



Christ Our Model. Children Our Focus.

RE: CATHOLIC EDUCATION SUNDAY: ANSWERING HIS CALL

Dear Lakeland Catholic Colleagues:

As we move toward Catholic Education Sunday, I reflect on what it means to be an intentional disciple and a Catholic Educator within our society, knowing and following Jesus, and the challenges that affect our ability to answer His call.

As a Catholic deeply in love with Jesus Christ, I feel the connection that exists when we attend Mass or worship together as a community in our schools. I see myself surrounded by a community, that extends far beyond the doors of a building, comprised of our Catholic educators, working hand in hand to actively to seek and share His grace so that all may use the gifts that Christ has gifted, and I am both humbled and proud. I know that "church" will continue well into the week, with the Gospel message carried into the classrooms and communities of our schools.

As Catholic educators, we are called to provide our students, and their families opportunities to experience the love and grace of Jesus Christ in meaningful ways, where the Holy Spirit is a powerful guide. Every day we witness signs of this in the sense of love that permeates our school communities, and prayer that is heard throughout our buildings. We are called to live a hope filled life, radiating the joy we find in daily experiences and seeking to serve others. In the echo of your discipleship students learn they are beloved and worthy.

Although we face challenges, we must work with courage and optimism, as the bishops reiterate, "May we, with the help of His grace, enable our students to ponder the true, good and beautiful, and thus come to realize how God is present and at work in the world and in every moment of their lives, leading them to salvation."

Catholic Education is our VOCATION. On Catholic Education Sunday, and on all days, thank you for answering his call, and "letting down your nets". The work that you do is divinely chosen for you alone. Together we build God's Kingdom here on Earth.

You are His, and your work is Holy. God Bless.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. Guilbault", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mrs. Pamela Guilbault
Deputy Superintendent