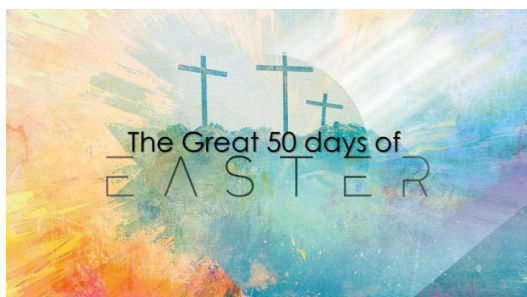


# THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CHRONICLE

Spring 2026 | Vol. 3 No. 4

A quarterly newsletter provided by Catapult Learning, The *Superintendent's Chronicle* offers Catholic school leaders at the chancery-level current insights, ideas, and information about the landscape of Catholic schools and helpful tools for addressing emerging challenges.



Did you know that the celebration of Easter does not end on Easter Sunday, and that it actually extends for 50 days (7 weeks) up through Pentecost Sunday? This period of time is known as Eastertide.

Easter for Christians is not just one day, but rather a 50-day period. The season of Easter begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends on Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

Easter is also more than just an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. By the mid-4th century, Lent was a season for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The initial purpose of the 50-day Easter season was to continue the faith formation of new Christians.

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. Eastertide is the season when we remember our baptism and how through this sacrament we are, according to the liturgy, "incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation." As Easter people, we also celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the Spirit and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.

And so it is with humble hearts but soaring spirits do we rightly greet one another throughout this holy season by exclaiming: **HAPPY EASTER!**

## Recent Changes Among Superintendents and Central Office Leaders for Catholic Education

Congratulations and best wishes to the following recently appointed (arch)diocesan superintendents:

Martha Mundine	<b>Diocese of Knoxville</b>
Joni House	<b>Diocese of Jackson</b>
Amy Conlon	<b>Archdiocese of Dubuque</b>

**We honor and celebrate the years of service, witness, and formation provided by superintendents who recently left their positions or have announced their upcoming transition, including:**

George Valadie	<b>Diocese of Knoxville</b>
Mark Williams	<b>Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux</b>
Patty Lansink	<b>Diocese of Sioux City</b>
Karla Luke	<b>Diocese of Jackson</b>
Cathy Walz	<b>Archdiocese of Dubuque</b>
Vince Cascone	<b>Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas</b>

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Readers are welcome to send any updates to Fr. Ron Nuzzi [ron.nuzzi@catapultlearning.com](mailto:ron.nuzzi@catapultlearning.com) or at 330.652.7944.

### ***High Impact Tutoring Driving Academic Success***

High-Impact Tutoring (HIT) has emerged as one of the most effective strategies for accelerating learning and addressing learning gaps exacerbated by recent disruptions. Key research, including findings from the National Student Support Accelerator (NSSA) and the Annenberg Institute's EdResearch for Recovery design principles, highlights why intensive tutoring consistently yields significant academic gains for students who need support. The fundamental design elements that make tutoring "high-impact" include frequent sessions, small group sizes, highly-trained and consistent tutors, data-driven instruction, and alignment with school curricula.

For a detailed report and summary on the impact of high impact tutoring, click [here](#).

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### ***Why People Stay With or Leave Their Childhood Religions***

According to the Pew Research Center, 35 percent of U.S. adults have moved on from the religions of their family and youth. And yet, most Americans (56%), still identify with their childhood religion. Additionally, 9 percent were never raised in a religious tradition and still do not have one today. Among Catholics who have remained so, 54 percent say it is because it fulfills their spiritual needs, 53 percent cite belief in core teachings, and 47 percent say it is because it gives life meaning.

Americans who switch religions often do so early in life. 85 percent of those who have switched did so by the age of 30. This includes 46 percent who switched as children or teenagers. Americans who have left their childhood religion most commonly cite the following as extremely or particularly important reasons: they stopped believing in the religion's teachings (46 percent), it was no longer important in their life (38 percent), or they gradually just drifted away (38 percent).

For a more details discussion, click [here](#). ("Why Do Some Americans Leave Their Religions While Others Stay?" by Becka A. Alper, Patricia Tevington, Asta Kallo, and Jeff Diamant, December 15, 2025)

### ***NCEA 2026 Convention in Minneapolis***

The annual NCEA Convention was held in Minneapolis on April 7-9, 2026 at the downtown convention center. Catapult Learning joined Renaissance, VenturEd Solutions, and Flynn O'Hara Uniforms in hosting a celebration for convention goers at the nearby iconic Minnesota restaurant, Hell's Kitchen. The NCEA Convention typically falls during the Octave of Easter and is a festive time to celebrate the faith and the success of Catholic schools nationwide.



