



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 8, 2019

Dear Montessori Enthusiasts,

Thank you for gathering this evening at St. John's Parish Center for such a worthy event. Unfortunately, I cannot be with you on this momentous occasion when you celebrate the first Catholic Montessori Program in the State of Idaho. I write to let you know that I am with you in spirit, while thanking you for your involvement in this new endeavor.

Looking ahead, I believe that as we offer this opportunity for a Catholic Montessori early childhood education program, we should proceed with intentionality and the best effort we can put forth - making our Cathedral the model for any future Catholic Montessori programs that may be replicated throughout our great Diocese.

A healthy Montessori coupled with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, will allow us to promote and foster the spirituality of children as early as 2 1/2 years of age - thus building on the grace of Baptism already at work within them.

I see great opportunities that will follow as we help to evangelize future generations of students and teachers alike; while at the same time training teachers for other Montessori opportunities here in Idaho and beyond. I also believe that Catholic Montessori programs will serve as a great introduction for our young children who desire to continue in their Catholic education within our own well-established Catholic elementary school systems.

Once again, please know of my gratitude for your presence here tonight, especially as you join together in this important mission for our Church. Know that your involvement in the faith lives of our young is one of the most noteworthy investments of time and energy that can be offered for such a great good. Thank you for your involvement in this work!

As I remain yours,

Most Reverend Peter F. Christensen
Bishop of the Diocese of Boise