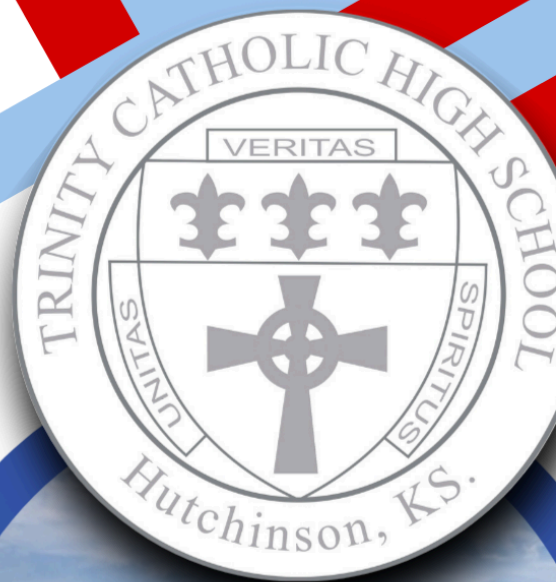


2026-27

TRINITY CATHOLIC JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



HANDBOOK

*TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL WILL
PROVIDE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
AND MEANINGFUL FORMATION TO
PREPARE MINDS FOR A LIFETIME AND
SOULS FOR ETERNITY*



ABOUT TC



EXPECTATIONS



SCHEDULES



DISCIPLINE



ACADEMICS



STUDENT LIFE



DRESS CODE



AND MORE ...



1400 E 17th Avenue
Hutchinson Kansas
67501



www.trinity-hutch.com



620.662.5800

VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Catholic aims to develop individuals' hearts, minds, and souls, preparing them for life challenges.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

- Trinity Catholic follows the Church's teachings based on Scripture, Tradition, and the Sacramental Life.
- Catholic schools share in the teaching the mission of the Church.
- Catholic schools are educating the future leaders of our Church and parishes.
- Catholic schools are a gift made available by parishioner sacrifice and financial support from the parish.
- The Catholic school environment should be a supportive and challenging climate that affirms the dignity of all persons involved in the school community.
- A diverse Catholic school community is a gift to be celebrated.
- All adult members of the school community are called to serve as role models of faith and ambassadors for the school.
- Parents are the primary educators of their children in regards to faith formation, and the school partners with the parents to extend the faith and academic formation of a student.
- A quality faculty is integral to the Catholic school because the principal and teachers are not just sources of knowledge; they are the facilitators of learning who impart Christian values in daily interaction with the students.

TRINITY CATHOLIC IS UNIQUE

Trinity Catholic is a mission-driven school. Experiences at Trinity Catholic stem from the mission of being a Catholic learning community.

At Trinity Catholic, we pray together and worship together. We learn about our Catholic faith and how to live it on a daily basis. Christian values are integrated into each course of study.

At Trinity Catholic, students learn what is required to live and work now and in the future. Experiences at school equip them for the future.

At Trinity Catholic, we care for and support each other. We live our Christian values by giving of our time, sharing our talents, and serving others.

At Trinity Catholic, parents are expected to be involved in the learning. It is the daily actions of each parent, student, and faculty member that make Trinity Catholic a quality school.

ABOUT TRINITY CATHOLIC

Trinity Catholic is a parochial (*not private*) junior and senior high school providing Catholic educational opportunities for students, grades 7-12. The majority of students come to Trinity Catholic from one elementary school, Holy Cross Catholic Grade School in Hutchinson. Students from surrounding communities also make up part of the school's student population.

Trinity Catholic is accredited by the Kansas State Board of Education. Hutchinson Catholic Schools exist to fulfill the teaching missions of the area's Catholic parishes and of parents by guiding each student in acquiring knowledge of the Catholic faith, achieving academic excellence, and practicing Christian service. The three main parishes that serve Trinity Catholic are: Church of the Holy Cross, Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, and St. Teresa's Catholic Church.

The original physical facility for Trinity Catholic Jr/Sr High School was built in 1966 on eighteen acres and now consists of twenty classrooms, auditorium (225 capacity), main gymnasium (750 capacity), auxiliary gymnasium (250 capacity), two commons area (120 capacity each), library, kitchen, and administrative offices.

