



*"Let it be known to all who enter here that Jesus Christ of the reason for this school,
the unseen but ever-present teacher in all its classes,
the model of its faculty, and the inspiration of its students."*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

February 24, 2017

Over the past two years we have baptized nearly thirty St. Anthony students. This is a testimony to the Holy Spirit at work in our school community. My prayer is that we can continue to work with you, the primary educators of our children, to determine if this should be a sacramental year for you or your child.

Faith, academic excellence, and service are the pillars that make up a St. Anthony education. Teaching the faith is the most important part of our mission. Students pray daily, receive religious instruction, celebrate the liturgy every Friday, and participate in retreats. As a Catholic School our task also includes inviting students and their families to truly celebrate the sacraments of the Catholic Church.

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the sacraments are effective signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. Sacraments point to and are channels of God's grace. They work as an effective means of communication between God and His people. There are seven sacraments, three of which are Sacraments of Initiation-Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

I encourage you to think about where you and your family are on your faith journey. Are you baptized? Would you or children like to be baptized in the Catholic Church? Is your child baptized Catholic but did not receive First Holy Communion? Regardless of how you came to be connected to St. Anthony and the Catholic Church, I invite you to learn more about the Catholic faith.

All the school families are asked to please complete and return the form on the reverse side of this letter. I will be in touch with you if you indicate an interest in learning more about the Catholic faith or having your child receive a sacrament. Thank you for discerning this invitation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Peace,

Michael Thomasian
Michael.thomasian@catholicacademies.org
Principal

"I would just tell you this: you are the ones that transmit the faith, the transmitters, you have a duty to pass on the faith to these children. It's the most beautiful legacy that you leave to them: the faith." –Pope Francis, January 2014

CONTACT INFORMATION

Child's Name: _____

Child's grade: _____ Child's current age: _____

Parents' names: _____

Parents' email information: _____

BAPTISM

Students in all grades are welcome to be baptized into the Catholic Church.

____ My child was baptized into the Catholic Church.
If so, in what parish was your child baptized? _____

____ I am interested in having my child baptized into the Catholic Church.

____ I am interested in learning more about Baptism in the Catholic Church.

____ I do not seek to have my child baptized into the Catholic Church.

HOLY COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION

These two sacraments are for students in the second grade and above.

____ My child was baptized into the Catholic Church.
I would like my child to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation.

____ I am interested in learning more about Holy Communion and Reconciliation.

CONFIRMATION

This sacrament is primarily reserved for students in the eighth grade or above.

____ My child was baptized into the Catholic Church.
I would like my child to receive the sacrament of confirmation.

____ I am interested in learning more about Confirmation.

GENERAL COMMENTS
