



AHS PARENT CONNECTION

KEEPING YOU INFORMED May 22, 2020



Mission: *To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition*
Vision: *A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.*

The Wisdom of Father Becker:

Dear ACS Family,

Well it's finally here, the end of the school year! Admittedly I write with many mixed emotions. I am so proud of our faculty, staff, and students. Also, I am glad that despite the huge speed bump in the road these last few months, they forged ahead to complete another year of education. Thankfully our students and teachers will now get some much deserved down time. Yet, it's with a heavy heart that I finally have to come to terms with something I have long dreaded. It is time for me to say goodbye.

I'd like to begin with a word of thanks to all of you; the faculty and staff at Assumption Catholic Schools, the students, and the parents of our students for an incredible three years. I couldn't have asked to work at a better school. From the very outset I was warmly welcomed into the ACS family whether it was at a summer tennis get together or on the sidelines at a football game. It didn't take long to feel that I belonged in the ACS family. I had a blast going to countless sporting events and various other extra circulars. I am extremely grateful to the faculty and staff at AHS and AMS for supporting me in my efforts to lead our students closer to Jesus, making time for the celebration of daily Mass, the Sacrament of Confession, and First Friday Eucharistic Adoration. Hands down, your support has made this an incredible experience since I had a front seat to God's work in the hearts of our students.

My kids at the high school and middle school have heard this before, but I'll say it again. As a priest I am addressed as "Father" because as I discovered at ACS, that is exactly what I am, a father. All the students at ACS are not mere students to me. They are my kids, and it has been a joy feeding them with the Bread of Life and leading them to encounter Christ these last few years.

To my kids at the high school and middle school. It's been real. It's been fun. Each week I looked forward to our all-school Mass. It was fun preaching to you guys, especially when I could get you to chuckle at 7:30 and 9:00 in the morning. Unknown to you that was one of my goals more times than I care to admit. It was also really funny to see your faces light up when I came into your classes to answer your questions, especially when it was obvious you were just trying to waste time so you didn't have to listen to your teacher. Hahaha. I also really enjoyed praying with your various sports teams before and after games. I'm not a coach, but I definitely felt part of your teams as we approached the court/field together. May God continue to bless you as you continue to discover who you are and grow into the person God created you to be.

To my kids at St. Vincent's. I was a bit late to join the party. I only had one day a week with you, but I really enjoyed getting to know you. Celebrating Mass for you occasionally, as well as visiting your classrooms was always a fun adventure. I was always so proud of you when you could repeat the main points of my homilies in your classroom. "Wow, these kids listen better than my high school kids do sometimes." Hahaha. Playing football or gaga ball with you during recess was always a ton of fun. I pray that you continue to discover who God is and how much He loves you because He's the One you can rely on when times get tough in middle school and high school.

To my kids at St. Mary's. I really looked forward to seeing you at the end of each day. Not only did it get me out of faculty meetings at the high school, but also seeing your smiling faces always lifted my spirits. It was always really funny when you laughed at my jokes. Your laughter made me think my jokes were really good, even though your teachers didn't always agree hahaha. Celebrating Mass for you and visting your classrooms was also lots of fun. You really made me think, and taught me how to talk about Jesus with simple language. On the off chance when I was at your school during lunch, it was so much fun to get you riled up in the lunchroom as your teachers gave me sideways glances, "Really Father? Really?" Hahaha. I pray that you remain innocent and eager to learn from God, your parents, and your teachers.

The end of the year is here, and so is my time to say goodbye. Thankfully, I do not have to move until late July. At this time I am not allowed to reveal where I will be assigned, but please know that wherever I go I will always love you, my kids. You all mean so much to me, and my sincerest hope is that over these last three years you saw in me at least a small glimpse of God's love for you. While it is my time to leave you, He will never leave you. He will always be there for you. Turn to Him and rely on Him because He loves you so much. "You are precious in my eyes, you are honored, and I love you" (Isa. 43:4a), and so do I.

Your Loving Father;
Fr. Becker



GREAT MEMORIES OF 2019 –2020 SCHOOL YEAR

