

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING Nov 8 SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT**

### ***What did Archbishop Rozanski announce?***

Archbishop Rozanski announced that, as part of its All Things New initiative, the Archdiocese of St. Louis is adjusting its implementation timeline for its 87 parish based K-8 schools from the 2023-2024 school year to the 2024-2025 school year.

### ***Why did the Archbishop make this announcement?***

He received feedback from school families, pastors, principals, teachers and staff, along with the recommendation of the school planning committee. The Archbishop also believes changes to schools will continue to occur organically at the parish level, allowing the parish and school communities themselves to come up with solutions.

### ***Why make the announcement now?***

Beginning in January 2023, principal, teacher and administrative contracts need to be issued, enrollment for families of our students begin, and scholarship opportunities and parish budgets all need to be in place. In light of this, *All Things New* was striving to stabilize the school footprint by January of 2023 in the midst of a dynamic parish planning process. Instead, the focus will remain on the parish models for an announcement on Pentecost (May) 2023.

### ***Does this mean every parish K-8 school will remain open for the 2023-2024 school year?***

Not necessarily. A school has to meet several basic requirements in order to offer a quality Catholic education that is accessible, sustainable and safe. That includes staffing, enrollment, and financial stability among other requirements. As the parish models are decided, several schools may see their teachers applying elsewhere and families choosing to enroll their children in the school where they will attend church.

### ***Since a decision about parishes won't be made until Pentecost (May) of 2023, how will parents and teachers know whether their school will remain open the 2023-2024 school year?***

Every year, conversations occur within parishes between the pastor, principal, Parish Councils, Finance Council, Board of Education and other entities to determine the viability of their school during the upcoming school year. They discuss the number of teachers, student enrollment, budgets and tuition amounts. The difference with the 2023-2024 school year is that parishioners will have seen the parish models in their planning area during the recent Listening Sessions, and they will include that information in their conversations about their schools.

### ***How will this announcement affect the All Things New process?***

It will allow the Archdiocese of St. Louis and its priests to focus on the parish models, with an announcement anticipated on Pentecost (May) 2023.