



Saint Mark
the Evangelist Catholic Church

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 5, 2017
Volume XIX #6

7340 Cahaba Valley Road
Birmingham, AL 35242
All mail to P.O. Box 380396
Birmingham, AL 35238

Father Joseph Culotta, Pastor

Phone: (205) 980-1810
Email: stmarkrc@bellsouth.net
Fax: (205) 980-9208
Website: www.stmarkrc.org

Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 P.M.
Sunday: 7:45 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.
Holy Days: 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.

Confession:

Saturday: 2:30–3:30 P.M. or by appointment

Weekday Mass (Chapel):

Wednesday: 6:00 P.M.
Thursday and Friday: 8:30 A.M.
First Saturday: 9:00 A.M.

Office Hours:

Tuesday through Friday: 8:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
The Church office closed on Monday.
Emergency: Father Culotta: 980-1810 #2 or 408-2766

Chapel Open for Prayer

Monday through Thursday: 6:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Friday: 6:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
First Friday Exposition: 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Marriage Requirements at least six months in advance:

Meet with Father Culotta @ 980-1810, ext. #2
Visit wedding link on Website prior to meeting

Baptism Requirements & Preparation Class:

Contact Anne Hane 410-0692 or ahane@bellsouth.net

STAFF:

Pastor:	Fr. Joe Culotta	980.1810 Ext. 2	stmarkpastor@bellsouth.net
Pastoral Associate:	Sr. Terry Bretthauer, MSBT	980-1810 Ext. 3	stmarkpa@bellsouth.net
Secretary:	JoAnne Rixey	980-1810 Ext. 1	stmarkrc@bellsouth.net
Parish School of Religion:	Susan Webb	980-1810 Ext. 5	stmarkre@bellsouth.net
Parish School of Religion Asst.:	Paola Garza	980-1810 Ext. 6	stmarkre@bellsouth.net
Adult Ed, RCIA, Lectors & EMHC	Phil Boettcher	980-1810 Ext. 7	pfbboettcher@att.net
Bookkeeper:	Tana Bisch	980-1810 Ext. 8	stmarkfi@bellsouth.net
Music:	Dave and Amy Hains	985-2976	amyhains@gmail.com
Youth Choir:	Raul Gomez	602-9626	raulc.gomez@gmail.com
Nursery:	Nora Donnelly	516-458-9549	nwd946@aol.com
Social Hall Rentals:	Bonnie Murphy	410-3494	bam01126@bellsouth.net

MINISTRIES:

Altar Servers:	Dr. Gail Sanson	919-4898	gailsanson@me.com
Bereavement Ministry:	Darlene McCulloch	229-7134	jamesfmculloch@bellsouth.net
Deacon: (<i>stationed Pittsburgh, PA</i>)	David Varner	352-804-1924	dvarner11@att.net
Feast of Saint Mark:	Matt Scalici	229-9986	fosmchairman@gmail.com
Finance Council:	Ken Reimann	229-9812	kreimann@bellsouth.net
First Light:	Ruth Cook	991-1849	ruthcook@bellsouth.net
Greene County Food:	Peter Bibbo	441-9889	michboru@gmail.com
Hospitality Committee:	Jeanne Welsh	807-3968	j.bwelsh12@gmail.com
Knights of Columbus:	Jim Downey	618-9156	kofc13446@aol.com
Liturgy Committee:	Phil Boettcher	541-5625	pfbboettcher@att.net
Liturgy Committee:	Lou Inzinna	991-8649	lcinzinna@bellsouth.net
Pastoral Council:	Ken Lorek	995-1396	knlorek@gmail.com
Property Management:	Ann Penton	903-9073	ann.penton@idoud.com
Scouting:	Tom Elie	843-345-5775	thomaseelie@aol.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society:	Janet Haines	616-5431	janetmhaines@bellsouth.net
Stewardship Committee:	Sammy Romano	862-9833	salvadorromano@me.com
Supper Club:	Cathy Johnson	266-9685	cathyjohnson_2@hotmail.com
Ushers:	Scott Riley	266-2882	elmeister1@gmail.com
Welcome Committee:	Cricket Justice	968-3070	cricket.justice@gmail.com

