



January 31, 2018

Dear Prospective Parents:

We are delighted that you are interested in a quality Catholic education for your child. By making this choice and the sacrifices it brings, you declare your desire for your child to be educated in an environment which proclaims Jesus Christ as our Savior.

It is my pleasure to announce the beginning of registration for the 2018-19 school year. To register, complete both sides of the registration form and submit your tuition down payment for \$50 to hold your place for next year. We have included all the necessary instructions in your recruitment packet and outlined this information on the registration form. After processing your registration, a copy will be mailed to you to confirm your spot for the 2018-19 school year.

Grant & Aid Program - All families should apply for tuition assistance online through the **FACTS** Grant & Aid Assessment program at www.factstuitionaid.com by the **deadline of April 16, 2018**. The Hren Foundation, which sponsors this tuition assistance, requires Christ Child Academy to use **FACTS** and fully accepts their recommendations. All of the information submitted to **FACTS** is kept completely confidential. There is a \$30 fee to register. Should you not qualify for assistance, this fee will be returned to your account.

CCA uses **SMART TUITION** for the processing and collection of tuition and all school fees. As a new family, please go online to enroll in Smart Tuition at www.enrollwithsmart.com within 30 days. Our school code is 12918. There is no fee to sign up with Smart Tuition.

CCA Extended Day Program – We are offering this program for Christ Child Academy students registered in Preschool through 8th Grade who require before and/or after school care. Registration for the Extended Day Program may be taken anytime during the year. The EDP Director will confirm your registration via e-mail. More information and a fee schedule are enclosed in your packet.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call. Thank you for your interest in Christ Child Academy. We look forward to serving you and your family in the coming school year.

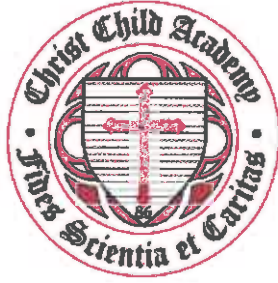
Sincerely,

Mark Ruedinger

Mark Ruedinger
Principal

MR/jb

Enclosures



CHECK OUT WHAT

CHRIST CHILD ACADEMY HAS TO OFFER

- ✓ High Academic Standards
- ✓ Small Class Sizes
- ✓ Challenging Curriculum
- ✓ Superior Student Test Scores and Scholastic Achievement
- ✓ Full Day Kindergarten
- ✓ 4 Year Old Preschool – 5 Days a Week
- ✓ 3 Year Old Preschool – 2 Days a Week
- ✓ Remedial Specialist on site
- ✓ Weekly All School liturgies with Student Participation
- ✓ Monday Morning Prayer Service
- ✓ Sacramental 2nd Grade Preparation
- ✓ Children Choir
- ✓ Band for Students in Grades 4-8
- ✓ Strong Athletic Program: Boys & Girls Basketball, Boys & Girls Cross Country, Girls Volleyball
- ✓ Extended Day Program – Before and After School Care
- ✓ Student Service Council
- ✓ Specialty Classes for K-8: Art, Computers, Music, Physical Education & Spanish
- ✓ Interactive age-appropriate online tools used with Smart Boards within the classroom such as: Scholastic Reading Counts, BrainPop, Spelling City, Discovery Education

We are grateful for the support of our tri-parish churches:

Immaculate Conception
1305 Humboldt Avenue
Sheboygan WI 53081

Saints Cyril and Methodius
822 New Jersey Avenue
Sheboygan WI 53081

St. Peter Claver
1439 South 12 Street
Sheboygan WI 53081

Christ Child Academy is committed to offering a faith based, quality education for everyone. For further information or to schedule a tour of the school at 2722 Henry Street, please check out our website www.christchildacademy.com or give us a call at (920) 459-2660.

CHRIST CHILD ACADEMY

"Making Faith Part of Everyday Life"



Preschool Program 3K/4K

At Christ Child Academy, our 3K & 4K classes integrate faith, academics, play, technology, and service projects for a comprehensive program. We have a strong sense of family and offer many volunteer opportunities. Curriculum includes physical education, library time, art, and music.

