



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF MEMPHIS

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June 1, 2026

Re: Encouraging Participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal Art Contest

Dear Principals, DREs and Parents,

As we begin preparations for the 2027 Annual Catholic Appeal, I would like to share an exciting new opportunity for our school students to participate more fully in the life and mission of our Diocese.

This year, we are introducing an Annual Catholic Appeal Art Contest centered on the theme "**On the Journey Together**." This theme beautifully complements this coming year's Catholic Schools' theme, "**The Journey to Emmaus**," reminding us that Christ walks alongside us, guiding, teaching, and strengthening us as we travel the path of faith together.

During Catholic Schools Week, students will be invited to submit their artwork, writing, and other creative works what it means to journey with Christ and with one another. This is an opportunity for our young people to reflect on their faith, share their gifts, and witness to the ways they encounter God's love in their lives.

As you know, the Office of Catholic Schools is one of the ministries supported through the generosity of those who contribute to the Annual Catholic Appeal. The Appeal helps strengthen Catholic education throughout West Tennessee, supporting the mission we share of forming young disciples who know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

I warmly encourage every Diocesan school to participate. A special committee will review the submissions, and selected works will be featured through Diocesan communications, including our website, social media, email publications, and printed materials. Most importantly, this initiative will allow the faith, creativity, and voices of our students to inspire others throughout the Diocese of Memphis.

Thank you for your leadership, your dedication to Catholic education, and your partnership in forming the next generation of disciples. I look forward to seeing the beautiful and inspiring ways our students reflect what it means to be On the Journey Together. I am yours

In the light and love of the Lord,

+ David P. Talley

Most Reverend David P. Talley, M.S.W., J.C.D.
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Memphis