



PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

January 7, 2026

Dear St. Celestine School Families,

You know when you walk through the doors at St. Celestine School, you are entering a truly special place. You are part of a family. You are part of a mission to provide the best possible education to the children in the area. This mission has been part of the St. Celestine School experience for 90 years, which is a magnificent accomplishment!

Your tuition is an investment in your child's future. Last year's graduates were offered nearly \$90,000 in scholarships to area Catholic High Schools. We have a few students accepted into CPS Selective Enrollment High Schools. We are very proud of these young men and women and their success is just one measure of the success of our school. Parents of St. Celestine School graduates report regularly on the academic accomplishments of their children.

Another measure is our continued strong performance on the *iReady* assessments. Our students performed well above the National Average and above the Archdiocesan Average in both Reading and Math.

As St. Celestine School celebrates its 90th anniversary, we have many activities planned for our community. Chief among these is the Sunday Catholic Schools Week Mass on January 25, 2026 at 11:00 am, which will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich. New families, current families, and alumni are invited to the Mass and Open House.

This special day includes:

- A 9:30 am Early Childhood presentation for new families interested in PreK, Kindergarten, and First Grade.
- The 11 am Mass where students are invited to come in uniform. Students will receive an out of uniform pass for attendance.
- Immediately after Mass, students and families are invited to an Open House where they can visit class rooms and participate in 90th anniversary activities.

Current families and new families which have not yet registered for the 2026/27 school year are encouraged to do so at this time. The registration fee increases from \$100 to \$125 starting January 26, 2026.

Everything families do to support the school has a positive result. The dedication of all of our organizations has a huge impact on the environment. Our Athletics Board, Parents Club, School Board and Scouting Programs are second to none. Join me in thanking them for their dedication in community building, especially after the wonderful events and activities from this past holiday season!

Part of what makes St. Celestine so special is you! Your support, sacrifice, and care do not go unnoticed. During the first half of the school year, thousands of service hours were logged by many amazing families. Letters reflecting the numbers of hours are being sent in this week's Brown Envelope. If you have questions regarding your hours, please contact me at sklich@stcelestineschool.org. Navigating multiple organizations and many, many opportunities while compiling these letters was a large task. Also, please note that there are many future events where your support and service are needed, guaranteeing a stronger school and a better community for everyone.

As always, you are in my prayers,

Sheila M. Klich
Principal