

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2019 JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2



# ANNUNCIATION SCHOOL

223 North Browder Street Columbus, MS 39702 www.annunciationcatholicschool.org

PreK 4 thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 662-328-4479

#### CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

701 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street Natchez, MS 39120 www.cathedralgreenwave.com

PreK 3 thru 12<sup>th</sup> Grade 601-442-2531



COLUMBUS – (I-r) Stephen Weathers, builder; Tommy Stewart, architect; Andy Buffa, advisory council president and building committee; Deena McIntyre, finance and capital campaign committees; Father Jeffrey Waldrep, Bishop Joseph Kopacz, Joni House, principal; Lindsay Clemons, advisory council; Kyle McConnell, building committee; Carrie Baucom, finance committee, capital campaign committee, and Cory Gallo, building committee, break ground for a school expansion.

"Annunciation Catholic School shapes its students into curious, innovative and compassionate thinkers. An ACS education follows you throughout your life; concepts are mastered, critical thinking becomes innate, and an understanding of social justice serves as a guiding principle."

— Dr. Hope Durst, STREAM coordinator

"When it came time to decide where to send our boys to school, we toured just about every public and private school in the area. From the moment we set foot on campus, I knew ACS was the place for our family. And it really is about our whole family. The love the teachers and staff have for children and for teaching is almost palpable. The culture of kindness permeates every academic and personal interaction."

#### – Lindsay Clemons, parent

Students participate in monthly service projects including food drives, animal shelter supply drives and Operation Christmas Child. TRADITION:

Beats on the Blacktop is our back to school family social held every year in September. Families pack a picnic and relax as the students run and play with friends. Parents can kick back and visit with other parents while listening to music.



NATCHEZ – John Ruffin Daniel prays in the Atrium – part of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd curriculum used at Cathedral.

"I joined the Cathedral School family when I entered kindergarten 69 years ago. My relationship continued through the graduation of five children, three grandchildren and is ongoing with two more grandchildren attending and the beginning of my 41st year of teaching here. I am so thankful for the faith, values and education this Cathedral family provides. I cannot imagine my life outside of Cathedral School."

– Weazie Junkin Mallory, teacher, alumna (1962), parent, grandparent

"Through my many years of attending Cathedral School, I have received a wonderful education, but more importantly I have grown exceptionally in my faith. Between fantastic faculty and my fellow students I never cease to feel a part of the Cathedral family."

- Mae Holyoak, student class of 2021

#### SERVICE:

Cathedral students work with our local Natchez Stewpot on a regular basis to provide meals to those in need. Our students came to the realization that the families in need of food may also need a bit more so they put the word out requesting donations for travel-size hygiene products such as toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant and shampoo, etc.

Our seniors and first graders attend the opening Mass of the year with the bishop. The students are paired up during their junior/kindergarten year and have a great year of bonding through projects and crafts. At the opening Mass, the Senior walks their first grade buddy into St. Mary Basilica. The seniors sit in the front row across the center walkway from their first grade buddy. After Mass the seniors attend breakfast with Father David O'Connor and Bishop Joseph Kopacz.





#### HOLY FAMILY EARLY LEARNING CENTER

8 Orange Avenue, Natchez, MS 39120 http://hfsnatchez.weebly.com/

3 years thru PreK 5 601-442-3947

#### ST. PAUL EARLY LEARNING CENTER

5969 Highway 25, Flowood, MS, 39232 www.saintpaullearningcenter.com

Infants thru PreK 4 601-992-2876



NATCHEZ – The passion play at Holy Family is a Lenten tradition. The students act out the entire passion of Christ, based on the gospels, including the resurrection.

"Children at Holy Family Early Learning Center continually amaze me with their capacity for learning, happiness and growth."

- Sister Dymphna Clarke ,educator

"It is wonderful to have my children wake up every morning excited about going to school, meeting their friends and enjoying learning."

Neifa Hardy, parent

"I love going to Holy Family because we do lots of work."

- Kaiden Prater, student



FLOWOOD – St. Paul Early Learning Center uses play to help kids with early developmental goals.

"I love working at St. Paul Early Learning Center because every single day I get the opportunity to love the children in my classroom. To me, there is no greater blessing then the chance to share the love of Christ with them."

