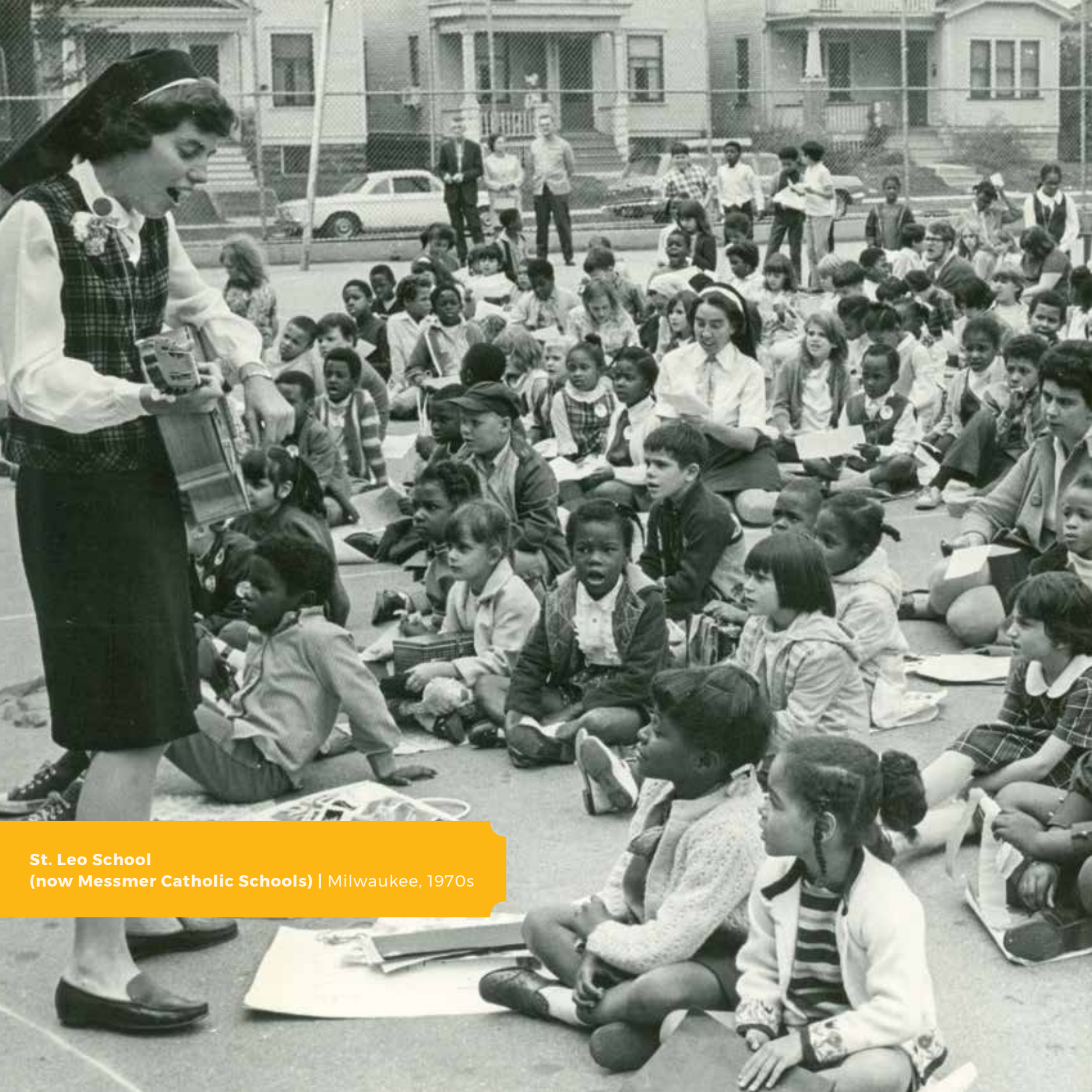




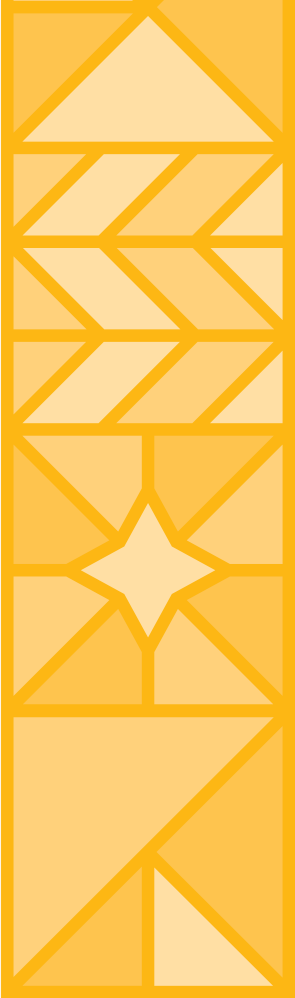
**Archdiocese of Milwaukee Catholic Schools**  
2017 - 2018 Annual Report