A downtown Minneapolis hotspot and must-see attraction for visitors to the Twin Cities.



Convention goers did indeed love MSP.



The dance floor was the place to be!

## ***Lenten Retreat for Superintendents in Tampa***

Our annual Lenten retreat for (arch)diocesan superintendents was held in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL, March 24-26 at the Bethany Center in Lutz, just north of Tampa. Sister Barbara Quinn from Boston College led the retreat, focusing on the theme of communal discernment. Participating superintendents enjoyed the warm weather, the company of many friends and colleagues, the natural beauty of the surroundings, and the practical insights shared by Sister Barbara.

The annual Lenten retreat is part of the ongoing Professional Learning Community (PLC) sponsored by Catapult Learning and Boston College. For information regarding joining the PLC, contact Fr. Ron Nuzzi (330.652.7944 or [ron.nuzzi@catapultlearning.com](mailto:ron.nuzzi@catapultlearning.com)) or Melodie Wyttenbach (617.552.1771 or [wyttenba@bc.edu](mailto:wyttenba@bc.edu)).



Superintendents gather on the steps of the chapel after Mass for a brief photo opportunity before dinner.

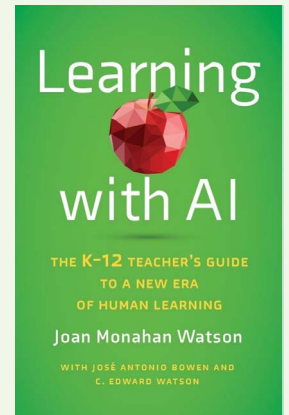


Retreat concluded with a festive Italian meal at Esposito's Ristorante.

## ***Learning with AI: The K-12 Teacher's Guide to the New Era of Human Learning***

Perhaps the hottest topic in educational circles today at every level, AI is transforming not just how we teach, but thinking itself. With a view to supporting classroom teachers struggling to integrate AI into their already packed curriculum, this text moves beyond see AI as just the latest tool in pedagogy, and invites teachers to reframe their understanding of teaching and learning.

An in-depth review of this new book can be found [here](#).



## ***Equitable Services Institute (ESI) 2026 Philadelphia: A Resounding Success***

The annual Equitable Services Institute (ESI) was held in Philadelphia, March 24-25, 2026. Dozens of educational leaders attended the event, focused exclusively on the various federal programs available to students in private and nonpublic schools, Led by Henry Fortier and Jackie Flanigan of [Equitable Educational Services](#), the institute addressed important topics in the field for educational leaders such as consultation, poverty counts, IDEA, and the many ongoing changes at the U.S. Department of Education.



ESI 2026 participants gathered in conference space at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Our thanks to the archdiocesan staff and especially to its Secretariat for Catholic Education for hosting this year's institute.

Previous issues of The Superintendent's Chronicle dating back to Summer 2023 can be found [here](#).

# NCEA Convention 2026: Prayer

*(Tune: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today")*

## Verse 1

Catholic teachers, sing today, Alleluia!  
Christ our Light and Life and Way, Alleluia!  
Just past Easter's empty grave, Alleluia!  
We proclaim the One who saves. Alleluia!

## Verse 2

In our classrooms truth resounds, Alleluia!  
Faith and reason both are crowned, Alleluia!  
Scholars formed in heart and mind, Alleluia!  
College pathways brightly shine. Alleluia!

## Verse 3

Daily prayer and sacred sign, Alleluia!  
Word proclaimed and Bread divine, Alleluia!  
At the altar heaven meets, Alleluia!  
Christ our Eucharistic feast. Alleluia!

## Verse 4

Even here in "Hell's" domain, Alleluia!  
Death and darkness lose their claim, Alleluia!  
Risen Christ our banquet leads, Alleluia!  
Grace outshines all lesser creeds. Alleluia!

## Final Verse

Teachers strong in hope and cheer, Alleluia!  
Christ has conquered doubt and fear, Alleluia!  
From this gathering we go, Alleluia!  
Resurrection seeds we sow. Alleluia!