Hutchinson, Kansas, the county seat for Reno County, has a population of 40,000 people. Hutchinson is located in central Kansas near the intersections of three major highways: U.S. 50, K-96, and K-61. Interstate-35 is 30 miles to the east, and Hutchinson is within 50 miles of Wichita, the largest city in Kansas. Trinity Catholic is located in the eastern part of the city on the corner of Lorraine and 17th Avenue.

ADMINISTRATION

Principal - Joe Godina

Chaplain - Rev. Matthew Cooke

Guidance Counselor - Jodi Gerken

FACULTY

Rev. Matthew Cooke – Religion

Marcia Dillon – American Government, American History, World History, Outdoor Life, *Mass Choir*

Shelley Dinges – JH Religion, Stewards of Catholic Culture, Broadcasting, *HS Girls Golf*

Jan Frieb – 7 Geography, 8 Social Studies, Lifetime Sports, Strength & Conditioning, Nutrition & Wellness, *HS Track, Campus Ministry, Sources of Strength*

Paul Gion – JH Pre-Algebra, Algebra II, Trig/Pre-Calc, Consumer Math

Nicole Hlaus – Instrumental Music, History of Rock & Roll, Multimedia Exploration, *Pep Band, Drumline*

Max Lounsbury – 8 Science, Physical Science, Earth & Space, Chemistry, Physics

Isaac Miller – 8 English, English Standards, English III, English IV, *HS Football, HS Track*

Debbie Ohl – Algebra I & II, Applied Math, Geometry, *JH Track*

Clair Pennycuff – 7 English, English Standards, Speech, Yearbook, *Chess Club*

Letty Shaw – Medical Terminology, Outdoor Life, Beyond Books, School Nurse, Afternoon Librarian, *Key Club, Sources of Strength, Student Government*

Greg Strecker – 7 Keyboarding, 8 Computer Applications, Advanced Computers, Accounting, Personal Finance, *HS Golf, Athletic Director*

Sister Mary Magdalene – Church History, Salvation History, Christian Vocations

Sister Maria Kolbe – Spanish I & II, New Testament

Sister Mary Jane Frances – 7 Science, Biology, Anatomy, Physiology

Wendy Turley – USD 308 Support Staff

Anthony White – Physical Education, Health, Strength & Conditioning

Roger Wilson – HS Art, Choir

STAFF

Jay Gehring – Technology Coordinator
Nancy McElgunn – Development Assistant
Shannan Miller – Development Director
Rosa Palmer – Business Manager
Rachel Ryan – Individual Learning
Kirstie Scott – Front Office Secretary
Brandon Sparish – Custodial/Maintenance
Karen Trindal – Head Cook
Rochele Hoskinson - Cook
Tamra Yost – Custodial

*** RULE 10 Athletic Coaches can be found on the website. ***

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Janet Eaton, Superintendent CDOWK
Joe Godina, Principal
Rev. Matthew Cooke, TC Chaplain
Rev. Jerome Spexarth, Church of the Holy Cross/St. Teresa
Rev. Eric Weldon, Our Lady of Guadalupe
Shannan Miller, Development Director
Jodi Gerken, Guidance Counselor
Rosa Palmer, Business Manager
Chylene Seitnater, Booster Club President

Parent Representatives:

Jenny Armour
Stuart Bornholdt
Irene Faudoa
Jill Guajardo
Steve Maskil

Trinity Catholic's advisory council consists of a diverse group, including administrators from Trinity Catholic and the Diocese, finance and development directors, the TC Chaplain, local parish priests, and a selection of parents from four different parishes. The board's role is to offer valuable insights, recommendations, and perspectives that aid the Trinity Catholic administrative team in making well-informed decisions, addressing challenges, and exploring new opportunities in line with the mission.

ADMISSION ***CATHOLIC STUDENTS****

To enroll students at Trinity Catholic Jr./Sr. High School parents must be registered and active members of a Catholic parish. A signed Parish Family Agreement (PFA) must be on file with the parish office confirming the family's commitment to living the life of stewardship.

NON-CATHOLIC STUDENTS*

Trinity Catholic also welcomes non-Catholic students. Enrollment is contingent on acceptance and a tuition agreement.

