



St. Monica Church

13623 Rockside Road ♦ Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125-5197 ♦ Phone: 216-662-8685 ♦ Fax: 216-662-1245

Margaret Lyons
Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of Cleveland

March 14, 2007

Dear Margaret,

This letter is about something special that I witnessed at a Trinity High School Retreat on Monday afternoon after the Principal- Pastor Breakfast that your department hosted. Your theme was the Catholic Identity of our schools.

As I mentioned above, I attended a Retreat that was hosted by Trinity High School. The location was at Camp Christopher near Akron, Ohio. The retreat was for the Freshmen Class and was put on by the Senior – Junior Campus Ministry Program. As I watched the participation by the Freshmen , the Seniors , Juniors, and the Faculty members present, I felt very proud to witness this retreat. But there were two other incidents that happened at this retreat which really brought home the Catholicity of what was happening that day: I had entered the sacristy to put some of the articles needed for the upcoming Mass, and I noticed that the Sacristy had been made into a Chapel, and the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for veneration. There were three members of the Ministry Team praying in the Chapel. They told me that all day long members of the Ministry took turns coming into the Chapel to pray for the success of the Retreat. I can not tell you how wonderful this made me feel. I can also tell you that their prayers behind the scenes had a great effect on the spirituality of the Retreat.

The other incident happened at the end of the retreat. As the Freshmen Class was leaving the grounds I watched the Senior-Junior team members accompany them to their busses waiting to take them back to Trinity High School. The friendliness was very apparent, as was their courtesy to the Freshman Class. That is something that can not be dictated to students; it has to be a part of their makeup. The Catholicity of the Faculty and Students of Trinity High School is very apparent.

I know that when something bad happens in a Catholic School, you hear about it. I wanted you to hear some good news.

Sincerely Yours,

Fr. Thomas Haren
Fr. Thomas Haren

c.c. Ms. Carla Fritsch
Bill Svoboda

*Carla,
Wonderful Retreat !! I thought the office
of Education should know about your school.*