



## ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL NAMED A 2022 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

**September 16, 2022**

The U.S. Department of Education Friday once again named St. John the Apostle Catholic School, located at 7421 Glenview Drive in North Richland Hills, as a one of the nation's 2022 Blue Ribbon Schools. The school is one of 50 private schools national that were named 2022 Blue Ribbon Schools. Public schools also were named 2022 Blue Ribbon schools.

St. John the Apostle Catholic School was a 2008 National Blue Ribbon School.

National Blue Ribbon Schools (NBRS) is an official program of the U.S. Department of Education that recognizes outstanding schools in the private sector as well as public schools.

The NBRC recognized and commended St. John Catholic on its diverse student population, an exemplary outdoor education program and its exceptional Institute for Excellence in Writing.

An in-person award ceremony will take place Thursday, November 3 and Friday, November 4, 2022, at the Washington Hilton in DC.

“As Pastor at St. John the Apostle Parish and School, I am deeply grateful for the tremendous blessings Our Lord has given us in our families, our school's staff, and the generous benefactors that support Catholic education at St. John and throughout our Diocese,” said Father Jack McKone, pastor of St. John the Apostle Parish.

“The honor of being recognized as one of the top 24 private schools in the United States is the fruit of countless hours of hard work by our principal, Mrs. Amy Felton, the school administration, and our incredible teachers. We have also enjoyed the support of so many school families that make the sacrifices required to provide this education. The gratitude I feel is made even deeper by the fact that St. John School accomplished this as a long-term goal during the most challenging two years in United States education history,” Father McKone continued.

“When the pandemic was just beginning, and we were all scrambling to figure out how to provide that high-value Catholic education without lowering the school's catechetical, academic, and athletic standards, Bishop Olson strongly encouraged us to creatively seek ways of delivering the Catholic Faith based learning that parents want for their children.

“Thanks be to God.”

St. John the Apostle Catholic School offers pre-kindergarten through eighth grade students a high quality, Catholic education that promotes the development of the whole child in an environment where children can grow intellectually, spiritually, socially, and culturally. The school uses math facts, cursive writing, research starting in 1st grade, 6 Trait writing, excellence in grammar and phonics, Cornell notes, inquiry learning style that allows students to lead discussions, with rigor and prayer in every class.

“I am blessed to be a part of St. John the Apostle Catholic School,” Principal Felton said. “This school truly believes in following God’s teachings. Every principal, teacher, student, and family that has stepped onto this unique campus is and always will be a part of our SJS family.

“It’s a privilege and an honor to be part of a school that has passed down rigorous academics with God-centered learning from generation to generation for 57 years,” Mrs. Felton added.

“The faculty, staff, and I understand the enormous responsibility we have with earning our second National Blue Ribbon School Award,” she added. “It is our responsibility to always share the truth, beauty, and goodness of God which will help form disciples of Christ and to help them grow to be good stewards and great leaders in our world today and in the future.”

Bishop Michael Olson joined in commending the St. John the Apostle Catholic Parish and St. John the Apostle Catholic School on the 2022 National Blue Ribbon School designation.

“I want to congratulate Father Jack McKone, Mrs. Amy Felton, and the teachers, staff, students, and their mothers and fathers for excelling in Catholic education and for being duly recognized for their excellence,” Bishop Olson said.

“Their commitment to sharing the truth, beauty, and goodness of God in charity and through classical education has helped them to form a Catholic community manifold in diversity and united in each person’s creation in the image and likeness of God,” Bishop Olson added.

Some quick facts about St. John the Apostle Catholic School include:

- Established in 1965
- 163 students
- 30 teachers
- 4 goats
- 9 chickens
- 2 rabbits
- 1 therapy dog
- Gardens
- 2 greenhouses
- 1 rain barrel
- Compost bin
- Worm farm

For more information about St. John the Apostle Catholic School go to <https://www.stjs.org/>

Parents wishing to schedule a visit to the school can contact admissions at 817-284-2228 or request a visit online.

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*NOTE TO EDITORS: St. John the Apostle Catholic School is indeed an exemplary school. If you would like an interview with Father McKone or Mrs. Felton, please contact Admissions and Advancement Director Toni Kelly at (817) 284-2228.*