ALL APPLICANTS must demonstrate appropriate attendance, behavior, academic performance, and uphold positive Christian values and morals prior to acceptance at Trinity Catholic.

*Trinity Catholic will NOT accept second-semester senior transfers.

DIOCESAN SCHOOL NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Catholic schools of the Diocese of Wichita admit students of any race or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students, and these schools do not discriminate on the basis of race or ethnic origin in administration of educational policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

ENROLLMENT and COURSE FEES

It is customary for schools to charge fees for such reasons as enrollment costs, book rental, graduation costs, transcripts, standardized testing costs, technology licensing and maintenance, labs, field trips, athletics, activities, organizations, or for other educational purposes.

The 2026-2027 enrollment fee is \$685.00 per student, which is non-refundable after September 1, 2026. Families who qualify for free/reduced lunches will receive a \$75.00 discount on enrollment fees. Students enrolled in physical education, photography, sewing and art will be assessed an additional course fee once enrollment is finalized.

All school fees must be paid on a ***yearly basis***. If fees are not paid at the start of the school year, a payment of half of the enrollment fees must be paid by December, and all fees must be paid in full by May. Failure to comply may result in students being precluded from taking final semester exams.

All fees must be paid in full before students may participate in promotion and graduation ceremonies. Enrollment for a new school term may not be accepted until all fees (enrollment fees, course fees, technology fees, lunch fees) have been paid.

To maintain consistency, security and compatibility across the school's technology program, all student Chromebooks and chargers will be purchased, repaired and replaced by Trinity Catholic.

TRINITY CATHOLIC CLASS TIME SCHEDULE

REGULAR SCHEDULE

(Mon., Thur., Fri.)

1 st HR	8:00-8:46
2 nd HR	8:50-9:36
Homeroom	9:40-10:02
3 RD HR	10:06-10:52
4 TH HR	10:56-12:05
LUNCH	<i>1ST 10:56-11:19</i>
	<i>2ND 11:19-11:42</i>
	<i>3RD 11:42-12:05</i>
5 TH HR	12:09-12:55
6 TH HR	12:59-1:45
7 TH HR	1:49-2:35
8 TH HR	2:39-3:25

MASS/BLOCK SCHEDULE

(Tues./Wed.)

1 st /2 nd HR	8:00-9:26
Homeroom	9:30-10:30
3 RD /4 TH HR	10:34-12:25
LUNCH	<i>1ST 11:10-11:35</i>
	<i>2ND 11:35-12:00</i>
	<i>3RD 12:00-12:25</i>
5 TH /6 TH HR	12:29-1:55
7 TH /8 TH HR	2:39-3:25

MASS SCHEDULE and OTHER FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

Students will attend Mass as a student body on a weekly basis, with each class participating on a rotating schedule every sixth Friday, as the calendar allows. In addition, there will be regular opportunities for additional Mass times, Eucharistic Adoration, confessions, and special prayer sessions throughout the school/liturgical year.

Campus Ministry is an organization that promotes the spiritual growth and needs of our students and faculty. All students can be members of TC Campus Ministry. Seniors enrolled in the Stewards of Catholic Culture class are trained as missionary disciples.

HOMEROOM PERIOD

All students will be assigned to a multi-grade-level homeroom class (House), which meets on a daily basis. During homeroom, students will have time to do homework, read, ask teachers for help, and check grades. Homeroom will also allow students and teachers to work with Xello. Xello is an educational software program that will allow students to investigate different careers, skills needed, and educational plans they will need in the future.

EXPECTATIONS

Trinity Catholic students are expected to behave in a Christian manner at all times on or off campus. By their enrollment, students and parents agree to abide by the policies of the school and the spirit of its philosophy. Students who fail to meet these expectations will be subject to consequences as outlined in this handbook. This includes suspension and expulsion. In the case of serious violations of school policy involving illegal actions, law enforcement officials will be notified. School policies outlined in this handbook are subject at any time to interpretation and/or modification by the school administration for the good of the school community.

TRINITY CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Christian values of respect for self, others, and property are core to all expected behaviors.
2. Learning should be supported and not interfered with by others.
3. Community should be developed and not torn down.
4. Self-discipline is expected of each member of the community.
5. Cooperation and collaboration among all are essential.
6. Restitution is required when the Code or rules are violated.
7. The Trinity Code of Conduct is expected of Trinity Catholic students both on and off campus.