St. Leo School  
(now Messmer Catholic Schools) | Milwaukee, 1970s

# A Catholic school day *across the decades*



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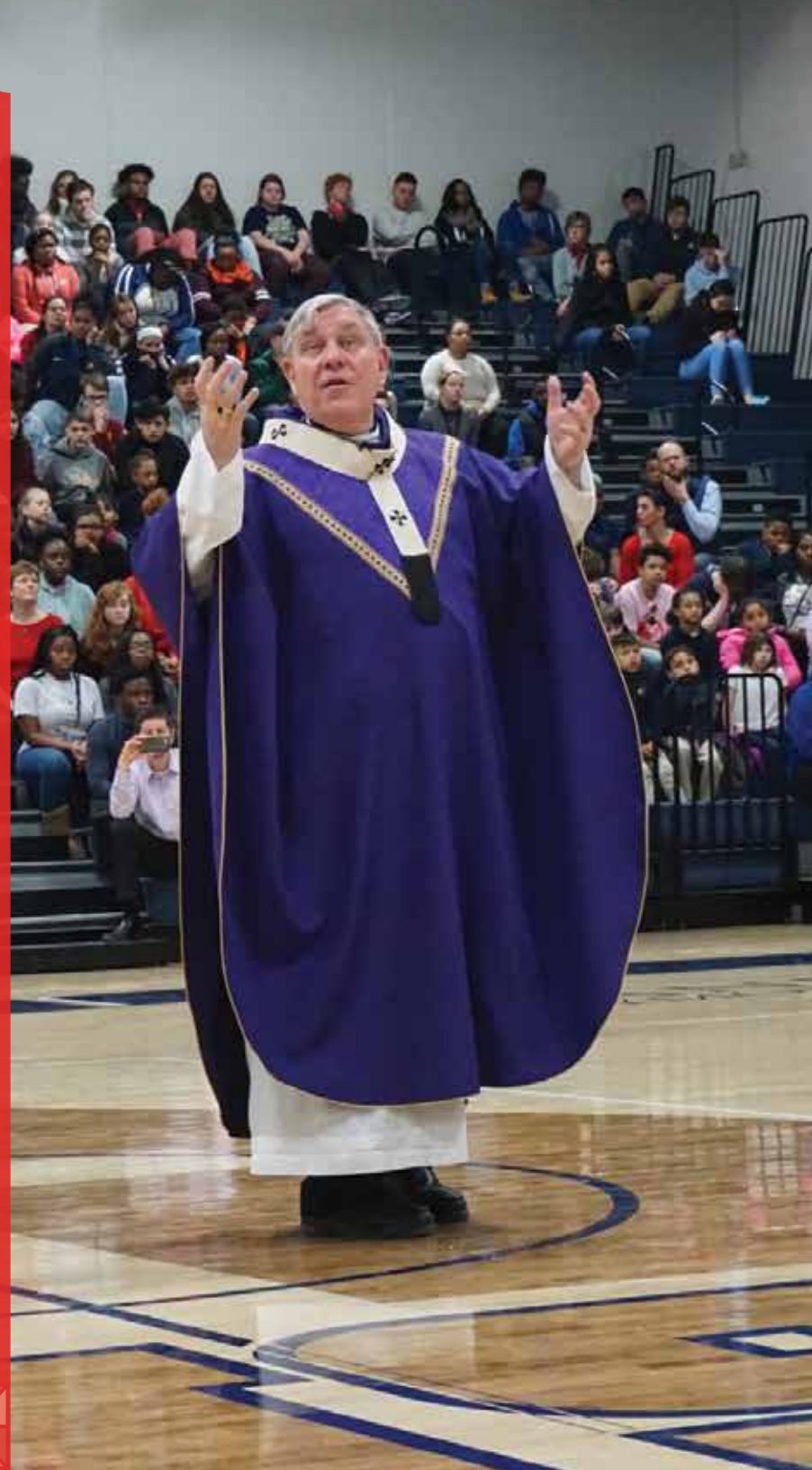
Even before the state of Wisconsin existed, religious men and women worked boldly to establish Catholic education in the newly developing Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Their works of faith and love live on in what is now the 12th largest system of archdiocesan Catholic schools in the United States.

