December 20, 2017

Dear Parents, Families, School Communities, and Friends:

On behalf of our entire Catholic school system and the Office of the Superintendent, I wish all of our students, families, teachers, principals, pastors, and staff my very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Christmas is a special time to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose teaching and example guide, inspire, and strengthen our school communities each and every day. It is also a time to give thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives, including the wonderful gift of Catholic education, and ask for strength and grace in the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. During this wonderful season, I encourage you to remember and keep sacred the true meaning of Christmas: gratitude, mercy, forgiveness, and perpetual hope. It is not lost on me that those values are always present in our students, and they continue to be role models for us.

As we reflect on the terrific progress and success we have enjoyed this year as a school system grounded in faith, I hope you will enjoy meaningful, well-deserved time with family, friends, and loved ones. I look forward to your continued partnership in the New Year as we work to provide the very best spiritual and academic education for the students and families we are privileged to serve.

God bless you,

Timothy J. McNiff, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of New York

"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' . . . Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
(Luke 2:10-12, 14)