“Our school’s motto this year is ‘See the face of God in all you meet: be kind, loving, compassionate, and respectful,’ so for every fun activity we have scheduled, we are also doing one service project,” Kelly Wilhelm, principal of Saint Agnes School in Towanda, said. “Our Pre-Kindergarten teacher has done projects for a personal care home that is located very close to the school and they have always been so appreciative. When we talked about projects that the whole school could do, we decided that valentines would be perfect. The children will make at least one during their class time and for those that finish faster, maybe one or two more, so we know that every resident will receive a special gift from a Saint Agnes student. Each valentine will be as unique as the student who made it.”

Catholic schools offer academic excellence and a faith-filled education for students nationwide. National test scores, high school graduation rates, college attendance and other data show that Catholic schools frequently outperform schools in both the public and private sectors.

National statistics show that 99-percent of Catholic school students graduate from high school. The percentage of high school graduates who attend a four-year college is 85-percent, compared to 44-percent of public school students.

Catholic schools also save taxpayers money. Based on the average public school per pupil cost of $12,756, Catholic schools provide $22 billion in savings each year for the nation.

Diocesan schools prepare to celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2021

Many other Diocesan schools are planning similar events.
The Diocese of Scranton is committed to educating our students in an environment that is academically excellent and facilitates the development of moral judgment and Christian decision-making. We are proud to share the following successes of our students in the classroom and in their service to others. Each day, our schools are fulfilling their mission of preparing today’s youth and young adults to become tomorrow’s faith-filled leaders.

Miss Kaitlin Chmielewski, a first grade teacher at Saint Nicholas/Saint Mary School in Wilkes-Barre, works with her students during a distance learning session.

Fifth grader Keira Lalli prepares for a distance learning class from Saint Mary of Mount Carmel in Dunmore.

Mr. Bedford is virtually teaching Theology to an eighth grade class at Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green.

Mason, a student at Holy Rosary School in Duryea, shows off his school work space while participating in distance learning.

A distance learning session at Wyoming Area Catholic School in Exeter.

While celebrating the feast of the Epiphany, first grade students from All Saints Academy in Scranton learned how the wise men followed the star to find the Baby Jesus.

Students at La Salle Academy in Jessup learned the lesson of the Candy Cane just before their Christmas break.

Shannon Logue, a third grade student at Saint John Neumann Elementary in Williamsport, shows off the “Merry Memo” she received from a member of the Saint John Neumann High School Spirit Club.

Students at Holy Family Academy in Hazleton got creative while working on a clay project as part of a library class.

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Mrs. Riley’s fifth grade class at Epiphany School in Sayre was called to the “Epiphany Hospital” to reassemble their patients in this Body Systems STREAM project.

A drawing by Grace Aposhian, a student at Saint Clare/Saint Paul School in Scranton, was selected to be on a billboard as part of the Lackawanna/Susquehanna Office of Drug and Alcohol Holiday Poster Contest.

Mrs. Durham’s first grade class at Notre Dame Elementary School in East Stroudsburg learns to measure the amount of water in snow.

The Pre-K4 class at Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston recently stopped at the school’s Grotto of Our Blessed Mother to pray for a healthy and safe 2021.

As part of the Epiphany celebration, students at Saint Agnes School in Towanda were delighted to see doorways marked with 20 + C + M + B + 21, which is a traditional blessing asking Jesus to bless all who enter.

Landon Arriaga and Lucas Bower, eighth graders at Saint John Neumann Jr./Sr. High School in Williamsport, pose in their Ugly Christmas sweaters.

The National Honor Society at Holy Cross High School in Dunmore held a special Mass and induction ceremony for its members in December.

The Girls Soccer Team at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre joined Operation Spreading Holiday Cheer in providing greeting cards and cozy blankets for veterans in a long-term facility.

Coaches Ann Papciak and Eileen Barney from Saint Jude School in Mountain Top congratulate their Forensic Finalist students Rhea Mascarenhas (2nd Place Junior Varsity) and Michael Grandzol (1st Place Varsity).