Those who lead and support our schools today know how Catholic education contributes to the development of our young and the stability of our community. Innovative approaches to keep this education accessible are key to the life of our Church – and the lives of our students.

Please join me in celebrating our 175th anniversary and the continuing success of our Catholic schools.

*+ Jerome E. ListECKi*

The Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi  
Archbishop of Milwaukee



## What goes into *a day of excellence?*

From the earliest days of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, our Catholic schools have emphasized Christ-centered student development. School buildings, curricula, technology and demographics have changed since 1843, but the essence of Catholic education remains — and thrives. Every day we commit to helping students grow in mind, body and spirit, in safe, supportive environments.

Today we embrace the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools to assess school performance. Like our founders, we recognize our serious responsibilities to students and families, faculty and staff, the Church and society. Each of our schools, regardless of size or location, seeks to excel in every aspect of its educational commitments.

While the teacher's handbell calling students to class 175 years ago has been replaced by computer-programmed alerts, the values of Catholic education continue to ring true. We're building on yesterday's faith, determination and sacrifice to advance our schools into tomorrow, pursuing and intensifying students' readiness for success.

With gratitude for all who carry the mission forward,



*Kathleen A. Cepelka*

Kathleen A. Cepelka, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools



*“Parish schools . . .*  
**are the nurseries**  
*of our holy religion.”*

Bishop Martin Henni, writing to the Ludwig-Missionsverein,  
a Munich-based missionary support group, 1845





# Pray

***In a Catholic school, prayer is more than words murmured in the quiet of the classroom or sung in the exuberance of an all-school Mass. Prayer is the very breath of the school, the culture that shapes every moment of every day.***

Forming lifelong Catholic identity begins with the teachings and traditions of our faith. Students participate in the sacramental life of the Church, in environments alive with Scripture and the saints. Activities inside and outside the classroom guide students to live the Gospel, creating a community of love and service.

Formation is also ongoing for faculty and staff. All teachers participate in *Sustaining the Mission*, our archdiocesan religious education certification program sponsored by the Saint Clare Center at Cardinal Stritch University. Faith Formation Teams, also trained through Cardinal Stritch University, help strengthen Catholic culture and guide spiritual life for faculty and staff. Together, we ensure that every student and every adult is invited into a relationship with Christ.





**“Christian social living ...**  
*is taught beyond  
the classroom.”*

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Annual School Report, 1950 - 1951

St. Louis Church  
(now Holy Family Parish) | Fond du Lac, 1947





# Study

***Rigorous academics are a hallmark of Catholic education across our archdiocese, in schools large and small, urban and rural, elementary and secondary. Instruction is rooted in the recognition that each student is a unique human being progressing through various stages of growth and development.***

Our teaching resources have evolved over the years, from Latin textbooks to televised speech classes to laptop learning. Today's exciting approaches include science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and International Baccalaureate curricula. The Discovery Project offers high school instruction for academically gifted 7th and 8th graders. Research-based assessment and grading practices help us continually improve student learning.