- Sammy Wise, prek4 teacher

"St. Paul provides a wonderful teaching and nurturing environment. Days are filled with love, learning and creativity. Beyond academics, they are also are learning about the Bible and how much God loves them. Parents love that they are kept informed of what our children are accomplishing! We love St. Paul!"

- Molly Taylor, parent

"I like playing with my friends and learning new things with my teachers."

- Eliza Howard prek5 student

#### TRADITION:

Kindergarten students are prepared by Faye Barnes during the Lenten Season to present in drama and song the Last Supper, passion and death of Jesus to parents and parishioners. The students take this play very seriously and put their hearts into the production.

#### SERVICE

During Catholic Schools Week we collect items for needy children. During Thanksgiving we collect food for our local food pantry and for Christmas we collect books for Blair E. Batson Children's Cancer Clinic.

#### TRADITION:

Every year all the children participate in the Christmas program. The babies are angels and their parents bring them up to the altar; the other children play characters in a Nativity play. The highlight of the program is when everyone joins together to sing "Happy Birthday Jesus." It is a joyous celebration.





PreK 3 thru 6h Grade 601-352-5441



CLARKSDALE - Students Tucker Dooley and Matson Adams cheer on St. Elizabeth School during Field Day 2018.

"At St. Elizabeth School the teachers are united in teaching from a moral compass which includes a routine of praying and respect for God and the Church. My child is receiving an exceptional education in a multicultural environment."

- Dawn Young, parent

"The greatest value of St. Elizabeth for me as a mother is to trust the environment I am placing my children in. To be confident every day that they are safe, that they are loved, and that they are learning to be their best self, both academically and spiritually."

- Mary Grace Chapman, parent

– Ty Middleton, student

"St. Elizabeth provides a safe environment where the kids love and respect others, and the teachers care for their children like their own."

- Sara Vareen, student "A Catholic education to me means a closer relationship with God and His people."

Students donate money and food to CARES animal shelter. They bring food for the local food pantry and donate food to the Backpack Project for local needy children.

Students participate in a Mardi Gras parade complete with fire trucks, local bands



JACKSON - Sr. Thea Bowman students get right to work on the first day of school.

"Sis<mark>ter Thea Bow</mark>man Scho<mark>ol</mark> has been the right choice for my child. The religious teaching and prayers are taught in and out of the classroom. I love the one-on-one attention that my child gets if she needs it. She is challenged academically and isn't ignored or pushed to the side if she has an issue with a subject. This makes a difference when it comes to making sure that she not only knows the information, but is retaining what is learned. As a parent, I have a voice in the school. The concept of a three-way partnership is an important part of the way the school works."

- Amirah Saleem, parent

"The teachers at our school know what they're doing and they don't waste our time. The teachers want us to strive for the best. They are always telling us to try our hardest and work for what we want. We learn a lot! The school is very organized, the students are nice and I love that we learn about God."

#### - Ranyia Ruffin, student

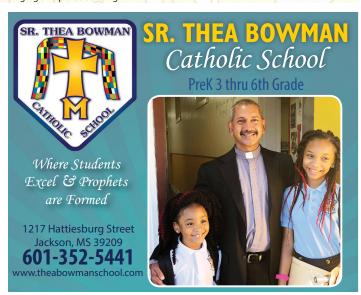
#### SERVICE:

Our Student Council prepared Christmas stockings of fruit and nuts, as well as gift bags of socks, caps, gloves and scarves for each person who came to the Stewpot Community Center for a meal. The students assisted in setting the tables, preparing beverages and singing Christmas Carols.

#### **TRADITION:**

Each year every student in the school has a part to play in portraying the Christmas Story of Jesus' birth with dramatic speaking parts, custom costumes, Christmas singing and praise dancing.





#### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

2607 Hwy 82 East, Greenwood, MS 38930-5966 www.sfgw.org

PreK 3 thru 6th grade 662-453-9511

#### ST JOSEPH SCHOOL

308 New Mannsdale Road, Madison, MS 39110 www.stjoebruins.com

January 25, 2019

7th thru 12th grade 601-898-4800



GREENWOOD – St. Francis of Assisi students performing "Star Search," a Christmas musical for kids by Gina Boe and Barb Dorn. Stars narrate this version of the nativity story.

