



**St. John
Paul II School**
5-12 | Preparatory | Catholic

Mission Statement

The school is a caring community that embodies the Gospel of Jesus Christ and teaches the faith and practices of the Catholic Church. An educational ministry of the Diocese of Fall River, the school serves students and families of all faiths across Cape Cod, the Islands, and southeastern Massachusetts who seek distinctive co-educational middle and high school Catholic education. Through strong relationships and worthy example, the school recognizes students' gifts, develops their potential, and inspires their pursuit of truth through faith and reason.



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Philosophy

Our school embraces the teaching of the Catholic Church, which recognizes parents as the primary educators of their children. As such, it is important to articulate the mission, philosophy, and vision of the school so that parents can understand our approach and determine if the school best fits their family goals.

Our school philosophy is based on five fundamental values.

A Community of Care and Concern

School culture and environment are premised on the idea that people learn best through relationships that are positive, encouraging, respectful, and professional. Therefore, the school retains qualified faculty and staff members capable of forming healthy relationships marked by mutual respect and shared goals.

Full Personhood under God

From Grade Five through Grade Twelve, we know that our most important charge is the full human formation of our students, who are created in the image and likeness of God. Such formation requires a program of intellectual, spiritual, physical, and social-emotional experiences that help students realize their worth and the central role of God in their creation, lives, and destiny.

Academic Excellence

Students deserve both robust academic challenges and robust support to meet them. The school offers a thoughtfully-developed curriculum based on the Catholic liberal arts tradition and inclusive of evolving STEAM approaches. When expectations are set high, and relationships of respect prevail, students tend to meet those expectations. In equal measure, support and appropriate accommodations are provided for student success.

Opportunities to Grow and Thrive

The school's philosophy of challenge and support is equally operative in the athletic, performance, artistic, and other co-curricular endeavors. Students are provided opportunities and encouraged to explore new dimensions of themselves in an environment designed for appropriate risk-taking and growth. We believe in maximizing options and activities so that students are not "waiting in line" and as a result, more readily grow through new endeavors.

Spiritual Life and Christian Service

The school program is rooted in the Catholic Faith. We strive to know, love, and serve God, as Jesus taught, through prayer, worship, and service. In order to educate the whole child truly and to live our pilgrim journey on earth, developing habits of prayer, regular worship at Mass, and meaningful acts of Christian service are of ultimate value. Through prayer, worship, and service, students develop their spiritual dimension, actively engage with other persons in need, and prepare for their ultimate destiny.



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Profile of the Graduate at Graduation

Consider the following description a profile of St. John Paul II School graduates. Not an idealized vision of “perfect” students, but a real, lived description of the skills, qualities, attitudes, and knowledge resulting from our programs.

Our profile is comprised of five key facets of the human person: intellectual formation, character development, education for leadership and citizenship, service to others, and spiritual formation.

Intellectual Formation

The school forms students who think critically, engage fully with the world, and examine issues in the light of faith and reason. Graduates take responsibility for becoming informed citizens and effective members of their communities through continuous learning.

JPII graduates:

- Possess a breadth and depth of knowledge that prepares them for higher education and life;
- Think critically about academic, social, and moral issues, evaluating truth claims through the twin lenses of faith and reason;
- Apply the knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to serve their communities;
- Recognize their responsibility for lifelong learning;
- Seek to improve themselves through the development of mind, body, and soul.

Character Formation

The school instills responsibility, good judgment, courage, and self-mastery in its graduates. Successful graduates embrace these virtues and incorporate them into their lives.

JPII graduates:

- Exercise good judgment in thought, speech, and behavior, choosing good over evil, and truth over falsehood;
- Recognize and accept the consequences of their actions;
- Exhibit strong moral values, respect for self and others, moderation in all things, and courtesy even in the face of adversity;
- Respond to the needs of all people with words and actions that respect their human dignity.



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Leadership

The school's graduates engage meaningfully with the world through purposeful leadership and citizenship.

JPII graduates:

- Communicate confidently and effectively with individuals and in group settings;
- Listen with empathy to the voices of others and advocate especially for the marginalized and vulnerable;
- Collaborate with others to work toward common goals while maintaining personal values and aspirations;
- Engage meaningfully in personal and professional roles in their communities;
- Exemplify trustworthiness and integrity, choosing ethical behavior in all situations;
- Look to our Lord Jesus Christ as a model of servant leadership.

Christian Service

The school's graduates serve and advocate for the needs of others, recognizing that they are called to love and serve as Christ did.

JPII graduates:

- Desire to serve, out of compassion and generosity of spirit;
- Recognize the global and local dimensions of social justice issues;
- Promote the value and dignity of every human life, knowing that each is made in the image and likeness of God;
- Practice Christian service as an ongoing, fundamental aspect of their faith and humanity.

Catholic Faith

Graduates develop habits of praise and worship through the faith and practices of the Catholic Church.

JPII graduates:

- Grow intentionally in their relationships with Christ;
- Demonstrate knowledge of their purpose and vocation, and the universal call to sainthood;
- Hold an eternal perspective on life, with a strong moral foundation and clear understanding of what constitutes Truth;
- Cultivate generosity of heart, mercy, and forgiveness;
- Practice their Catholic faith through prayer and reception of the sacraments;
- Demonstrate respect for all life from conception to natural death;
- Respect the faith and persons of other traditions.



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A Vision for St. John Paul II School 2025

St. John Paul II School is a Catholic, co-educational, 5-12 school marked by authentic Catholic Faith, excellence in programming, and strong relationships amongst students, families, and the school. St. John Paul II School maintains a stable enrollment of 450-500 students from Cape Cod, the Canal region, and the south shore area.

JPII appreciates the God-given dignity and potential for growth inherent in each student. Founded on a core, school-wide program of study skills and the traditional “liberal arts” values of speaking, reading, and writing, JPII students will branch out to specialized and individualized programs in sciences, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. The school’s commitment to personal growth and development, seen especially in its three-year “Leadership Sequence,” is recognized as a signature program. Students meet the challenges of a preparatory education through individual student services, an inclusive faculty culture, and strong communication between home and school.

JPII’s campus ministry program and Theology classes transmit the truths of the Faith while guiding students to appropriate an authentic Christian vision for their lives through service, prayer, and reflection (“ever ancient, ever new”). The school’s sacramental life, Christian witness on campus, and local and global Christian service are evident and vibrant.

Lions athletics programs achieve on and off the field. “Off the field,” mission-driven, dedicated coaches lead student-athletes in prayer, worship, and Christian service. “On the field,” experienced coaches instill a culture of commitment and competitiveness while developing student-athletes who desire college-level play. The athletics staff minimizes injury. Field improvements to the school’s modest footprint enhance the program.

Recognizing that action and expression are fundamental to the human person, music, performance, and visual arts hold a privileged place at the school. The school’s performing arts and visual arts enjoy wide participation and community acclaim.

Enrollment and retention remain healthy due to the school’s mission, reputation, ability to provide financial aid scholarships, and focused efforts of the admissions team. The school’s annual development revenue helps bridge the gap between the actual cost to educate a JPII student and the school’s tuition rates. JPII supporters help secure financial aid funds so that all families seeking a JPII education see that it is achievable for them.

St. John Paul II School is recognized Cape-wide for its traditional, transcendent values and high-communication, caring culture.