



August 2017

Dear Rome Catholic Families,

Thank you for choosing Rome Catholic School as the best education for your child. Our commitment to academic excellence in this faith-centered community is strengthened by your willingness to work with us and together we are assured of success.

Whether you are new to Rome Catholic School or have been a part of our family, this year promises to be a great year together. Not only will this year be one of learning and fun, your child will grow and develop to his or her own personal best. We strive to provide an exceptional education that supports academic excellence and spiritual growth, in a safe, loving, and supportive school environment. Our curriculum has adapted the New York State Common Core Curriculum and our Religion Program is provided and supported by the Diocese of Syracuse. In December 2015, the Syracuse Diocese, and therefore Rome Catholic School, received Middle States Accreditation. See [www.msa-cess.org](http://www.msa-cess.org) for more information. In addition, we at Rome Catholic enrich our curriculum with Art, Band, Library, Music, Physical Education, Spanish, and Technology classes for all students, Pre-K 3 through grade 6.

Please volunteer for as many of the events and activities that you can during the year here at Rome Catholic School. The success of all our events is dependent upon your active support. And remember the adage: *Many hands make light work!* Without your participation and active role in our school community the cost of educating your child would be significantly higher. Please help do your part by volunteering whenever you can. Thank you.

The National Catholic Education Association has created a new theme to celebrate Catholic schools: "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed" which encompasses the core values that can be found at Rome Catholic School. Not only are we teaching students to become future leaders, faith-filled disciples and, enriched citizens in their communities, we, as educators are growing with them. In Catholic schools we are all learners, we all offer service to others, we all lead at one time or another, and ultimately that is what enables us all to succeed.

But we cannot do this alone. We need your support and encouragement. Together we build on the strengths of the rich history of Rome Catholic School by embracing Catholic principles that enable students to meet lifelong challenges in a rapidly changing world.

May God continue to bless you and your family.

Respectfully,

Miss Patricia Bliss  
Principal





## TOP 10 Questions People Ask

- Our **School Day is from 7:50 am until 2:25 pm**. The first day for students is Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Students may arrive anytime after 7:30 am and report to their classrooms.
- **Parent and visitor parking** is located on Floyd Avenue. Please note that parking can become congested during drop off and pick-up times and at special events. School buses park at the main entrance which allows for other parking in front of or behind the buses. Please keep our neighbors in mind when parking becomes limited. If you chose to park on side streets please refrain from parking in front of our neighbors' driveways or in front of any fire hydrants, as per city ordinances as you may be towed or ticketed. Also, local area businesses such as the Colonial Apartments, Barton Place Senior Living, and Premo's Automotive Sales and Services have asked that their parking lots not to be used.
- **Drop Off:** Parents wishing to escort their children to the classroom must park on the street, enter through the main door, and walk their children to their classroom. Parents should not go into the classroom nor attempt to hold a conversation with the teacher. The teacher must be alert to the needs of all the children in the classroom. Parents who wish to drop their children off without walking them to the door, should drive around to the south side of the building on St. Peters Avenue. There will be teachers available to assist the children getting out of their cars and walking to the building. All doors will be locked at 7:50 A. M. and any student who arrives after 7:50 A.M. must report to the office to get a tardy slip to take to their classroom teacher.
- **Lunch** will be served starting September 7<sup>th</sup>. The menu will be on our website and our app. Free and Reduced Lunch Forms are available in the Main Office.
- **Pick up:** All teachers are responsible for ensuring that only the authorized people pick up their students. Pre-Kindergarten teachers will escort all car riders to the main door and those students until they are released to an authorized adult. Kindergarten through grade 6 car riders will be dismissed to the back door and teachers will remain with their students until they are released to an authorized adult. The school secretary will monitor bus students. Teachers will drop off the students in their class who are going to After School Care on their way to the exit.
- Please return the **Emergency Card** on the first day of school. No child will be dismissed to anyone who is not listed on this card unless a written note is provide. Email notes are acceptable.
- Please remember that **student absences** must be reported to Mrs. Czajkowski in the Main Office before 8:00 am. Students who are absent without notification to the school will be marked in the Attendance Register as Absent - Unexcused. All tardy students **must** report to the Main Office for a late slip.
- Please send in a note with your child if **early dismissal** is needed. If an emergency appointment is made contact the school as soon as possible.
- **Student/Parent Handbooks** will be distributed to the *Youngest and Only* students on the first day of school. Please be sure to read over the handbook carefully with your children as there are some changes. Please return the signed acknowledgement in the back of the Handbook, as well as, the Emergency Form to the Main Office by Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.
- All staff and **volunteers** of Rome Catholic School, and all Catholic Schools and Churches in the United States, must be **Virtus** trained. In order for a parent to go on a field trip they must be VIRTUS trained. To find out more information on dates, times, and locations of Virtus Training, please visit our website at [www.romecatholic.org](http://www.romecatholic.org), under ABOUT US tab. We will be holding an initial Virtus training class here at school on Thursday, September 21 and a re-certification class on September 28. Both classes will begin at 6:00 pm.