



ARCHBISHOP OF DETROIT

March 2018

My Dear Friends in Christ,

On December 14, 2017, we launched the Catholic Schools Strategic Planning Process. This initiative calls on each of our Archdiocesan schools to engage in a process that will set a clear vision for their school going forward, re-envisioning the way in which we currently operate our schools and to consider bold ideas to strengthen Catholic education in the Archdiocese overall.

This planning process first requires a deep reflection and discernment around *Unleash the Gospel*, and then sound evaluation and analysis of available data, around enrollment, demographics, census information, test scores, etc.

Additionally, each school has already conducted a survey of their constituent groups, comprised of faculty/staff, students, parents and community members. The data collected will provide important results which will ultimately be incorporated and become the foundation for their current strategic planning process.

As you may be aware, in my pastoral letter, *Unleash the Gospel*, I emphasized the overall importance of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, “I confirm, in light of what I heard the Holy Spirit say to our local Church through Synod 16, that Catholic schools are an apostolate that is the responsibility of all parishes and all Christ’s faithful. This conviction needs to be a foundational principle for the renewal of this ministry.”

It is with this in mind that we hope to hear from all of you, in order to gain valuable insights from the faithful who belong to parishes without schools. It is vitally important to be aware of how you, the faithful, regard our Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

An email link to the survey is being sent to all parish households that we have on record. Paper surveys will not be distributed. We will also be encouraging parishes without schools to post the link on their website to encourage the widest possible range of participation. The survey can be accessed from Monday, March 12, 2018, through Sunday, March 25, 2018.

Participation is entirely voluntary, and the information provided will be anonymous. In completing this survey, I hope you realize that your responses will contribute in helping our schools better understand the challenges and needs of our faithful regarding our Catholic schools.

Asking God’s blessings upon you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Allen H. Vigneron
Archbishop of Detroit

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL