

8.27.2019

Dear Parents,

The decision of how to educate children is among the most important—and sometimes the most difficult—that parents ever make. The general dilemma typically comprises public and private school, with “private” often used, inaccurately, as an all-encompassing term. However, an important distinction is to be made of parochial schools, a unique and invaluable gift of the private education sector. At Christ the King, we are blessed with an invaluable gift for our children and an opportunity to serve God.

Most private schools share commonalities with parochial schools like ours, including lower student-to-teacher ratios, more rigorous curricula, and fewer discipline concerns. From the Latin root meaning “pertaining to a parish,” parochial schools are private institutions traditionally affiliated with a Catholic parish. And the distinction is profound. Parochial schools, like Christ the King, offer both an exceptional educational experience, and foster an invaluable, faith-based environment in which students are properly catechized, empowered to pray, and live the faith. Along with a robust religious education curriculum, sacramental preparation, and faithful educators, parochial schools facilitate opportunities for students to frequent the sacraments and minister to their peers in regular liturgies.

As a parochial school, we participate in a spiritually-enriching program with the help of our pastoral team. A parochial school is supported by the parish not only financially; our school and parish are intertwined in our mission and engagement of faith-based service to the community. Unlike general private institutions, parochial school policies are guided by faith teachings, governed locally by a pastor and more broadly by a diocese, and always inspired by the Holy Spirit. Important decisions are made with students’ spiritual wellbeing and growth in mind, and with the input and support of the parish community.

Further, parochial school educators, like all of us at CKS, share a deeply rooted interest in our students and school. Many of us have also shared the sacrifice to make the same investment for our own children. And that is what parochial schooling—the tuition, the fees, the uniforms, the donations, the fundraising—ultimately is: an investment. It’s an investment not only in an excellent education, but one in which the educational mission is imbued with the faith. It’s an investment opportunity no other school model offers, and perhaps the greatest investment a parent can make. Thank you for making that investment with us, here, at Christ the King School.

Many blessings,
Paula Smith, Ed.S.
Principal