✠ PRAYER LIST

Howard Bayless Virginia Bayless Norma Burrow Hope DeFalco Jim Downey Carlos Godinez Joseph Guenther David Howard Kathy Hix	George James Kathy Matuszak Jim Meggs Bobbie Mitchim Georgeann Moseley Guice Potter Jean Purner Cecilia Ragusa	Joan Rietta Elena Sain Gertrude Sgroi Vita Stamba Don St. Denis Jackie Tevendale Cindy Troha Santo Vizzina Jeanne Welsh
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At the beginning of each year, we begin a new Prayer List. Please pray for the sick in our parish and let us know to add anyone to the Prayer List via stmarkrc@bellsouth.net or 980-1810 ext.1.

Mass Intentions

- Mon. Feb. 6- 10:30 A.M. - at Somerby Retirement*
- Wed. Feb. 8- 6:00 P.M. - Benza Family & Friends*
- Thurs. Feb. 9- 8:30 A.M. - Charles, O'Neill, Moore and
Speakman Families*
- Fri. Feb. 10- 8:30 A.M. - Jean Funk*
- Sat. Feb. 11- 4:00 P.M. - Mary Tamburello*
- Sun. Feb. 12- 7:45 A.M. - Michael & Ann Quigley*
- Sun. Feb. 12- 10:30 A.M. - People of the Parish*
- Sun. Feb. 12- 5:00 P.M. - Rev. Louis Guardino*

Weekly Readings

- 6 Mon - Gn 1:1-19/Mk 6:53-56
- 7 Tue - Gn 1:20—2:4a/Mk 7:1-13
- 8 Wed - Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Mk 7:14-23
- 9 Thu - Gn 2:18-25/Mk 7:24-30
- 10 Fri - Gn 3:1-8/Mk 7:31-37
- 11 Sat -Gn 3:9-24/Mk 8:1-10
- 12 SUN -Sir 15:15-20/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37

Financial Information				
January 29, 2017				
	(Budgeted)	(Actual)	(YtDBdgt)	(YtDActual)
Weekly Offertory:	\$ 9,191	\$15,560	\$ 70,096	\$ 77,800
Building Fund:	\$ 8,095	\$17,472	\$ 68,599	\$ 87,360
Holy Days:	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,755	\$ 1,400
TOTAL	\$ 17,286	\$ 33,032	\$140,450	\$166,560
Current Parish Debt				
\$1,715,757				

Stewardship Pledge

For the many families who use *Faith Direct* to fulfill their stewardship commitments to Saint Mark and who changed their pledge for 2017, know that handing in your 2017 Pledge Card will NOT change your online giving and that only YOU can access your account to view and make changes to your account information and gifts.

Please take a few minutes to update your giving online: Go to www.faithdirect.net and sign in with your user name and password. Click on "Edit My Gifts," this will take you to the page showing your current "My Gifts" and click Edit if you wish to modify. Scroll through Annual Collections, Offertory Collections, and One-Time Gifts to those options available, for example Weekly 50/50 Gift or Monthly 50/50 Gift.

For those who wish to switch to Faith Direct, you can visit www.faithdirect.net and enroll online using our parish code: **AL414**. If you wish to chat with a customer service representative, call their toll-free number, 866-507-8757, to speak with someone directly.

**JOIN US FOR THE BLESSING
OF SAINT BLAISE THIS
WEEK AFTER EACH MASS**

ADULT ED

Our Adult Education/Faith Formation program, "*The Family of God*", continues next Sunday, February 12, with a presentation by Dr. Robert Corley . Our Adult Ed program continues to look at the questions of families, family life and the challenges families face, whether the family is Church, community, parish or our own nuclear family. Next week Dr. Corley's presentation titled; *White Power and Jim Crow Segregation in Alabama* will continue on this focus. His presentations engage, support and encourage today's families with what they face every day.

Please join us in the parish life center, from 9 AM to 10:15 AM.

