



Campaign Update #10: Learning Outside the Classroom

At Light of Christ Catholic Schools, we believe in providing an education that includes academics, extra-curricular activities and spiritual growth. Some students choose to extend their education during the summer with life-changing experiences such as the Rome pilgrimage and the Peru pilgrimage. In this newsletter, we'll share a bit of what happened on the Rome pilgrimage.

More than 50 students from SMCHS who are entering their senior year recently completed a two-week pilgrimage to Rome and other cities in Italy. The pilgrimage is sponsored and organized by the University of Mary and is attended by other Catholic high schools throughout the diocese and region.

For many of our students, the Rome Pilgrimage is a pivotal point in their faith lives. The pilgrimage allows them to deeply connect to what they have received in their Catholic education at school, with family and in their parishes. As a priest shared on a former pilgrimage, "This isn't a vacation. You'll often feel rested after a vacation, and then within a couple days of returning, you feel like you are back to the same old grind. A pilgrimage changes you and your perspective. You return home renewed."

When we see students coming home feeling rejuvenated and excited about their faith, we are encouraged and determined to make sure we can take in as many students as possible. The Keep the Promise Capital Campaign continues to progress nicely. Our commitment to welcome every student who wants to be a part of Light of Christ in our fold is non-negotiable. We thank you for your prayers.

Rome Student Reflection

This summer my classmates and I had the great privilege of partaking in a pilgrimage sponsored by the University of Mary to the Eternal City of Rome, Italy. Along with 138 other faithful pilgrims from the Catholic high schools from the Diocese of Bismarck and from throughout the region, we journeyed through the city of Rome and the country of Italy. Each location that we ventured to held a new meaning to each pilgrim. For some, they had an intensely spiritual experience, for others a moment they will remember for the entirety of their life. Each of these experiences helped us to more closely become the person God wants us to be. So much so that I saw my classmates whom I have attended school with for several years now, change completely in the short time of two weeks. On this adventure of a lifetime, I found things I never knew I was looking for, including my faith and myself. Something indescribable happened to my peers and I while in

Rome and I am so blessed to have had this opportunity.

-Submitted by Riley McLean (SMCHS Class of 2017)



Top - SMCHS students on the rooftop of the North American College, the seminary in Rome which many priests from the Diocese of Bismarck received their formation. Bottom left- The Diocese of Bismarck Catholic High School chaplains: Fr. Tom Grafsgaard, Fr. Doug Krebs, Fr. Jady Nelson, Fr. Jared Johnson (left to right). Bottom right - SMCHS students at the tomb of St. John Paul the Great inside of St. Peter's Basilica. Gregory Crane, a seminarian for the Diocese of Bismarck and former SMCHS religion instructor, is giving the tour.



SMCHS students in front of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

 **KEEP THE PROMISE.net**
Light of Christ Catholic Schools Capital Campaign

Join us for a
Celebration!

Saturday, September 10

555 Highway 1804 NE, Bismarck ND - Near the new campus for our future St. Mary's Central High School

Festivities begin at 4 pm

For more details about
the Celebration, visit
keepthepromise.net


Light of Christ Catholic Schools

Have a question? Want to volunteer to help with the campaign?
Just use this simple form.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A QUESTION](#)
[OR VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH THE CAMPAIGN.](#)

We invite you to share these updates with your friends and family and submit the names of friends/family that would like to receive these updates directly.