3K

2 Days/Week (T-TH)

8:10 am – 11:15 am

Afternoon Extended Care Available

\$1,075

4K

5 Days/Week (M-F)

8:10 am – 11:15 am

Afternoon Extended Care Available

\$1,675

K-8th Grade

5 Days/Week

8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Full Day

\$3,175

Enroll now! Class sizes are limited (*Financial Assistance available*)

Onsite Extended Day Program is available Monday-Friday

6:30 am to 6:00 pm

Christ Child Academy

2722 Henry Street

Sheboygan, WI 53081

(920) 459-2660

www.ChristChildAcademy.com

CHRIST CHILD ACADEMY

Serving Immaculate Conception, Ss. Cyril & Methodius and St. Peter Claver Parishes

2018-2019 Registration Form

Tuition Agreement & Family Participation Policy

LAST NAME: _____ (please print) PARISH MEMBER OF: IC SSCM SPC NON
(please circle one)

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Existing CCA families have until **April 16, 2018** to register.

After that date, registration forms will be accepted on a "first-come/first-serve" basis.

Register by March 2, 2018 and receive a \$50 tuition credit (per FAMILY) for existing families.

GRANT & AID is available to Christ Child Academy students in Preschool through 8th Grade, through the generosity of the Carl and Charlotte Hren Foundation. Enroll online through the FACTS Program at www.factstuitionaid.com.

- **Returning users** should enter their existing username and password to enroll by the **deadline of April 16, 2018**.
- **New users** will need to create an account within 30 days of returning their registration form.
- **\$30 on-line fee** required to register. This fee is refunded to your account if you do not qualify for assistance.
- "*Tuition amount claimed*" would be the amount in the box entitled "**Tuition Schedule**" on the reverse side.

FAMILY PARTICIPATION POLICY: The purpose of this policy is to promote the welfare of Christ Child Academy. All parents are encouraged to serve twenty (20) volunteer hours during the school year. We trust you will share your time and God given talents with us that we may have a more efficient, operating school. When you, as a parent, exercise the privilege of sending your child to CCA, you also become a member of our school community. During the course of the school year, please email ccaworkhours@gmail.com to enter your volunteer hours as you complete them. By signing this registration form, you agree to volunteer twenty (20) hours per school year.

LAST NAME OF CHILD (please print) FIRST NAME OF CHILD (please print) MI BIRTH DATE M/F 2018-2019 GRADE
(mm/dd/yyyy)

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Father's First/ Last Name: _____ (please print)

Mother's First/Last Name: _____ (please print)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: WI Home Phone: _____

Mother's Cell Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Father's Cell Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

REMIND APP – Sign up for this app to receive emergency messages on school closings as well as important notifications. Pick a way to receive messages for the 2018-2019 school year: 1) Open your web browser and go to the following link: Rmd.at/7gdfk for smartphone users 2) text message @7gdfk to number 81010 3) text message @7gdfk to (347) 960-4286. 4) For email notifications go to rmd.@t/7gdfk on a desktop computer to enroll.

2018-2019 Christ Child Academy
Registration Form

CCA uses **SMART TUITION** for the processing and collection of tuition and all school fees such as: athletic fees, cafeteria expense, classroom publications, field trip fees, gym uniforms, orientation supplies, Extended Day Program payments, yearbooks, etc.

Existing school families have an established account and do not need to register again.

New families please go online to enroll in Smart Tuition at: www.enrollwithsmart.com as soon as possible.

School code for CCA: 12928. There is no fee to sign-up with Smart Tuition.