The administration/pastors may ask a student to leave if that student is not complying with this code.

TRINITY CATHOLIC GRADING SCALE

Letter Grade	Percent	Grade Point
A+	99-100	4
A	94-98	4
A-	92-93	4
B+	89-91	3.9
B	86-88	3.1
B-	83-85	3
C+	80-82	2.9
C	77-79	2.1
C-	74-76	2
D+	71-73	1.9
D	68-70	1.1
D-	65-67	1
F	64 OR BELOW	0

Cumulative grade point averages (GPA) will be rounded off to the nearest hundredth.

GRADE REPORTING

Grade reports will be emailed following the end of each semester via PowerSchool. Direct communication will be made to the students and/or parents of those students who are progressing unsatisfactorily in any course throughout the school year. Grades will be posted on a regular basis via PowerSchool for parent and student viewing. Fall parent-teacher conferences are required for all students and parents, while spring conferences are at teacher or parent request.

HOMEWORK POLICY

While attending Trinity Catholic, homework is to be expected. Individual classroom teachers will assign and grade as he/she deems fit per the curriculum. Parents are encouraged to extend the learning at home while students are expected to complete all assignments on a regular basis. See individual teacher/course syllabi for specific details.

HONOR ROLL

Honor rolls will be compiled by the school counselor at the end of each semester to recognize superior student scholastic achievement. A student must be enrolled as a full-time Trinity Catholic student (*8 class periods*) to be eligible for the honor roll.

A. High Honors – a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.8 on a 4.0 scale.

B. Honors – a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

PROMOTION AND GRADUATION

Promotion to the next grade level is based on satisfactory academic achievement.

If a student doesn't pass any second semester eighth-grade class, Trinity Catholic requires a minimum of 30 hours of successful remediation during summer school before promotion and enrollment at a Catholic high school is permitted. A fee will be charged for each summer school class.

If a graduating high school senior doesn't pass a required class before graduation, Trinity Catholic requires a minimum of 30 hours of successful remediation during summer school before issuing a diploma and transcript. A fee will be charged for each summer school class.

GED (Grade Equivalency Diploma) POLICY

Trinity Catholic High School will not sign off on a student to receive his/her GED unless the student has turned eighteen years of age and his/her class has graduated. Trinity Catholic views a high school diploma as the preferred goal of our students as opposed to a GED.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to graduate from Trinity Catholic High School, students must satisfactorily complete 27.5 total units of credit. Included in this total are various department requirements, which include:

Religion	4 units
English	4 units
Mathematics	3 units
Science	3 units
Social Science	3 units
Fine Arts	1 unit
Foreign Language	1 unit
Physical Education	1 unit
Computers	½ unit
Speech	½ unit
Personal Finance	½ unit
Electives	<u>6 units</u>
Total	27.5 units

- 1 unit = 1 year or 2 semesters.
- All schedule changes must be completed within the first five (5) days of each semester.
- All students must be full-time Trinity Catholic students enrolled in eight (8) class periods.
- Trinity Catholic offers students several opportunities to take classes outside of the standard curriculum. Opportunities include:

Hutchinson Community College classes for seniors (*in-person classes both at Trinity Catholic and at HutchCC, as well as online classes*).

At TC courses include: College Algebra, Elements of Statistics, Sociology, Speech, Medical Terminology, Certified Nurse Aid (CNA), and English Comp I & II.

ALL COLLEGE COURSES WILL COUNT AS DUAL CREDIT, thus grades count in overall GPA and class rank.

Technical classes and programs can be taken in-person at the Hutchinson Career and Technical Education Academy (*Vo-Tech*) for juniors and seniors. Tom Seiler Teacher Academy via Bishop Carroll Catholic High School Andover e-Academy online classes for high school students only.