"It is our belief in Jesus and our call to spread his love and his message that challenges us to join our school community in learning, serving and succeeding"

- Sister Kathleen Murphy, teacher

"Don't limit yourself. Many people limit themselves to what they think they can do".

- Benita McCline, parent

"Be the difference you want to see in the world by getting an education"

- Madison Jones, student

#### SERVICE:

The students sponsor their own walk for the American Cancer Society as well as collect food to give to the Leflore County Food Pantry.

#### TRADITION

Sister Kathleen's pre-K class studies modes of transportation every year. The unit ends with an exciting day when huge trucks, tractors, garbage trucks, police and fire vehicles visit the school. The students hit the parking lot armed with their clipboards, pencils and a worksheet to fill out on each vehicle. Their assignment was to draw the vehicle, count the number of wheels, tell the colors and size of the vehicle. Finally, they had to determine whether vehicle used for work or fun.



MADISON – St. Joseph students Gianna Altamirano and Syndi Vandevender crown Mary at a 2017 school Mass. Students attend Mass weekly and have opportunities to participate in adoration.

"St. Joe – where our students learn about God, practice what they have learned, and prepare to share their faith with the community."

- Vicki Runnels, teacher

"As a product of a Catholic School education, it is so beneficial to celebrate the impact that our schools make for the rest of a student's life. There is no price to attach to the importance of our faith and a strong value system for our children. Catholic schools focus on the development of the whole student: mind, body and spirit."

- Angela Ladner, parent

"Even as a non-Catholic, Catholic Schools Week has a profound impact on me. It reminds me of what our school is really grounded in, which is our faith in Jesus Christ through the Catholic Church and it is a time when I am reminded of how important that really is. Even though this will be my last Catholic Schools Week at St. Joe, the impact of this week during my time here will continue to stay with me for the years to come."

- Garret Grove, student

#### SERVICE:

Bruinthon is an annual fund-raiser run by students to benefit the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital.

#### TRADITION:

Our school chaplain blesses the football helmets every year.

### Saint Francis School



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- character development

www.sfgwschool.org stfrancisgreenwood@gmail.com 662.453.9511





Serving Students Grades 7-12

ST. JOSEPH

308 New Mannsdale Road, Madison, Mississippi 39110, (601) 898-4800

Contact Tricia Harris at tharris@stjoebruins.com to R.S.V.P. or for more information.



praise dance at their 2018

graduation. (Photo courtesy of Valencia Hall)

SOUTHAVEN - Sacred Heart School band members Danielle Casad and Hannah McClain. (Photo by Laura Grisham)





MADISON – Jennifer Nguyen and Leila de Gruy celebrate their Bruin spirit during St. Joseph's Homecoming festivities.

CLARKSDALE – Bryant Johnson and Lillie Brooks Flautt portrayed Joseph and Mary at the St. Elizabeth Christmas play.



FLOWOOD – St. Paul Early Learning Center teacher Jackie Hoey works with Woods Turner, Dante Bond, Brecken Smith, Carter Van Dalsem, Addison Pardue, Blaine Pambianchi and Clara Beth Fowler on a project. (Photo courtesy of Jennifer Henry)



JACKSON – St. Richard second graders donned poodle skirts and greaser gear to celebrate the 50th day of school. Parent Patrick Harkins provided music for the party. (Photo by Tereza Ma)



first grade buddy Addie House into the first Mass of the year, a Cathedral School tradition. (Photo courtesy of Cara Serio)

MADISON- Madelyn Rodrigue, Meredith Holifield and Allexis Phillips marching in the St. Anthony Christmas parade. (Photo courtesy of Michele Warnock)

#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

#### VICKSBURG CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1900 Grove St/ 1400 Hayes St, Vicksburg, MS 39183

St. Francis Xavier Elementary St. Aloysius High School

www.vicksburgcatholic.org

Pre-K3 thru 12th grade 601-636-2256 601-636-4824

395 West Street, Holly Springs, MS 38635 www.hfamilyschool.org

January 25, 2019

Pre-K thru 8th grade 662-252-1612



VICKSBURG - St. Francis Xavier Elementary students "dash" from goal line to goal line during the inaugural "Flash Dash" to promote the school's 1school 1family mantra at the St Aloysius Flashes' first home football

"Offering challenging academics is essential to a student's success. However, offering challenging academics in a spiritually rich and Christ-centered environment, is essential to the student's overall success and well-being."