TUITION SCHEDULE			
PRE-K TUITION			
3K	(3 Years Old by 9/1/2018)	\$1,075	2 Afternoons per Week
4K	(4 Years Old by 9/1/2018)	\$1,675	5 Mornings per Week
			12:00 Noon to 2:45 pm
			8:10 am to 11:15 pm
FULL DAY TUITION (K-8)			
One Child		\$ 3,175	
Two Children		\$ 5,150	
Three Children		\$ 7,050	
Four Children		\$ 9,000	

List Number of Students Enrolling:

Applicable Tuition Fee

_____ 3K - 2 Afternoons per week \$ _____

_____ 4K - 5 Mornings per week \$ _____

_____ **Full Day (K-8th) Students** \$ _____

SUB TOTAL \$ _____

New family _____ \$50 Non-Refundable Tuition Down Payment \$ - 50.00 or

Existing family _____ \$100 Non-Refundable Tuition Down Payment \$ - 100.00

Check No. _____ Cash _____ *Deducted from 2018-2019 Tuition*

TOTAL TUITION DUE for 2018-2019 School Year \$ _____

I, the undersigned, hereby register the above students for the 2018-2019 school year with the understanding I will:

- 1) Attach the tuition down payment with this registration form
- 2) Enroll in the FACTS Grant and Aid Program
- 3) Register online with SMART TUITION (**for new families only**)
- 4) Volunteer and log twenty (20) hours
- 5) Sign and date this registration form certifying that all information given is accurate.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____

For Office Use Only:

Payment and Registration received by: _____ **Date:** _____

LAST NAME: _____ **New Family:** _____

Christ Child Academy

Our Faculty

80% of our educators have 10 years experience or more.

67% of our teachers are Catholic.

53% of our Catholic teachers either were educated or had their own children educated at Christ Child Academy.

Teachers know all students on a first name basis, even those not in their respective classes.

Each classroom provides interactive hands-on learning using electronic “Smart Boards”, thereby ensuring daily participation from every student. Middle school students are each assigned a Chromebook to be used at school.

Christ Child Academy offers a fully staffed Extended Day Program for children 3 years old through 8th grade.

Our Alumni

Five Christ Child Academy graduates were valedictorians of the South High Class of 2017. In the last eleven years, Christ Child Academy has had **eighteen** alumni achieve the honor of valedictorian at area high schools!

Our Students

The Iowa Basic Skills Test is taken by 3rd, 5th and 7th graders every spring. The test covers reading, social studies, science and math. Based on the results of all CCA students, a “proficiency level” score is determined. This score measures what percentage of our students scored at the proficient level or higher.

Iowa Assessments Proficiency Levels 2017 Spring

		18 Students	%
3rd Grade	Reading (ELA)	16	89%
	Math	15	83%
	Science	17	94%
	Social Studies	17	94%

		14 Students	%
5th Grade	Reading (ELA)	13	93%
	Math	14	100%
	Science	14	100%
	Social Studies	13	93%

		23 Students	%
7th Grade	Reading (ELA)	19	83%
	Math	19	83%
	Science	20	87%
	Social Studies	19	83%

Christ Child Academy

Iowa Assessments Proficiency Levels

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		AVG.
3rd Grade							
Reading	90%	94%	94%	84%	89%		90%
Math	86%	72%	82%	100%	83%		85%
Science	76%	83%	94%	95%	94%		88%
Social Studies	90%	89%	88%	89%	94%		90%

5th Grade							
Reading	75%	75%	87%	82%	93%		82%
Math	90%	100%	87%	88%	100%		93%
Science	90%	94%	96%	82%	100%		92%
Social Studies	85%	94%	78%	88%	93%		88%

7th Grade							
Reading	73%	60%	86%	100%	83%		80%
Math	100%	87%	91%	100%	83%		92%
Science	82%	67%	91%	92%	87%		84%
Social Studies	91%	80%	82%	100%	83%		87%

CHRIST CHILD ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

Program Summary

Christ Child Academy's pre-kindergarten programs offers a variety of activities in which the children can explore, discover and create according to their own individual abilities in an atmosphere of love and trust which promotes development of self-esteem, accomplishment and a sense of belonging. Teachers plan and take advantage of opportunities for learning that occur as a natural extension of the children's interests and activities.

