



DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 2010

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Here in the Diocese of Superior we are guided by a shared vision of Leadership, Family and Education. An integral part of that conviction is to care for the spiritual, academic and physical health of our children and young people. They are the Catholic Church of today and our leaders of the future.

Dating back well over a century, Catholic schools have had a long tradition of blending the ideals of the Catholic faith with excellence in instruction. In a partnership with the entire Catholic faith community, the 16 Catholic elementary schools of northern Wisconsin work to instill Gospel values – faith and morals – that will stay with our young learners for a lifetime.

Catholic schools continue to be the most effective means available to the Church for the education of children. The statistical evidence of the Catholic school system's success is remarkable. Studies have found that Catholic students outperform their public school counterparts in reading, vocabulary, mathematics and writing. Catholic school students are also much more likely to go on to college. They produce many of our doctors, teachers, and community leaders.

Our Catholic schools provide more personal attention to students as well as to their parents. In fact, the hallmark of today's Catholic education is in the collaboration with parents in assuring that their expectations for their child are being fulfilled. This requires working together as "one body," and for parents to take ownership in their school.

However, we recognize that today's demands are many in meeting all the challenges we face. At a time when families need it the most, Catholic schools are an institution on which parents, teachers and children can depend. Our pledge is to make certain they are available, accessible and always affordable.

Thanking you for your life of faith commitment in Catholic education,

I remain gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Peter F. Christensen
Bishop of Superior