All courses taken through HutchCC are the financial responsibility of the student/family. If a required course is offered at Trinity Catholic it must be taken on campus or be pre-approved by administration.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

An international student is required to meet all of the following before being given a Trinity Catholic diploma:

1. The international student must be considered to be in “good standing” with Trinity Catholic.
2. The student will furnish the school, a certifiable transcript from his or her previous school.
3. The international student must complete the same course requirements that all students must complete to graduate from Trinity Catholic High School.
4. International students must be in attendance for a minimum of four semesters before inclusion with regular education students for purposes of post-season honors and graduation.

ACADEMIC HONORS FOR GRADUATES

A senior will be recognized as an honor student at graduation for achieving academic excellence during his/her time at Trinity Catholic.

Summa Cum Laude – “With Highest Honor” is bestowed on those graduates who have demonstrated remarkable scholastic ability by attaining a grade point average of 3.9 to 4.0 and is represented with a white cord.

Magna Cum Laude – “With High Honor” is bestowed on those graduates who have demonstrated superior scholastic ability by attaining a grade point average of 3.7 to 3.899 and is represented with a Columbia blue cord.

National Honor Society is a silver cord worn by those graduates who are members of the National Honor Society.

Valedictorian & Salutatorian honors will be awarded to the highest academic achieving students in the graduating class who have met the following requirements: Completed the Board of Regents Curriculum and Trinity Catholic requirements, be enrolled at TC their entire junior and senior year, and the student must also “be a student in good standing” with the school. After meeting requirements, selection will be based on cumulative GPA. In the case of a tie, the valedictorian and salutatorian will be determined by composite ACT scores.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Trinity Catholic High School National Honor Society is a chapter member of the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools. The object of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in the students of Trinity Catholic High School. To be eligible for membership, the candidate must have completed at least five (5) high school semesters, the most recent one of which at Trinity Catholic, and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale. The candidate must have taken or be currently enrolled in the following courses: 2 mathematics, 2 sciences, 1 foreign language, and 1 social science. In order to be inducted, a student must submit a resume and successfully complete an interview with a panel of faculty judges. The candidates are evaluated by faculty members based on academic excellence, leadership, service, character, difficulty of courses taken, and the ambition of the student to excel.

BACCALAUREATE MASS AND GRADUATION CEREMONY ATTIRE

Trinity Catholic graduates will wear their gowns over appropriate clothing for Baccalaureate Mass.

As set by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, the outer attire for high school graduation includes cap and gown. The graduation cap and gown may not have anything added with the exception of the following: 1) Cords, provided by and/or approved by the school administration. 2) Medals awarded during the Baccalaureate Mass and Graduation Ceremony. Anything additional must be pre-approved. A student who fails to abide by the policy will not participate in the ceremony.

DRESS CODE

Students are expected to be well-groomed and clean when they attend school and at school activities.

If a student is out of uniform, a student will receive a detention. If violations continue, consequences will be compounded. Your continued support of the Trinity Catholic dress code will contribute to positive student development.

UNIFORM CHOICES FOR GIRLS

1. **Shirts:** polo shirt (white with TC crest), oxford (white long-sleeve)
2. **Skirt:** knee length uniform skirt (navy blue)
3. **Slacks:** uniform style slacks (navy blue)
4. **Sweaters:** cardigan, v-neck sweater, v-neck sweater vest (all navy blue with TC crest)
5. **Sweatshirts:** crewneck (navy blue long-sleeve with TC crest), $\frac{3}{4}$ zip (gray with TC crest)
6. **Shoes:** any form of dress shoe (tan, black, navy, white, gray) or monochromatic tennis shoe (white, black, navy blue, tan, gray). For the safety of all students, only closed-toe, closed-heel shoes may be worn during the school day. No boots, sandals, or crocs.
7. **Socks:** plain socks (white, navy blue, or black)
8. **Leggings under skirts:** full length (navy blue)

MASS DAY UNIFORMS FOR GIRLS

Skirt, Oxford, Sweater

**Note: Mass Day uniform can be worn on regular class days as well.*

TOP TEN REMINDERS FOR GIRLS

1. No tattoos are to be visible at school or while participating in any school-sponsored event.
2. No more than two earrings per ear may be worn. Bar, chain, or other connected earrings that use two piercings count as two earrings.
3. No drastic hair coloring, designs, or styles.
4. No hats, caps, or other head coverings.
5. All uniforms must be clean and have no torn areas, including hems of skirts.
6. Undergarments must not be visible, including writing on undershirts.
7. Shirts must be tucked in at all times and a uniform shirt must be worn under all sweaters/sweatshirts.
8. Skirts must be of knee length and waist must be buttoned (*not folded down or safety pinned*).
9. Pimple patches must be skin colored only.
10. Modesty is the best policy and dress for success!