ART – Many opportunities are available to use different art media in class as well as learning to follow directions to reproduce a project designed by the teacher.

CELEBRATIONS & PROGRAMS – Christmas program, various holiday celebrations, special events, field trip to the farm as well as an "End of the Year" gathering are some of the programs tentatively planned for the year ahead.

DRAMATIC PLAY – Regular opportunities to "make believe" during free time, in specially designated areas are offered. Examples of this would be our dress-up area and role playing in our kitchen space.

FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT – Painting, drawing, cutting, gluing and writing activities, as well as opportunities for play with a wide variety of manipulative toys and games.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT – Books, poems, songs, nursery rhymes, and an introduction of new vocabulary words and new ways of using and sharing words. Show and Tell is offered which is a good vehicle for language development.

LARGE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT – Activities for exercise and skill-building in the classroom, the school gym, and outdoors as weather permits. Gym time is offered to preschoolers every other week.

MATH - Counting, number recognition, comparison, graphing, categorizing, patterns, calendar, days of the week, sequencing and measuring. A good example of learning math skills is in our cooking unit.

MUSIC – Lots of songs, rhymes and musical activities incorporated throughout the day.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT – Many opportunities for parental participation in classroom activities is available, including in class helpers with computers and on-hands special projects. Parents are always welcome to visit the Preschool Classroom. Classroom visitors and chaperones need to have completed the "Safeguarding All God's Children" program required by the Milwaukee Archdiocese before joining us in the classroom setting.

READING & WRITING – This consists of name recognition and printing, letter of the week, writing center, alphabet activities, and exposure to a variety of printed materials, including books and stories written by the children.

RELIGION – Stories, songs, visits from pastoral staff, prayers and art activities that help children develop a knowledge and love of God. Christmas and Easter activities focus on the sacred (not secular) tradition of the holidays. Jr. Kindergartners attend Mass on holy days if the holy day falls on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

SAFETY – Lessons include safety rules for indoor as well as outdoor activities, a "Meet your School Counselor" for the Jr. Kindergartners in preparation for Kindergarten as well as a program on Protecting All God's Children.

SCIENCE – Learning about nature and the world around us through observation, walks, books and hands on experiences.

SOCIALIZING – This is accomplished through inter-active games, snack time, as well as free time where children have many opportunities to interact with all the other students in the classroom.



Christ Child Academy

Extended Day Program for 2018-2019 School Year

Christ Child Academy's Extended Day Program offers Before/After School Programs for Kindergarten through 8th grade, as well as 3 and 4 year old students attending 3K or 4K classes.

Before School Program opens at 6:30 am until 8:00 am. If necessary, children can bring their own breakfast in the morning. The morning consists of theme/art projects, homework time and free time before students are walked to school.

After School Program opens at 3:00 pm (2:15 pm on Wednesday afternoons for early release) and goes until 6:00 pm. The afternoon care consists of homework, theme/art projects, inside and/or outside free time. A snack is also provided.

CCA Extended Day Program welcomes students enrolled in 3K and 4K classes. Children enrolled in 4K are walked over to the Extended Day Program at 11:15 am. The Program includes lunch, rest, theme/art, free time, and a snack.

- Registration fee (non-refundable): \$30 per child / \$50 per family
- A weekly or monthly schedule needs to be submitted to EDP.
If you have an on going schedule that rarely changes, fill out a schedule form once and note the schedule as ongoing throughout the school year or until further notice. However, if your care needs vary ... a schedule form will need to be completed weekly, and returned to EDP by the week prior to when the care is needed. Once schedule form is completed, you may add or delete care by email ccaedp@gmail.com.
- Fee for Extended Day Program is \$4 per hour for each child.
- Billed in ¼ hour increments. Daily minimum charge is ½ hour.
- A late fee of \$1.00 per minute will be charged per child for pick up any time after 6:00 pm.
- Unscheduled additional day: \$5 fee plus standard hourly charges.
- "No – show" – a child who was scheduled, but does not attend will be charge an \$8 fee to their SMART Tuition account.
- Monthly charges will be added to SMART Tuition account.

