education here at St. Mary's, we do so with the firm intent to lead our students to the purpose of their life. When a person understands they have a greater purpose, happiness will follow along with confidence. This is the mission of St. Mary's School. We want to lead our students to the Truth. The Truth is not a what, but a who. Not from Whoville, but from Nazareth. Jesus. With Him we learn to appreciate everything else we learn about the universe.

Thank you again for allowing St. Mary's to help with your child's ultimate happiness. We are looking forward to our continued partnership in the pursuit of Truth and happiness in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fr. Michael".

Fr. Michael

***St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School:
Forming disciples of Jesus Christ through quality Catholic education***

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