

## THE DIOCESE KALAMAZOO

January 28, 2024

Dear Catholic School Parents and Families,

I welcome this opportunity during the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Catholic Schools Week to thank you for choosing Catholic school education for your family. The theme of this year's observance is "United in Faith and Community". In choosing to send your child to a Catholic school, you are affording your child additional opportunities to know Jesus more deeply.

During my years as Catholic school student, I witnessed the sacrifices my own parents made to support my education. Later, as a Catholic school teacher, I was privileged to see the impact Catholic education had on the formation of students' faith. I know that you join me in thanking the faculty, administration, staff, and volunteers who help to make that possible.

Throughout these past months since my ordination as bishop, I have been fortunate to celebrate Mass with a number of our Catholic school communities and to spend time visiting with students. I look forward to more opportunities to be in our schools in the coming months.

Please know of my prayers for you and your children.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Edward M. Lohse Bishop of Kalamazoo