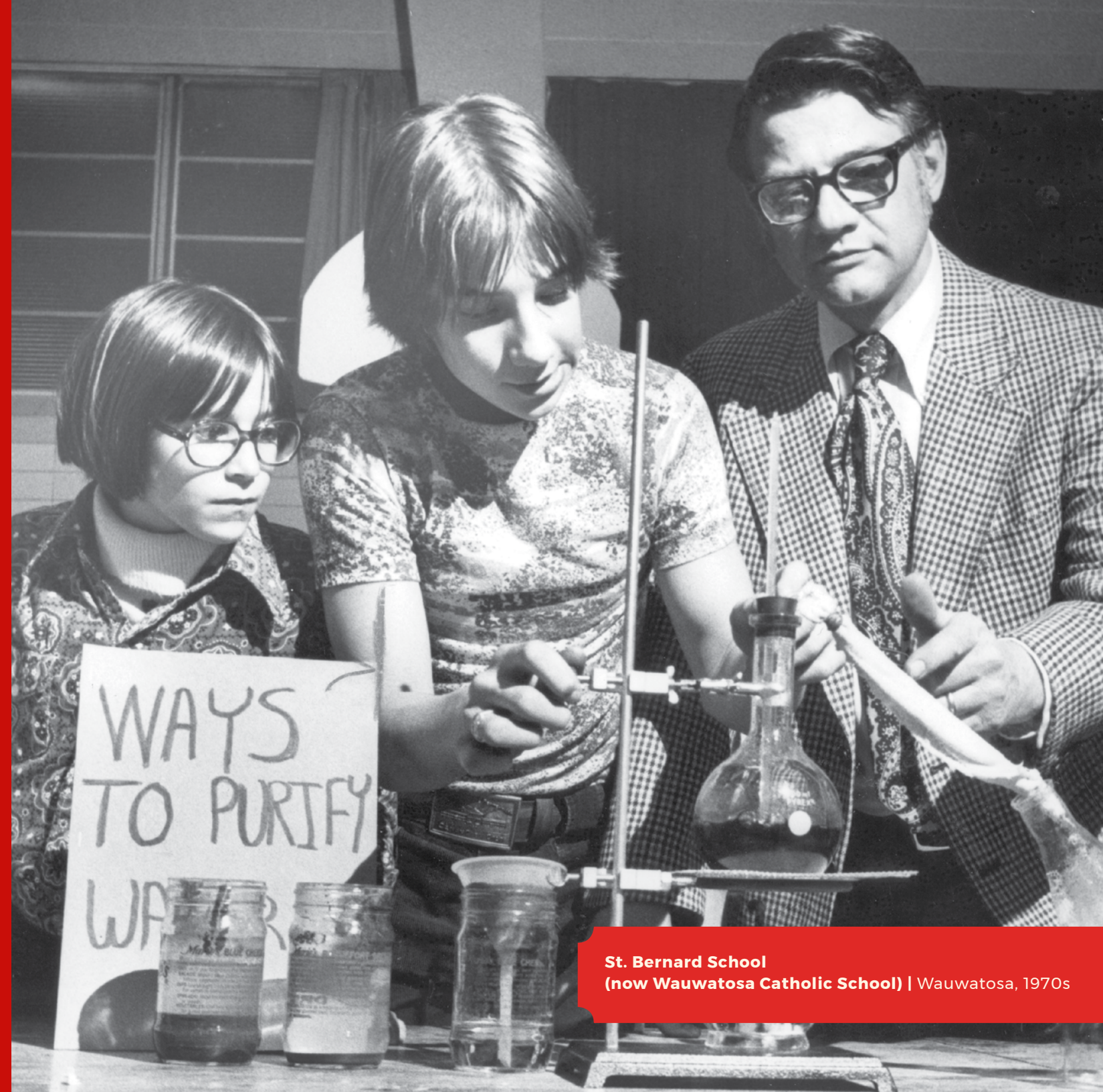
Like our founders, we are dedicated to discipline of the mind. Caring teachers challenge students to develop to their fullest potential, building critical thinking skills, perseverance and an appreciation for different mindsets. Professional development of staff, including our newly developed Teacher Effectiveness Framework, helps ensure that our Catholic school educators are equipped to prepare students for college and for life.





“[Our schools’] services  
*cannot be measured  
in earthly terms.*”

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Annual School Report, 1963 - 1964



St. Bernard School  
(now Wauwatosa Catholic School) | Wauwatosa, 1970s



# Play

***Educating the whole person goes beyond books and computers. From everyday recess games to school-wide social events, activities outside the classroom teach collaboration, respect, resilience and integrity.***

Clubs, activities and athletics programs in our elementary and secondary schools facilitate growth for students of all interests and abilities. In safe, supportive environments, students gain fresh opportunities to develop their relationship with God, self and the world. They build teamwork skills, take on leadership roles and develop belief in their own possibilities. At its best, play cultivates a school community characterized by what was said of the early Christians: “See how they love one another.”