Our Adult Education program, "*The Family of God*", will feature presentations and speakers on a variety of topics that are sure to be of interest to all parishioners. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Full Participation in Mass through Song and Prayer

Due to the size and configuration of the church structure, the hymn numbers posted on the two boards up front are difficult to read from some pews; therefore the cantor WILL continue to announce the name and number of the songs. We apologize for not considering this first and for any confusion that this may have caused for you.

The Liturgy that we pray each week is an encounter with God and our prayerful participation is essential to the celebration. Together let us do our best to support one another. Thank you!

Amy Hains, Music Director

STEWARDSHIP 2017

A word of thanks to those who have already renewed their Stewardship Pledge for 2017. Thanks as well to our Stewardship Committee and all those who invite us to be better stewards of Saint Mark's – especially as we continue plans for a new facility and staff.

Thank you for all that you do and for your prayers.

Hope and Joy,

Fr. Joe

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AND LECTORS

On Sunday, Feb 12, we will hold orientation and training sessions for adult parishioners thinking of serving in either of those ministries.

Extraordinary Ministers session will be held from 1-3 PM and Lectors from 3-5 PM. Both will be held in the Church. If you are coming for the Lector session please prepare by pre-reading the 1st, 2nd readings and the psalm for the 6th Sunday of Ordinary time (found in the Missalette).

If you have any questions please call or email Phil Boettcher at 205 5411 5625 or pfboettcher@att.net

If you use My Stewardship Offering envelopes, please mark how you would like contribution distributed:

- 50% Offertory and 50% Building Fund
- Building Fund
- Offertory

2016 Financial End-of-the-Year Statements for Contributions to Saint Mark the Evangelist were mailed out this week.

Knights of Columbus



St. Mark the Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council 13446 would like to acknowledge and congratulate Alain Gallet for being selected as our Knight of the Month for December, and Greg Cleary for being selected as our Knight of the Month for January. These two catholic gentlemen give a lot of their time and talents to help with the work and projects of our council.

Alain Gallet serves as our Financial Secretary; he leads our annual Christmas volunteer red kettle bell ringing for the Salvation Army, and is in charge of our "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnet sales fundraiser. Alain's help and influence played a huge part in the success of the Knights December Red Cross blood drive at St. Mark.

Greg Cleary is a great example of a Knight who gives his time to help the Knights and his church whenever he can! Even though business and work keeps him away from our meetings a lot, you can still count on Greg's help when he is available. Greg always tries to be there to help with our Ash Wednesday and Lenten Gumbo meals, when the Knights set up and take down the chairs in church at Christmas and Easter. He helps with our flea market project, Salvation Army bell ringing, or helping the Knights with clean up after church functions. Greg will be there to serve (I guess it's his army officer background) if he can.

Please join St. Mark the Evangelist Knights of Columbus Council 13446 in applauding Alain Gallet and Greg Cleary for their stewardship to St. Mark the Evangelist church, the Knights of Columbus, our community, and for being role models for all Catholic gentlemen to follow.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group of Birmingham will meet on Saturday, February 18th at 10am at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Homewood. Please make plans to join us in prayer - with Adoration of our Lord, the Holy Rosary and Mass!
For more information call Angela Kolar at 991-9554.

WE THANK OUR ALTAR SERVERS AND THE COORDINATORS FOR THEIR REVERENT AND DEDICATED SERVICE IN OUR ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY!



ALTAR SERVERS

ANNA ARRINGTON
 LUKE ARRINGTON (SENIOR)
 BRIANNA BRADEN
 ELIZABETH CAMP
 CAROLYN CLEARY (SENIOR)
 DELAINE COLEMAN
 ISABEL DIGUGLIELMO
 LIA DIGUGLIELMO
 MARY KEITHLEEN FAVELA
 NICHOLAS FOSTER
 BELLA GARZA
 COOPER GRAY
 MARY CAROLINE GRAY
 TANNER GRAY
 TILLY GWALTNEY
 TROY GWALTNEY
 LEVI HARDEGREE
 JESSICA HEBERLEIN
 JACKANTHONY HENSON