#### - Christen Matthews, teacher

"As a parent, I am extremely grateful for the Catholic education my children have received at Vicksburg Catholic School. VCS offers a comprehensive academic and religious environment, where each student is given the opportunity to succeed and grow intellectually and spiritually. Catholic education also instills a strong sense of community in students and the importance of serving others."

Cathi Verhine, parent

"I love Vicksburg Catholic School. At Vicksburg Catholic School, we are not just students but part of something bigger, a FAMILY!"

#### - Madalyn Burke, SGA president

Vicksburg students volunteer at the Good Shepherd Community Center, Vicksburg Family Development, the THRIVE Mentoring Program and in the Warren County Children's Shelter.

TRADITION:

This our 36th year to host the \$10,000 Drawdown – it serves as the school's largest fundraiser. This year, it will be held Sunday, February 17, in downtown Vicksburg at the Levee Street Warehouse.



HOLLY SPRINGS - Jesse Holland, author, journalist and Holly Springs native, stopped at Holy Family School to speak to the students. He was tapped by Marvel to write a novel based on the Black Panther movie.

"Catholic Social Services helped my family when I was a child. I was inspired by them to go into the teaching field. Holy Family is a great place to work!"

- Shirley Daughtery, teacher for 43 years

"Holy Family offers a wide spectrum of learning opportunities. The academic, religion, sports, and cultural programs prepare the students for life.".

- Mona Griffin, parent

"Holy Family provides a unique style of teaching for my unique style of learning!"

- Jaylyn Jones, eighth-grade student

#### SERVICE

The school hosts a Sickle Cell Awareness week and a Math-a-thon for St. Jude Children's Hospital. Students give to an annual food drive, serve food at the Garden Café and gather materials for the Warm Hands And Warm Hearts-winter apparel drive.

We deliver meals and boxes of food to the senior citizens living near the school during Christmas and Easter.









"My Catholic education has helped me put God first in everything I do.'

Wally Wibowo, Class of 2014 MT Graduate, Aerospace Engineerin

# Join us for #CSW19!

#### **Open House**

Wednesday, January 30 Tuesday, January 29 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### Library Dedication Ceremony honoring Fr. Tom Lalor

Thursday, January 31 Immediately following Mass at 9:10 a.m.

#### VICKSBURG CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1900 Grove Street • Vicksburg, MS 39183 601-630-9762 · www.vicksburgcatholic.org

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· Holly Springs, MS · 662.252.1612

hfamilyschool.org

#### ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

1501 V.F.W. Road, Greenville, MS 38701 Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary www.ourladyoflourdesschool.org St. Joseph Middle/High School www.stjoeirish.org Pre-K 3 thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade 662-334-3287

# ASSISI EARLY LEARNING CENTER

4000 West Tidewater Lane, Madison, MS 39110

Infants thru Pre-K4 601-856-9494

662-378-9711



GREENVILLE - St. Joseph students act as reading buddies to their younger schoolmates.

(I have had a) "lifetime of Christian faith and service, and lasting friendships because of the fundamental values I received from my Catholic education both as a student and 59 years as an educator."

- Sandra McGaugh, teacher

"It's a wonderful, diverse school that gives every student the opportunity to grow spiritually and academically."

- R. Serio, Proud Parent of high school students

"The value of a Catholic education here at St. Joe cannot be overstated, for its foundations are based on understanding and respecting the dignity of all human life."

- M. Mansour, senior

#### SERVICE

The school hosts an annual canned food drive. High School students read to elementary students as Book Buddies.

#### **TRADITION:**

We have a more than 100-year-old Parish Fair every year that brings the entire community together.



MADISON – Assisi Early Learning Center students visit the sanctuary of St. Francis Parish.