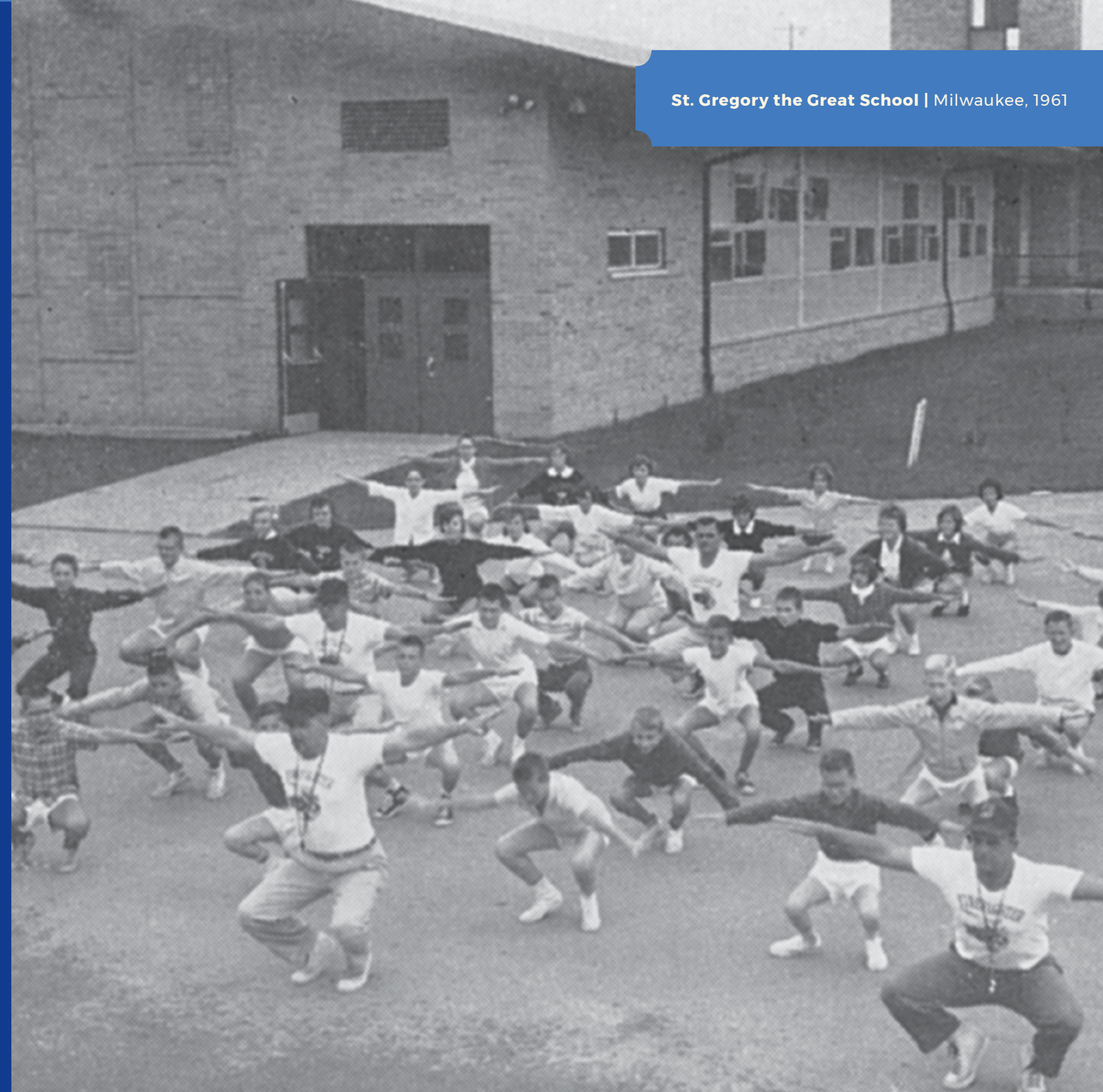




**“Much more must  
be done to fit the  
*student for life.*”**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Annual School Report, 1948 - 1949

St. Gregory the Great School | Milwaukee, 1961







# Serve

***Through outreach and evangelization programs, our students proclaim and honor the Word of God across Southeastern Wisconsin. Students practice Catholic social teachings through word and deed. We invite them to hear God's call and ensure that they have the responsibility and the power to make a difference in the world.***

Following the example of our founders, our Catholic schools offer hospitality to all: the weak, the stranger, the suffering, the poor. We also work to keep Catholic education accessible in our archdiocese, through new and sustainable models such as the Seton and Siena Catholic School systems in Milwaukee and Racine. Our participation in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program assists students and families who otherwise would not be able to benefit from a high quality Catholic education.

