

Celebrating OC Catholic Schools: A Mission Worthy of Our Support

Our local Catholic schools impact the lives of more than 16,000 young people and their families each year. The education offered in these schools is unmatched, with test scores consistently above state and national averages and a 99% graduation rate. More than 94% of Catholic school students in the Diocese of Orange go on to pursue a four-year college degree, with more than \$100 million in total scholarships awarded to our high school graduates last year alone.

While these statistics are impressive, they do not tell the whole story. In addition to academic excellence, the 31 elementary schools and 5 high schools in the diocese

“Education is fundamental to a child’s development, but a Catholic education combines academic vocation with the enrichment of service so students want to make a positive impact in their communities. Preserving that mission is why we support Catholic schools.”
 – Tom and Kristy McFarland, Orange Catholic Schools Fund Supporters

also fulfill a sacred and ongoing mission. In unique and beautiful ways, our Catholic schools advance the Church’s mission of evangelization – sharing the Gospel with the next generation. Every day, our dedicated teachers, administrators and staff partner with parents to help students witness Jesus’ love in our community and go out to transform the world.

“Catholic schools are not simply institutions, they are communities – communities of faith, knowledge and service, a living witness to Christ and his message of loving communion with others.”
 – Bishop Thanh Thai Nguyen, Auxiliary Bishop of Orange

For all these reasons, the mission of Catholic Education in the Diocese of

Orange is worthy of our prayers and financial support. The continued vitality and growth of our Catholic schools is a top strategic priority for diocesan and lay leaders alike. To secure the future of Catholic schools in our diocese, we need to come together to strengthen and advance these four vital areas:

1. Resources for faculty, staff and administrators.
2. High-quality curriculum and robust spiritual programs.
3. First-rate facilities and technology infrastructure.
4. Consistent, reliable funding for operational expenses.

Those who came before us have built up a strong, vibrant network of Catholic schools. To ensure that these schools continue to thrive, we are announcing the launch of a new Orange Catholic Schools Fund. This fund, managed by the Orange Catholic Foundation, will offer donors the opportunity to support the many immediate and long-term needs of our local Catholic schools and the students they serve.



The Fred V. Duda Scholarship Fund supports students from St. Justin Martyr Catholic School. Photo taken before pandemic.



Marian Alliance Band at St. Joseph Catholic School in Santa Ana. Photo taken before pandemic.

Donors who support this fund may offer their gifts for unrestricted use or designate donations for a specific program or need, including tuition assistance, scholarships, technology updates, professional development for teachers and a variety of other funding priorities. The fund will provide OC Catholic Schools with ongoing, reliable support while offering donors new opportunities to invest in a way that aligns with their philanthropic goals.



“There is nothing more important than a Catholic education, now more than ever.” – Rand Sperry, CEO, Sperry Commercial Global Affiliates

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, all of us at the Orange Catholic Foundation and the Department of Catholic Schools would like to thank our benefactors for their commitment to Catholic Education. Your prayers and

generosity enable us to share the Gospel with the next generation of disciples. And that’s a mission worthy of our support.



A student from St. Norbert Catholic School shares her artwork project.

If you would like to learn more about the Orange Catholic Schools Fund or other giving opportunities offered through the Orange Catholic Foundation, please contact Debbie Loughran, Senior Director of Advancement, at 714-282-3026 or dloughran@orangecatholicfoundation.org. Thank you for your generous support of our local Catholic schools.

