

Archbishop's Residence

2000 GRAND AVENUE

Milwaukee, Wis. August 24, 1926.

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To the Rev. Pastors of the North and West Sections
of the City of Milwaukee.

Dear Rev. Fathers:

With very great pleasure I hereby notify you that the newly organized High School at St. Elizabeth's Church, Burleigh and Second Streets will be opened on Tuesday, September 7th. This is the first High School conducted on the plan of Diocesan High Schools controlled by the Diocesan School authorities. It is a great step in the new policy by which we shall try to give to every Catholic boy and girl of our city the best opportunity of attending a Catholic High School with a real and complete High School study course which can be fully accredited by the civil authorities. We intend to make the tuition as low as possible so that there can be no excuse for any Catholic child of your district desirous of a High School education, for not attending this High School. Its opening ought to mark a new epoch in the work of higher Catholic education in the city of Milwaukee.

But you realize well enough, Rev. dear fathers, that a very necessary requisite for even the best school to succeed in securing a large attendance of pupils, is the hearty and strong support of the Clergy. Without it the best school must eventually fail. It will rest with the Rev. pastors of the North and West sections of Milwaukee to make St. Elizabeth's High School a success—not for human applause, but for God's honor. Let no petty or narrow jealousy interfere. But keep in view the higher and wider interests of Catholic education which reach far beyond mere parochial limits. Let your priestly zeal for the salvation of thousands of Catholic children urge you on to give us all the help and support possible, so that parents and children will be encouraged to profit in full measure of the new opportunity offered to them. Strongly remind Catholic parents of their sacred duty to send their children to a Catholic High School, rather than to a public High School. These high school children are in that dangerous period of life when a thorough Christian education is of even greater importance for them than all the years spent in the Catholic grammar school. In this great work of God's Holy Church we, her priests and ministers, must do our full share.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

S. G. Messmer, Abp.

P.S. There are still two Sundays to bring this subject before your people. "Insta opportune, importune; argue, obsecra, increpa in omni patientia et doctrina." 2 Tim. 4, 2.