"The Assisi Early Learning Center has been a blessing to our family. We visited every place in town, but no other compared to the quality of Assisi. During our first visit to Assisi, we were told that after attending Assisi, our daughter, Pheebie, would be ready for any school anywhere. That has proven to be more than the truth. It has exceeded our expectations, and has been done with genuine love and Christian values. From the moment we walked into the front doors, we knew we were home. Assisi was warm, the curriculum unmatched, and the quality of the staff was genuine. Sister Paula and every staff member are loving. Our daughter, Pheebie, is eager each day to go to school. That is a great feeling as a parent made only possible by AELC!"

- Julee and Rick Fava, parents

#### SERVICE:

During Catholic Schools Week, we read and study the story Stone Soup. Along with discussing the values of this story, our four-year old classes make Stone Soup for the whole school which is a service to the school. The idea is that when we all share a little, we can feed a village.

#### TRADITION:

We are serving second generation children – parents who have graduated from AELC are bringing us their babies; eleven families so far!

# Catholic School Rocks!

at St. Joseph Catholic School Join us for Catholic Schools Week

Monday - Mass with Bishop Kopacz & Grandparents' Day
Tuesday - Tie Dye
Wednesday - Career Day
Thursday - Valentines for Veterans
& Open House 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Friday - Taste of St. Joe and Catholic Schools Week Games



St. Joseph Catholic School
Our Lady of Lourdes/St. Joseph
ONE GOD • ONE SCHOOL • ONE FAMILY

All are welcome to the OPEN HOUSE Wednesday 8 a.m.- 3p.m. Info: 662-378-9711



#### ST. RICHARD SCHOOL

100 Holly Drive Jackson, MS 39206 www.strichardschool.org

thru 6th Grade

601-366-1157

#### SAINT ANTHONY SCHOOL

1585 Old Mannsdale Road, Madison, Ms 39110 www.stanthonyeagles.org

PreK 4 thru 6h Grade

601-607-7054

January 25, 2019



JACKSON - Sixth-graders Anya Klein and Sofia Liberto wrap a gift for a Manhattan Nursing Home resident during St. Richard's annual service project, "Manhattan Mall." The students collect and offer gifts to nursing home

"St. Richard is a unique educational environment; an environment that connects the academic to the place of God. It's an environment that understands our students are works in progress along a journey of creative, individual and community development."

- Christy Turner, music teacher

"St. Richard has been our church and school for over 20 years. All four of my children were blessed with a top-notch education from StR. The values that they have received here have stayed with them and formed them into fine young people with hearts for others, giving spirits and strong faith." - Tricia Meyers, St. Richard parent and teacher

"St. Richard is special to me because I can talk about what I believe, and I can practice my religion. The teachers here are amazing, and we have sports that everybody can play. We also go to chur<mark>ch</mark> every Wednes<mark>day.</mark> We have parti<mark>es every holiday a</mark>nd - Henry Turner, fifth grader they are so much fun! "

#### TRADITION:

A tradition we cherish is our "Guardian Angel" program. Our sixth-grade students act as faith sponsors, a guardian angels of sorts, for our second-grade students who are preparing to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the first time. They meet several times before and after these events, so they can discuss any questions that may arise and to celebrate this life-changing sacrament.



MADISON - St. Anthony fifth and sixth-grade students performed a Dr. Seuss-themed play called "Why fit in when you can stand out."

"It is such a blessing to work in a Catholic School where I have the privilege of sharing my knowledge and love for God with my students. Being able to share my faith with my students each day is both humbling and rewarding. Working with a community of believers and celebrating my faith with my students and coworkers through prayer, adoration, Mass and service makes coming to work each day a joy. I believe teaching the whole child body, mind and spirit - is necessary to help children grow up to be stewards of God's love." – Christy Sims, third-grade teacher

"... Tears filled my eyes as she spoke one word after another that I'd not ever heard from her ... 'For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life.' This was the prayer of the month at her new school. It was at that very moment that I understood the choice we had made for our childrens' education. In my time of need, the Word of the Lord touched my soul through my child. Our family is nurtured daily through the Catholic education of our children."