CCA Extended Day Program is also open on **non-school days** except for holidays listed in the CCA Extended Day Program. For registration information or for any other questions, please email Diane Mutsch at ccaedp@gmail.com or call (920)459-2660.

Christ Child Academy

Extended Day Program

Registration Form for 2018-2019 School Year

Registration Fee - \$30 per child / Max of \$50 per family (non-refundable) Check payable to CCA.

Please register my child/children in the EDP for the 2018-2019 school year.

_____ **Before school program**

\$4 per hour

Time: 6:30 am -7:55 am

_____ **After school program**

\$4 per hour

Time: 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

(2:15 p.m. on Wednesdays for early release)

Extended Day Before/After Preschool Program

_____ **Mornings before 3K class (that starts at 12:00 pm.)**

Mornings: Before 3 year old class (Tuesday & Thursday)

\$4 per hour

Time: 8:15 or after – 12:00 pm (will be walked over to school for class)

Check days: Tuesday _____ Thursday _____

_____ **Afternoons: After 4K classes (Monday – Friday)**

\$4 per hour

Time: 11:15 am – After 4K class – Monday through Friday

Check days: Mon. _____ Tues. _____ Wed. _____ Thurs. _____ Fri. _____

Last Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ 2018-2019 Grade _____

Child's Name: _____ 2018-2019 Grade _____

Child's Name: _____ 2018-2019 Grade _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Any questions please email – **Diane Mutsch at ccaedp@gmail.com.**

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____



School Name: The Challengers
School Colors: Black, White, and Red
League: Sheboygan County Parochial League

Christ Child Academy's Athletic Program teaches and develops the fundamentals of sports, leadership, teamwork and discipline. When Immaculate Conception and St. Peter Claver combined in 1986, the same year of the space shuttle Challenger disaster, the school thought it would be fitting to name themselves "The Challengers" in memory of the men and women who dedicated their lives for a common goal. It is the belief that these same principles and faith will develop a successful athlete.

Christ Child Academy competes regularly with other schools in the Sheboygan area. The mission of the CCA Athletic Program is to foster a Christian spirit of sportsmanship, fitness, a healthy self-image and the ability to work with others as a team. We accomplish this mission through the collective effort and shared responsibility by all—parents, students, coaches, school staff and parish community.

Christ Child Academy encourages both individual and team excellence and presents students of all skill and experience levels with opportunities to develop a Christian spirit of sportsmanship as well as a lifelong interest in fitness and sport.

Our teams are expected to be competitive, but the ultimate measure of their success is not found in their victories. Rather, our teams are considered successful when they promote teamwork, skill development, fun, self-discipline, self-control, hard work, commitment, perseverance, respect for self and others, competitive spirit and character.

The three sports that are offered at Christ Child Academy are girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' cross country all held in the fall and boys' and girls' basketball during the winter. Volleyball and basketball are open to students in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8. Cross Country is open to grades 6, 7, and 8. An athletic handbook is available to all participants. Check out our athletic program on-line to view pictures and game schedules.



Save Time, Apply Online

Applying online is the fastest and most direct method of submitting your application. It allows your institution to view your application electronically within minutes of submission.


Apply online at
www.factstuitionaid.com

Step 1: Select Applicant Sign In

Step 2: New Users select Create an Account

OR

Returning Users enter their existing
Username and Password



Did you forget your password? Click on the Trouble signing in? link to retrieve your existing username and password. If you are unable to retrieve your username and password continue as a New User and click on Create an Account.

Once you have registered and signed in, you will have the ability to complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment application online.

After completing the online application you will need to mail or fax the supporting documentation. The tax information needed to verify your application is shown in the FGAA Checklist that is found online or in the paper application.

Please allow 3 to 4 weeks for your application to be processed. Faxed or copied applications will not be accepted.

