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PROCLAMATION/PASTORAL LETTER CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF SASKATCHEWAN RE: WORLD CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK MAY 9 - 16, 2010

The Catholic Bishops of Saskatchewan would like to recognize Thursday, May 13, 2010 as World Catholic Education Day. On this day we celebrate the unique identity and distinctive contributions of Catholic Education in the lives of people around the world.

In Saskatchewan we are blessed with a constitutional right to publicly funded Catholic education. Through our 9 Catholic school divisions we educate over 35,000 students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in 121 Catholic schools.

This year's theme is "Catholic Education: Rejoicing in Hope". Catholic Education takes hope to a higher level, a level in which we can Rejoice in Hope. In our Catholic schools we embrace a hope that goes beyond our human experience and asks us to place our hope in the Living God.

We set aside this week to focus our attention on the value of Catholic Schools in providing a holistic education in a faith filled environment to nurture the faith of our children. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all the partners in Catholic education including trustees, administrators, teachers, support staff, pastors, parish ministers, parish teams and parents for supporting our children in their journey home to God through the gift of Catholic Education.

We invite all members of the Catholic community to a greater awareness of the contribution of Catholic schools to the mission of the Church. We ask each of you to pray for the continued success of our Catholic schools and indeed, wherever there is need, to add your voice in support of Catholic education as we strive to support our students in their life long faith journey.

We urge all people in the Catholic community of Saskatchewan to recognize the week of May 9-16, 2010 as a time of prayer and thanksgiving for the wonderful gift of Catholic Education.

Most Rev. Daniel J. Bohan
Archbishop of Regina

Most Rev. Albert Thévenot
Bishop of Prince Albert

Most Rev. Donald Bolen
Bishop of Saskatoon

Most Rev. Bryan Bayda
Ukrainian Eparchial Bishop of Saskatoon