-Dr. Angelle Klar, parent of four

The Student Council organizes a winter clothing drive for those in need. TRADITION

All students at St. Anthony begin each school morning with Prayer and Pledge in the gymnasium. Scripture is read, prayers are said, the Pledge of Allegiance and our school's Eagle Pledge are recited, and those having a birthday that day are recognized and sung to.





#### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

#### ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

2700 Davis Street Meridian, MS 39301 www.stpatrickcatholicschool.org



#### SACRED HEART SCHOOL

5150 Tchulahoma Road Southaven, Ms www.sheartschool.org January 25, 2019

Pre K 4 thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 662-349-0900



MERIDIAN – St. Patrick students sing about the saints they portray at the All Saints Day Mass.

"I have been teaching at St. Patrick for three years now, and hope to be here many more. Working at St. Patrick is like being with a big family. We are surrounded by a loving group of people who are supportive and encouraging. Father Augustine is an awesome priest; he comes through the school almost daily and spends a few moments in each classroom. He is uplifting and joyful, which makes the children and teachers feel special."

- Jill Scott, fourth-grade teacher

"Many schools just teach math, reading, science, history, and many others. But religion is the answer to everything. Going to St. Patrick makes God the center. If you learn all of that and you trust God, anything that was hard will come more easily. It will make you more confident and your job will be better. I've gone to other schools by St. Patrick has made the biggest impact on my life. By participating in Mass, I can speak to others without fear. All of that is because of one school, this school. "

Alden Slutz, fifth grader

SERVICE:
Last year, students donated a check to the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital using money raised through Jeans for Greens. This is a tradition within St. Patrick, where students donate \$1.00 or more every last Friday of the month so they can wear jeans

to school. Each year the school chooses a new organization to donate to.

#### TRADITION:

For All Saints Day, Kindergarteners are given a saint to portray. They dress up as the saints, and tell a story about that saint during our school Mass.



SOUTHAVEN – Father Thi Pham, SCJ, uses a stuffed animal as a stand-in for a real pet during Sacred Heart's blessing of the animals in honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi.

"I love Catholic Schools Week because it gives us the chance to celebrate our Catholic faith. Catholic Schools Week allows us the opportunity to celebrate our school, our community and our nation. It is a fun week for the students where we express our faith through speakers, activities and fun."

- Stephanie Shaver, teacher

"St. John Baptist de La Salle, patron saint of teachers, stressed that Christian teachers should strive to touch the hearts of those entrusted to their care. I am thankful in knowing that my children's hearts are being touched by the faculty and staff at my alma mater, Sacred Heart School in Southaven."

—David Delgado, parent

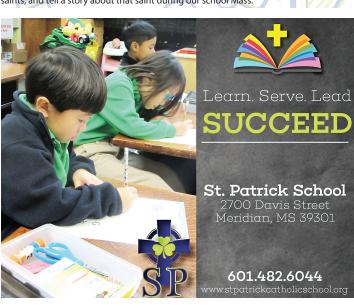
"I love Sacred Heart School because I receive a great education, and I get to learn about my faith at school."

- Quinn Thurman, student

#### SERVICE:

Our entire school participates in collections for Thanksgiving baskets, Angel Tree gifts, and Easter baskets; Each month all students learn about one of the social service ministries of Sacred Heart Southern Missions then participate in a day of giving. TRADITION:

Our eighth-grade students receive a special jersey on the first day of school in a school-wide ceremony. The ceremony is followed by a student/parent breakfast. They may wear the jersey and jeans every Friday.





# KNOWLEDGE

98%

OF THOSE GRADUATES
WENT ON TO A
FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY

FAITH

188

STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN OUR DIOCESE

**SERVICE 11,320** 

COMMUNITY SERVICE
HOURS WERE COMPLETED
BY THE DIOCESE OF
JACKSON'S CLASS OF 2018



In 2018, the average Catholic school graduate in our diocese...

Was offered \$49,850 in scholarships.

(\$)

Completed 60 hours of service during their senior year.

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FRONT COVER – Left-to-right, topto-bottom: Southaven Sacred Heart, Columbus Annunciation, Holly Springs Holy Family, Natchez Holy Family Early Learning Center, Jackson Sister Thea Bowman, Madison St. Joe, Columbus Annunciation, Holly Springs Holy Family, Meridian St. Patrick.