Application deadlines are set by the school or institution awarding the scholarships. If you are applying after a given deadline date, please contact your school or institution to ensure that your application will be accepted.

NOTE: Award decisions are not made by FACTS, but by the organization providing the scholarship.

HELP IS AVAILABLE FROM FACTS

Call 1-866-315-9262 or e-mail help@factstuitionaid.com



FACTS

Business Solutions for Education


a netnet company

GRANT & AID ASSESSMENT

www.factsmgt.com - 866-315-9262 - e-mail: info@factstuitionaid.com

fax: 866-315-9264 - PO Box 82524 - Lincoln, NE 68501-2524

To apply online: www.factstuitionaid.com





THE BENEFITS OF A CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION

The primary reasons that parents give for sending their children to Catholic school are:

- 1) academic excellence
- 2) an emphasis on Catholic values
- 3) healthy social relationships
- 4) a supportive environment

A Catholic education means...

College-bound peers – The vast majority of all elementary and secondary Catholic school students go to college. 99% of Catholic secondary school students graduate and 97% go on to college. At Catholic Schools, preparation for college is a clear goal and Catholic School graduates are often pursued by prestigious colleges.

A rigorous curriculum – Most students take four years of mathematics, history, English, science, foreign language, and religious studies.

Self-discipline – The emphasis on external discipline in Catholic schools is intended to teach internal, self-discipline. Students are expected to accept responsibility for their actions, to respect others and to make good decisions in the context of their faith experience.

Christ as a model – The goal of a Catholic education is to help children mature into Christlike people. Students are encouraged to recognize the presence of Christ in themselves and others. The religious formation of children begun at home is continued in Catholic school.

A safe, supportive environment – Reverence for the human dignity of every person comes from recognizing Christ in self and others. More than "Drug-free zones" or "Gun-free zones", Catholic schools strive to be "Christ-centered zones".

High expectations – Catholic school teachers expect every student to achieve. Over time, Catholic school students come to internalize this value, enhancing their self-esteem.

Committed parents – Parents are a child's first teacher. At Catholic schools, parents take an active role in their children's education. The school supports families and works with them for the benefit of children. When problems come up, parents are contacted and asked, "How can we work together to solve this problem?"

A caring community – There are 2,647,301 students enrolled in Catholic schools this year – 2,004,037 in elementary/middle school and 643,264 in secondary school. Their parents provide hundreds of millions of volunteer service hours to their schools. Parents assist with everything from playground supervision, field trips and putting band-aids on skinned knees, to raising funds, installing computer networks and building new schools.

When you send your child to a Catholic school, your family becomes members of a special community. Like your children, your family will be enriched by the opportunity to grow in faith.

CATHOLIC
HERALD

Parenting

Serving Catholics of Southeastern Wisconsin

Dear Mom and Dad: Belated thank you for gift of Catholic education

Annemarie Scobey-Polacheck

Special to Parenting

My parents gave me the gift of 16 years of Catholic education and I'm not sure I ever thanked them for it. From first grade on, I went to school in places where we prayed daily, worshipped together at Mass, and learned about our faith just as surely as we learned our math facts and our parts of speech.

While my parents knew I was getting a good education and they were happy with my faith formation, they couldn't know exactly how my Catholic education was forming me. They couldn't know, in part, because I didn't know myself. Not at the time. I never came home from school and said, "Mom, I learned something today that will affect my faith development for the rest of my life."

Instead, I drank in my Catholic education like it was water, breathed it like it was air — and took it for granted just as surely as I take water and air for granted. So today, on the eve of Catholic Schools Week, I have decided it is time I let my parents know just what it was they gave me, and thank them for it.

Dear Mom and Dad,

The strangest thing about the gift of a Catholic education is I didn't realize it was a gift at the time. Even as a kid, I usually recognized gifts. I remember exclaiming over the Weebles Tree House you gave me for my 6th birthday, and gasping over the Barbie camper I received on my 9th. I remember hugging you for the pink running suit (so 80s) that I ran in all through high school. But I know I never thanked you properly for the 16-years-long, thousands-of-dollars-later, skip-that-vacation and wait-on-the-new-furniture gift of a Catholic education.

