

## St. Bartholomew Catholic School

An asset to the Archdiocese of Detroit

Capability attained through years of operating in the Inner City;

responding to the needs of the east side of Detroit

bringing the faith to a high percentage of un-churched residents

## Catholic Schools in Detroit east of Woodward Avenue



St. Bartholomew Catholic School is the *only* Catholic school on the east side.

We see an opportunity to function as a regional school serving six parishes in the Genesis Vicariate:

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral  
Madonna  
St. Benedict  
St. Gregory  
St. Raymond  
St. Bartholomew – St. Rita

It may be possible for these parishes to send enough students to St. Bartholomew Catholic School to meet our enrollment projections. However, there are many more non-Catholic grade school children living in the same area as the above six parishes that are interested in St. Bartholomew, but at this time, cannot afford the tuition.

We have considered this population in our transition plan. We can and we do serve a small portion of this area very effectively now. We can and we should expand our service to the larger community immediately at hand. Looking ahead, we have stated so in our Transition Plan submitted to AOD and are further recommending TIF consider the merits of this proposition, i.e., designating St. Bartholomew as a Regional K-8 school to re-introduce improved education and the Catholic Faith to a wider audience in this area.

*Potentially, there are many non-Catholic families in the six parishes not served by a faith-based grade school. We see our mission as the only Catholic school east of Woodward Avenue in Detroit to bring the Catholic religion to these people.*

*The non-Catholic background of many potential local students affords St. Bartholomew Catholic School the opportunity to introduce them and their parents to the Catholic Religion. Based on recent experience, some will convert to the Faith. Having St. Bartholomew Catholic School bring religion to the area parallels the action of Protestant missions “planting” a school or hospital and then their church in a region where they had not prevailed. In a sense, St. Bartholomew Catholic School can function as a mission school for the Archdiocese as well as a regional school for the Vicariate. We are already “planted” and it would be a real loss if this plant ever gets uprooted.*

*St. Bartholomew Catholic School could further emulate the successful Protestant missionaries who plant a school or church and as soon as it has made progress, establish a sister school or parish nearby. Should another grade school within the east side of Detroit be desirable, St. Bartholomew could train new teachers, provide managerial assistance and help the new school prosper.*

*Meanwhile, it is very important that the core members of the parishes who may be sending children to St. Bartholomew School vigorously recruit students for St. Bartholomew School during this phase as well. These core members who attended the planning sessions at our school should now act as their own parish’s Transition Team.*

Source: Phase II - Transition Plan

## **St. Bartholomew Transition Plan**

Phase One: Recruit new students in cooperation with nearby parishes

Phase Two: Recruit local students on the East Side of Detroit

Phase Three: Transition Teams

Phase Four: Upgrade school resources

Operation of St. Bartholomew as a regional K-8 or even developing into a high school is feasible and practical with the complete cooperation of local parishes and the Archdiocese of Detroit. We are recommending this course of action at this time.