Though the models may be new, the mission continues: to build the kingdom of God right here, right now, with full heart and soul.





St. Dominic School  
(now St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School) | Sheboygan, 1989

*“Catholic education*  
**teaches moral**  
**responsibility before God.”**

Archdiocese of Milwaukee Annual School Report, 1962 - 1963



# Connect

***Faith grows as it is shared in community.  
We recognize the importance of relationships  
in today's society and work harder than ever  
to imbue our graduates with both respect  
and appreciation for human diversity.***

Our schools regularly seek to strengthen connections with families and parishioners. A host of community and professional relationships with Wisconsin institutions, including Catholic universities, helps us enhance teaching and learning. Events such as the Soles for Catholic Education Walk bring together students, parish members, alumni and community friends to celebrate Catholic education.

Our vision is Catholic schools that transform our local and global communities into centers of faith, hope and charity by providing Gospel-based Catholic education to over 30,000 students in our 107 schools. We view the world through the lens of the Gospel, as we prepare each student to make that world better — now and for future generations.



**St. Aloysius School  
(now Mary Queen of Saints School) | West Allis, 1953**





**“The good achieved in our  
schools depends on the  
*strength of relationships.*”**





Dominican High School | Whitefish Bay

# Succeed

***For 175 years, Catholic schools in our archdiocese have prepared students for success in this world and for eternity.***

We look back with gratitude on the rich heritage of the many religious communities, lay and diocesan leaders, and dedicated parents who paved the way for Catholic education

today. We look forward with confidence grounded in strong governance and responsible stewardship to a future of vibrant, vital Catholic schools.

Led by our greatest teacher, Jesus Christ, we seek to ensure that every student in each of our Catholic schools benefits from an education for life.

The annual *Exemplary Recognition Program* celebrates our schools' extraordinary manifestations of mission and Catholic identity, academic excellence and educating the whole student. Congratulations to the following award winners:

- Holy Angels, WEST BEND
- Holy Trinity, KEWASKUM
- John Paul II Academy, RACINE
- Mary Queen of Saints, WEST ALLIS
- St. Charles, HARTLAND
- St. Eugene, FOX POINT

- St. Frances Cabrini, WEST BEND
- St. Gregory the Great, MILWAUKEE
- St. John XXIII, PORT WASHINGTON
- St. Matthew, OAK CREEK
- St. Sebastian, MILWAUKEE



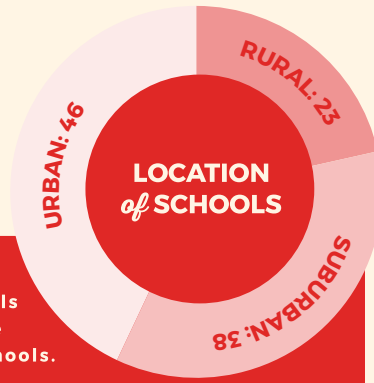
# 107

CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS

Total Enrollment  
OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

# 23,064

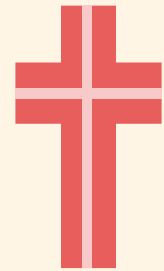
Archdiocese of Milwaukee ranked **12<sup>th</sup>** in  
total number of students in Catholic schools  
among all the archdioceses/dioceses in the  
United States & **9<sup>th</sup>** in total number of schools.



TOTAL  
ENROLLMENT  
of HIGH SCHOOLS  
**7,040**

TOTAL ELEMENTARY  
— and —  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL STAFF

# 1,996



# 52

— SCHOOLS —  
in the PARENTAL  
CHOICE PROGRAM

175 *Years of* SERVICE

# 653

SECONDARY  
SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL  
STAFF

SCHOOLS *with*  
WAITING LISTS

☒ ☒ ☒  
**26**

## MISSION

Schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee are committed to educational excellence, student diversity and the fostering of a Catholic culture of faith, service and personal responsibility, all in the name of Jesus.

## VISION

Catholic schools transform our local and global communities into centers of faith, hope and charity by providing quality Catholic education to all people.



St. Boniface School | Milwaukee, 1968



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Many Hands. One Vision.  
  
Catholic Stewardship Appeal  
Archdiocese of Milwaukee  
This ministry is funded by the  
Catholic Stewardship Appeal.



St. Lawrence School  
(now Prince of Peace School) | Milwaukee, 1947