ETHAN LEE
 NICK LOZITO
 SOPHIA LOZITO
 KATHRYN LYNCH
 SAM LYNCH
 MATTHEW MARQUET (SENIOR)
 ROBERT MARQUET
 ELLIOT MARRERO (SENIOR)
 ADDISON MILLER
 ELIZABETH MITCHIM
 EMELIA MITCHIM
 DANIEL OSPINA
 DOMINIC PAUTLER (SENIOR)
 CHANDLER PERRIGO
 JULIANNA PERRIGO
 MATTHEW PFLAUM (SENIOR)
 JACOB PORCO
 JONATHON PORCO
 GRANT RAKERS
 LUKE RAKERS (SENIOR)

ZACH RAKERS
 CARMEN RETZER
 GIGI SARRIS
 JARED SCHAFFER
 SKYHLER SCHAFFER (SENIOR)
 ELLA SCIARA
 BROCK SHIELDS
 JACKSON SHIELDS
 KAITLYN SHIELDS
 LAUREN SHIELDS (SENIOR)
 JAKOB SHORT
 EMMA STEPHENS (SENIOR)
 ANJA TRIERWEILER
 LAURA VALDERRAMA
 DOLAN WILSON
 AMALIA TRUJILLO VALINO
 EMMA ZAIONTZ
 ELIZABETH ZALESKI
 JONATHAN ZALESKI

ASM COORDINATORS

DANIEL DIGUGLIELMO
 MARY KEITHLEEN FAVELA
 KRISTY GRAY
 LISA HEBERLEIN
 TOM HEBERLEIN

FRANCESCA MALENSEK
 ELLIOT MARRERO (SENIOR)
 MAISSA OSPINA
 CHANDLER PERRIGO
 MATTHEW PFLAUM (SENIOR)

TRACY PFLAUM
 CARMEN RETZER
 GAIL SANSON
 MARIA SCHAFFER
 JONATHAN ZALESKI

Please, please support our PSR program and come to our special
FREE all-parish event

FIND YOUR RHYTHM Drum Circle

on February 12

If you have never taken part in a drum circle event,
you don't want to miss this.
Everybody in the parish is invited for: (That's all ages)



3:00 Drum Circle time (You get an instrument to play)
5:00 Parish and Youth Mass (This meets your Sunday obligation)
6:00 Pizza and Salad dinner (Compliments of PSR)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for our count of chairs and food.
Register by going to www.RhythmofGod.com

OR

Call the PSR Office 205-980-1810 ex 5 or stmarkre@bellsouth.net
Attn: Susan Webb

**No Sunday morning PSR classes will be held to enable our
students to attend the Drum Circle event.**

February 2017 Youth Ministry

Faith, Fun, and Fellowship

BLAST 6th-8th Grade

February 12th - Rhythm of God 3- 5PM

February 26th - MARDI GRAS Party! 5:30-7:30PM

A fun-filled celebration of Mardi Gras with food, games, and youth-built parade floats! (Meet in Social Hall)



JCREW - 9-12th Grade

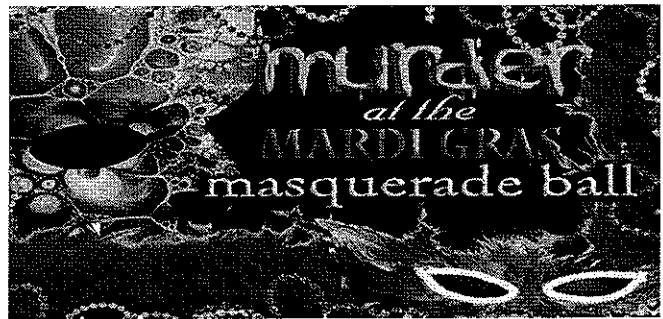


February 5th - Super Bowl Party 5:15 PM

February 12th - Rhythm of God 3-5 PM

February 26th - Mardi Gras MURDER MYSTERY Party! 5:30-7:30 PM

An entertaining clue-based Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball themed murder mystery party. (Meet Downstairs)



We are asking for parent volunteers in both age groups to assist with these fun events. If you can help chaperone an event, provide refreshments or party supplies, or other assistance, please contact Mary Beth Crumly or Sr. Terry at the church office.



