



DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

PRESSRELEASE

For Immediate Release

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2010 National Catholic Schools Week brings open houses and events

The week of Jan. 31 kicks off the start of National Catholic Schools Week. The Catholic schools from the Diocese of Des Moines are celebrating the week with a variety of activities. Open houses will be held at nearly all of the Catholic schools within the diocese during the week with most of them on Sunday, Jan. 31.

The open houses allow families to tour schools, meet the teachers, administrators and staff, and learn more about Catholic schools. Below is a listing of all the Catholic schools in the Des Moines diocese and the dates and times of their open houses. The information is also provided at <http://www.dmdiocese.org/> and click on the Catholic Schools tab.

Holy Family, Des Moines: Feb. 5, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Holy Trinity, Des Moines: Jan. 31, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Sacred Heart, West Des Moines: Jan. 31, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm
St. Anthony, Des Moines: Jan. 31, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
St. Augustin, Des Moines: Jan. 31, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
St. Francis of Assisi, West Des Moines: Jan. 31, 12:15 pm – 2:15 pm
St. Joseph, Des Moines: Jan. 31, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

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St. Pius X, Urbandale: Jan. 31, 10:00 am – 11:30 am

St. Theresa, Des Moines: Jan. 31, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Assumption School, Granger: Jan. 31, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

St. Malachy, Creston: Feb. 4, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Shelby County Catholic School, Harlan: Jan. 31, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

St. Albert, Council Bluffs: Jan. 31, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Other activities that will be held during the week include charity drives to help those in need, including the people of Haiti; parent/grandparent luncheons; reading programs; cultural fairs; entertainment; craft projects for Veterans; Mass with Bishop Richard Pates and more.

The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic schools are known for providing quality education in a faith based environment. Students learn about God and how to live out their faith by serving others all while receiving top academic training in a safe, nurturing environment.

“Sending our two boys to Catholic school is giving them a Christian education that is actually lived out throughout the school day,” said parent Anne Posegate.

"I wish everyone could participate in a Catholic education. It has been a life-changing and life-shaping opportunity for me," said senior Sarah Pogge from St. Albert School in Council Bluffs.

The high school graduation rate for 2008-2009 graduates was 100% and an average of 97% of the 2009 graduates attended post-secondary education. ITBS, ITED and ACT test scores are consistently higher in all areas than the state and nation.

To learn more about the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic schools, visit <http://www.dmdiocese.org> and click on the Catholic Schools tab.

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*The Diocese of Des Moines Catholic schools serve more than 6,300 students through its 17 schools.
For more information, go to www.dmdiocese.org and click on "Schools".*