



August 27, 2025

Dear Catholic School Family,

As we mourn the loss of life and impact of the unspeakable tragedy at Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis, where innocent children were injured and killed, please join us in offering prayers for them and prayers for Christ's peace and comfort for their parents, siblings, families and classmates. Let us pray, too, for an end to this epidemic of gun violence in our country and let us work together to bring His healing love to this beleaguered world.

Being a Catholic community this tragedy resonates with us in an all too familiar way. Celebrating Mass with our community is very important to all of us and an integral part of our Catholic educational experience. We know that first and foremost on your mind today is the safety of your children. Please know, their security and protection are of the utmost priority to us. Every one of our Catholic schools has in place comprehensive safety practices that have been rigorously studied and thoroughly implemented. Our faculty, staff and students are trained in risk responses including medical, weather, fire and active assailants. Experts continuously review and update the plans and procedures to ensure they remain as advanced as possible. Additionally, the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Department of Catholic Schools and our individual schools have strong partnerships with local law enforcement.

Please reach out to your school leadership with questions and allow those affected in today's tragedy to remain in your heart and in your prayers.

With every prayer for Christ's peace, we are

Faithfully in Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore

Gregory A. Farno
Chancellor of Education

Sister Patricia McCarron, S.S.N.D., Ph.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools