



Light the Way

Catholic Education Appeal

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

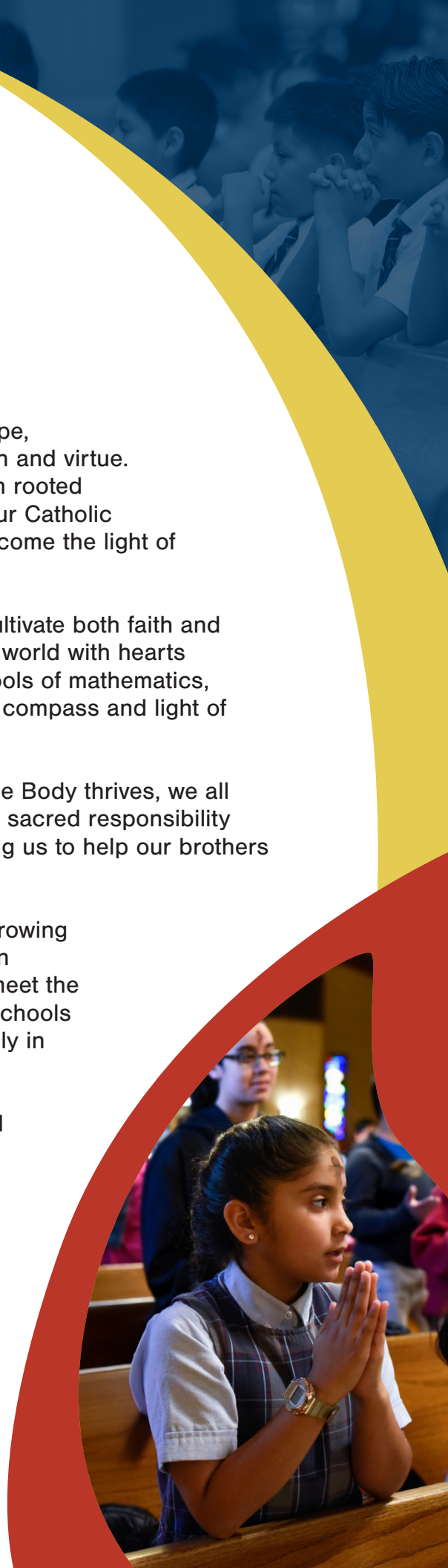
Catholic education has long stood as a radiant beacon of hope, equipping our children to grow not only in wisdom but also in faith and virtue. It is an essential part of the Church's apostolic mission—a mission rooted in Christ's call to go and make disciples of all nations. Through our Catholic schools, we fulfill this sacred charge, forming leaders who will become the light of Christ in their families, communities, and the world.

Our schools have a unique and profound responsibility: to cultivate both faith and reason, teaching children how to navigate the complexities of the world with hearts firmly anchored in Christ's love. Just as we equip them with the tools of mathematics, science, and literature, we must also provide them with the moral compass and light of faith to guide them for a lifetime.

As Catholics, we are one Body in Christ. When one part of the Body thrives, we all thrive; when one part struggles, we are all called to respond. This sacred responsibility extends beyond the pews of our own parishes and schools, calling us to help our brothers and sisters wherever the need exists.

In the Diocese of Dallas, we are blessed with a vibrant and growing Catholic community. This growth brings both great joy and solemn responsibility. As we embark on the creation of a new school to meet the growing needs of our faith community, we must not forget those schools that have long served as pillars of hope and opportunity, especially in our more vulnerable communities.

Ten schools—Bishop Dunne Catholic School, Good Shepherd Catholic School, Holy Family Catholic Academy, Immaculate Conception Catholic School, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School, Santa Clara of Assisi Catholic Academy, St. Cecilia Catholic School, St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic School, St. Mary of Carmel Catholic School, and St. Philip & St. Augustine Catholic Academy—are inspiring

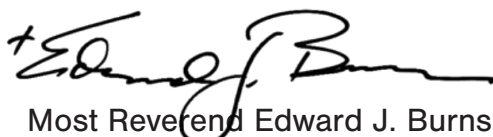


brighter futures despite facing financial challenges. Many of the parents in these communities make tremendous sacrifices so their children can receive an education rooted in Christ. But they cannot do it alone. It is crucial that we provide the necessary support to sustain the schools' mission, ensuring they remain vibrant centers of faith and learning for generations to come.

Will you help illuminate the path for these students by contributing to the Light the Way Catholic Education Appeal? By making a gift, you partner with the Diocese and these dedicated parents, working together to ensure that every child has access to a high-quality Catholic education, and thus the opportunity for lifelong formation in our Christian faith. Your gift, no matter the size, will kindle the flame of opportunity and light the way for countless children to encounter Christ, grow in knowledge, and become beacons of His love in the world. Your generosity today will bear fruit not only for these young students but for generations to come.

Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to the Catholic Education Appeal. Please know that I pray for you daily, thanking God for the opportunity to shepherd such a dedicated flock.

Faithfully yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Edward J. Burns
Bishop of Dallas

P.S. With the generous support of the Popolo Family—and the generosity of the faithful in the Diocese of Dallas—your gift will have an even greater impact. The Popolos have pledged up to \$200,000 in a 2-for-1 matching gift, meaning for every \$100,000 raised, they will contribute an additional \$50,000. With your help, my goal and hope is to **raise at least \$600,000 by June 30 to support these ten Catholic schools**, ensuring a strong and bright future for our students.

"Catholic education aims not only to communicate facts, but also to transmit a coherent, comprehensive vision of life, in the conviction that the truths contained in that vision liberate students in the most profound meaning of human freedom."

– SAINT JOHN PAUL II