

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

- Whereas,** West Virginia's Catholic schools are acclaimed for their academic excellence and provide students with numerous curricular and extra-curricular opportunities; and
- Whereas,** Catholic schools ensure a broad, value based education emphasizing the lifelong development of intellectual, spiritual, physical and social values in West Virginia's young people; and
- Whereas,** the total number of Catholic schools in West Virginia is 26, including Wheeling University; and
- Whereas,** the 2019-2020 total Catholic school enrollment for elementary and secondary schools is 4691; and
- Whereas,** the graduation rate for West Virginia Catholic high school students is over 99%, and nearly 98% of the graduates go on to pursue higher levels of education; and
- Whereas,** Catholic schools produce students dedicated to their faith, values, families and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spirit, character and moral development; and
- Whereas,** in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives".

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *January 26-February 1, 2020* as:

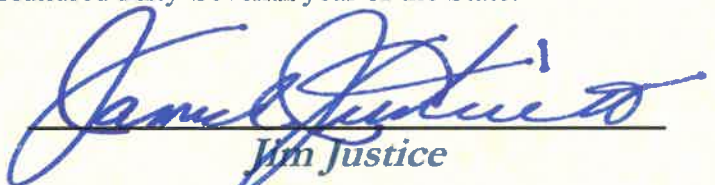
Catholic Schools Week

in the Mountain State and support the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event sponsored by the National Catholic Education Association and the United States Catholic Conference and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and congratulate the Catholic schools, students, parents and teachers across West Virginia for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for West Virginia and the nation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty, and in the One Hundred Fifty-Seventh year of the State.




Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:


Mac Warner
Secretary of State