Upcoming **CROSS Retreat** on **March 3-5, 2017:**
Diocesan Youth Retreat for **grades 9th - 12th**
at Springville Camp in Odenville, AL from 7PM (Friday) to Noon (Sunday)
Cost is \$70. More information & registration coming soon.

Liturgical Schedule	Saturday, February 11, 2017 4:00 PM	Sunday, February 12, 2017 7:45 AM	Sunday, February 12, 2017 10:30 AM
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	Rebecca Blythe, Kelly Ferrell Jodie James, Sonny Jones Mike Kantaris, Charles Varano VOLUNTEER NOW	Paul Albano, Theresa LoMonaco Katherine Rall, Sammy Romano Theresa Romano	David Castagnetta, Eleanora Castagnetta Mary Beth Crumly, Marsha Floyd Vincent Lovoy, Teresa Palmer, Joe Scotch Tom Slonneger, Heidi Swanson
Ushers	Jim Smith, Thom Berry Pat Kantaris, Ray Morin	Kurt Friend, Wayne Gwaltney Tom Heberlein VOLUNTEER NOW	Bill Webb, Rob Haley Paul Roche, Larry Sweton VOLUNTEER NOW
Lectors	Ree Morin - 1 Cathy Johnson - 2	Nancy Ladshaw - 1 Ruth Breipohl - 2	Sandy Fleury - 1 Phillip Boettcher - 2
Altar Servers	Skyhler Schaffer Jared Schaffer, VOLUNTEER NOW Mary Keithleen Favela, Ethan Lee	Dominic Pautler Troy Gwaltney, Jessica Heberlein Tilly Gwaltney, VOLUNTEER NOW	Tanner Gray Cooper Gray, Carmen Retzer JackAnthony Henson, Gigi Sarris
Mass Coordinators	Bill & Jeanne Welsh	Bill & Patricia Roach	Heidi & Leonard Mueninghoff
Greeters	Ryan C. Campisi, Karen Kapp Rae Sarver, Pat Smith	Ken Lorek, Marie Lorek	Peter Bibbo, Ercelle Burrus Laura Hughes, Bill Tevendale
Altar Linens	Tracy Pfaum		
Cantors	Allison Creel	Kathryn Garaca	Kathryn Garaca

Four of our diocesan parishes have experienced purse theft during the Communion time:

Our Lady of Sorrows Jan. 15th at the 8:30 Mass

Prince of Peace Jan. 22nd at the 8:30 Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes, Birmingham Jan. 29th at the 10:45 Mass

Our Lady of the Valley, Birmingham Jan. 29th at the 8:30 Mass

Please be vigilant and aware!

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CRUCIFIXES – STATUES – ROSARIES
SACRAMENT GIFTS
GREYSTONE MARKETPLACE
HIGHWAY 280/GALLERY 1-C

90%
of PARENTS think
are at or
Kids above
grade level
in reading and math

Less than **35%**
of them are correct

Source: K&N News, Aug 2016

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child's potential to
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For membership info
please
Contact

Tom Heberlein
kofc13446@aol.com



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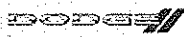
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-Terry Spitzer, President



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Thank You for Supporting Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School



January 29th-February 4th is Catholic Schools Week, a week set aside for parishes across the country to celebrate the value of catholic schools in our Parish and nation. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2017 is "Catholic Schools – Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service." The



theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic

education. Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Education Association and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

As we begin Catholic Schools Week, we do so with deep gratitude to our parishioners for recognizing the importance of sustaining a Catholic School in our parish. Your support of Our Lady of The Valley Catholic School helps to pass on the gift of faith to children and allows these young people to develop a deeper personal relationship with God. Our school has been a ministry of this parish since 1984 and is blessed to have more than 1000 graduates and 287 current students in preschool through eighth grade. The student body represents a broad spectrum of our community, with 17% receiving financial aid in keeping with our mission to offer assistance to those in need. While our school has received numerous accolades for its accomplishments, including twice being named a U.S. Dept. of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, its greatest hallmark has and will continue to be faith formation.