I didn't know what it meant at the time, but now, with two kids in Catholic school, and another toddling toward it at breakneck speed, I understand. And so, I will thank you for the pieces of my education you could not have known about.

Thank you for fourth grade at Holy Family with Mrs. Foti. I still remember our role planning the Mass on the last day of school. The Catholic Church may have higher holy days than the last Mass before summer vacation, but as a 9-year-old,



I couldn't think of anything bigger than sending everyone into the summer with a holy bang. Fourth grade was 1978, and guitar Masses were all the rage. We wrote the petitions and chose songs based on the readings. We belted out, "They'll Know We are Christians by our Love," keeping beat on our tambourines. I learned that planning a liturgy was not a job reserved for priests or adult leaders. A fourth grader could do it. A girl could do it. At 9, I learned what "we are the church" really means.

Thank you for seventh and eighth grade with Mrs. Gallagher. I definitely didn't tell you what I learned from Mrs. Gallagher, because she taught a human sexuality unit as part of religion class. She would allow us to write our questions on little slips of paper and she'd answer them. Mrs. Gallagher blended frank answers with church teaching; she provided me with a lens through which I could see a sacredness to sexuality that I may have missed otherwise. Those religion classes, coupled with a marriage and family class I had in high school, shaped decisions I made in dating.

Throughout high school, I doubt if I ever mentioned Fr. Jerry. Fr. Jerry was not a headline teacher. He was thin, quiet and seemed a little shy. But then again, compared to a shrieking adolescent girl, who doesn't seem shy? Fr. Jerry taught Justice and Peace at Dominican. He pushed us beyond the boundaries of the upper-middle class North Shore. He made us look at poverty and oppression and ask the question, "Why?" And ask it again. Fr. Jerry started me thinking about injus-

tice, both in the United States and across our borders. I would not have read the U.S. bishops' 1986 pastoral letter on Catholic social teaching if it weren't for Fr. Jerry. It was a letter that told me that it was OK to rock the boat — that in fact, rocking the boat was part of our calling as Catholics.

And then there's your biggest ticket item, Marquette University. You gave me the choice between Catholic and public; I chose Catholic and never even saw you wince. My experience of Marquette was 10 p.m. Masses at Joan of Arc Chapel, retreats and campus ministry. Marquette was a week doing service work with Br. Booker Ashe in Milwaukee's inner city and a week in Appalachia, helping repair run-down houses. Marquette built on what Mrs. Foti, Mrs. Gallagher and Fr. Jerry started. Marquette handed me the Catholic baton, told me it was my church and to take off toward adulthood running hard and strong, with that baton always in hand.

I'm sorry I didn't thank you at the time. I was too busy relating stories of sixth grade cliques and explaining exactly why I didn't like algebra. I remember complaining to you about various teachers throughout the years and about Marquette University's refusal to divest from South Africa. These Catholic schools were far from perfect, and I made sure you knew exactly why.

But perfect or not, in most ways, Holy Family, Dominican and Marquette University reinforced what you taught at home. By the time I graduated, prayer and faith were not abstract concepts but living and real parts of my life. Working for justice was not someone else's responsibility; it was mine. Catholic schools gave me an ownership of my Catholic faith that I'm not sure I could have developed in any other way.

The Weebles Tree House, the Barbie camper and the pink running suit are all fond memories now. I really can't say what became of any of them. But I know what became of the Catholic education. Somehow, it became me.

Love, your daughter,

Annemarie

(Scobey-Polacheck and her husband Bill have two sons, Jacob and Liam, and a foster daughter. They belong to SS. Peter and Paul and St. Monica parishes. Scobey-Polacheck welcomes dialog regarding her column. E-mail her at <ascobey@hotmail.com>.)