

*Saint James Catholic School
Has Been Named a
National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence
By the US Department of Education
For 2020*



September 24, 2020

1:00 pm

*St. James Catholic School
Falls Church, VA*

*U.S. Department of Education
Recognizes Saint James Catholic School
as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2020*

We are very pleased to announce that Saint James Catholic School has been designated a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The recognition from U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is the third such award for the Saint James School community. The K-8 school also received the Blue Ribbon honor in 1999 and in 2014.

Congratulations to each and every one of our faculty and staff along with our students and parents for their continued hard work to ensure excellence in teaching, learning and student performance.

Saint James Principal, Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM, added, “It is an honor to be recognized at the national level for the second time! This is a solid testament to the quality work I see daily at Saint James Catholic School. I am proud of our students, teachers, staff and parents. The 2020 National Blue Ribbon represents their continual efforts toward high achievement and success since we were last named a Blue Ribbon School in 2014. We have a school community that works together to ensure that students succeed at every level. Our students and teachers are engaged in the learning process, ever guided by the joyful message of Jesus Christ, our unique Teacher.”

The Saint James announcement is part of a national recognition by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos today that recognized ### schools as the 2020 cohort of National Blue Ribbon Schools, based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in improving student academic achievement.

Secretary DeVos made this year’s announcement live via the Department's USTREAM channel, viewed by recognized principals, teachers, and students assembled across the country.

The Department will honor 317 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on Nov. 10-11 in Washington, D.C. In its 32-year history, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed this coveted award on just under 7,900 of America’s schools. “These great schools are fulfilling the promise of American education—that all students, no matter their name or zip code, can flourish when schools provide safe, creative, and challenging learning environments,” Secretary Duncan said. “National Blue Ribbon Schools are models of consistent excellence and a resource for other schools and districts. We celebrate them for their tireless effort and boundless creativity in reaching and teaching every student.”

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award affirms the hard work of

students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. Saint James is being recognized as a high performing school.

Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest levels.

The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools.

Our mission: Saint James Catholic School is committed to educating children within the Catholic tradition, promoting academic excellence and service, as our students develop their God-given abilities.

830 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

● Ph. (703) 533-1182 ● Fax (703) 532-8815