OLV students as early as preschool learn to experience the fullness of God's love and grace throughout the school day. They begin and end each day with prayer, participate in daily religion class, and experience the Paschal Mystery through Mass each Friday. Students explore Sacred Scripture and even write Communion meditations and Gospel plays for Mass. They live their faith through service, and learn to respond to God's blessings through self-discipline, academic achievement, and by serving as instruments of peace and love to others.

Continued on next page

Not only is your commitment to our school passing on the gift of faith to young people, but it is also making our parish and the universal Church stronger. Extensive research supports the benefits of Catholic education to the Church and nation, most noticeably that Catholic schools produce lifelong practitioners of the faith who grow to become leaders of the Church. Additionally, as noted in "The Catholic Schools We Need," by Cardinal Timothy Dolan, "Strong Catholic schools strengthen all other programs of evangelization, service, catechesis and sanctification." The growth of the Catholic Church in the United States will largely be tied to the continued presence of Catholic schools in our country. "The truth is that the entire parish, the whole diocese, and the universal Church benefit from Catholic schools in ways that keep communities strong."¹

Catholic Schools Week is an opportunity to reflect on the ways in which schools like OLV grow our community of faith and to prayerfully consider how best to advance Catholic education in our parish. It is only through your support that we will be able to sustain Catholic schools for this and future generations. Perhaps you may want to consider enrolling your own child in our school, attending the OLV B.A.L.L., and/or offering a donation for our school's endowment fund. You can learn more about the school at www.olvbirmingham.com or by calling the school at 991-5963

"Catholic education, and the students who are the products of it, have been called the 'greatest work of the Church'."² We are grateful to members of our parish who with their prayers and support are allowing Our Lady of the Valley, through the ministry of its Catholic school, to continue the work of faith building for this and future generations. Thank you and God bless you!



students created this picture which they titled "Cross Your Fingers."

About OLV Catholic School

Mission: Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School is a Christ-centered learning community that fosters academic excellence, positive moral development, and community service. We encourage students to reach their full potential in a creative and nurturing environment that promotes Gospel values.

Enrollment: approximately 300 students in pre-school through eighth grade; K-8 pupil to teacher ratio of 12:1.

Faith Formation: Daily religion class; weekly Mass in which children serve in all aspects of the liturgy; Sacramental preparation; and opportunities for Confession, Adoration, Living Rosary, Stations of the Cross

Service: Students in all grades are involved in age appropriate service projects as they learn to live their faith through service to others

Academic Program: Comprehensive curriculum and exceptional teachers who embody the very best teaching practices engaging students in active learning so they develop critical thinking skills and a love for learning. Faith is the cornerstone of the curriculum which includes core subjects, foreign language, arts, physical education and in middle school opportunities for advanced math and science.

Facility: 67,220 square feet with separate preschool facility, gym, library with 13,000 volumes, science lab, state of the art technology including two classroom computer labs, iPads in preschool and K-3 classrooms, and 4 portable labs that rotate through classrooms, cafeteria, playground, aftercare facilities

Activities: student council, theatre, Science Olympiad, choir, band, yearbook, cheerleading, altar servers, scouts, guardian angels

Athletics: volleyball, basketball, track and field, soccer, football*, cross country*, softball,* lacrosse* (*available through partnership with JCHS)

High School Matriculation: (*within past 3 years*) John Carroll, Oak Mountain, Pelham, Chelsea, Indian Springs, International Baccalaureate School, Alabama School of Fine Arts, St. Bernard Prep

Honors: twice-named a U.S. Dept. of Education Blue Ribbon School of Excellence (the only Birmingham private school to receive the honor), accredited since 1986 by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, students and faculty are the recipients of numerous other honors

References:

¹"The Catholic Schools We Need," by Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, September 13, 2010 The National Catholic Weekly. Most recently, it was announced that Archbishop Dolan will be elevated to Cardinal by Pope Benedict XVI.

²"Top Ten Benefits of a Catholic School Education," by Reverend Ronald J. Nuzzi, Ph.D., Director of Catholic Leadership Programs, Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE), University of Notre Dame.