UNIFORM CHOICES FOR BOYS

1. **Shirts:** polo shirt (white with TC crest), oxford (white long-sleeve)
2. **Slacks:** uniform style slacks (navy blue)
3. **Belt:** belt (black or brown)
4. **Sweaters:** cardigan, v-neck sweater, v-neck sweater vest (all navy blue with TC crest)
5. **Sweatshirts:** crewneck (navy blue long-sleeve with TC crest), $\frac{1}{4}$ zip (gray with TC crest)
6. **Shoes:** any form of dress shoe (tan, black, navy, white, gray) or monochromatic tennis shoe (white, black, navy blue, tan, gray). For the safety of all students, only closed-toe, closed-heel shoes may be worn during the school day. No boots, sandals, or crocs.
7. **Socks:** plain socks (white, navy blue, or black)
8. **Tie:** uniform tie (red/blue striped, solid red)

MASS DAY UNIFORMS FOR BOYS

Slacks, Oxford, Tie

Sweater (*optional*)

**Note: Mass Day uniform can be worn on regular class days as well.*

TOP TEN REMINDERS FOR BOYS

1. No earrings or tattoos are to be visible at school or while participating in any school-sponsored event.
2. Clean-shaven and well-groomed.
3. Hair must be well-groomed, cut off above the eyebrow, ears, and collar. No drastic hair coloring, designs, or styles.
4. No hats, caps, or other head coverings.
5. All uniforms must be clean and have no torn areas.
6. Undergarments must not be visible, including writing on undershirts.
7. Shirts must be tucked in at all times and a uniform shirt must be worn under all sweaters/sweatshirts.
8. Slacks must reach the top of the shoes when standing.
9. No ¼ zip sweatshirts at all school Mass and shirt sleeves are to be left buttoned at wrist.
10. Modesty is the best policy and dress for success!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DRESS CODE

Students will dress out for PE every time they have class. Students will wear a TC t-shirt and shorts with at least a 5" inseam. NO SPANDEX. Students who do not comply will be asked to change back to their school uniform and will lose participation for the day.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAYS

JEAN DAYS = denim blue jeans + appropriate shirt of choice + tennis shoes

\$1 on pre-announced days

ROCK YOUR RED DAYS = denim blue jeans + TC shirt + tennis shoes

Free jean day on pre-announced days

No holes in jeans

No skin or undergarments may show under jeans

No alcohol, tobacco, and other objectionable advertisements

No visible mid-drifts

No sleeveless tops

No sandals/flip flops/crocs

PICTURE DAYS = church attire

School portraits students are asked to dress **modestly** in respectable portrait attire.

Students **MAY** wear nice jeans (no holes).

Students may **NOT** wear shorts, rompers, yoga pants, or spaghetti straps.

Shoulders **MUST** be covered.

Skirt length **MUST** be modest and extend past fingertips.

No visible mid-drifts.

No sleeveless tops.

No alcohol, tobacco, and other objectionable advertisements.

Any student deemed inappropriately dressed will be asked to change their attire.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

As per Kansas law, HB2299, electronic devices that interrupt the educational process, such as cell phones, and other smart devices, smart watches, headphones, earbuds, etc., **may not be used** during school hours. This includes passing periods, lunch period, in restrooms, in locker rooms, during assemblies. As stated by Kansas law, cell phones may not be accessible to students from bell to bell. Students are encouraged to leave phones at home or in their vehicles. *The* exception to this policy would be for a student with a verified medical condition –such as a monitoring device–approved by principal.

HB2299 “Bell-to-Bell, No Cell” Law

- Schools must restrict student use of and access to cell phones and personal electronic communication devices during the school day. Smartwatches, earbuds, tablets, etc. must be turned off and stored away from students from the start of school until dismissal.
- This includes lunch and passing periods.
- Students may choose not to bring devices to school at all. They can leave them at home or in their car in the school parking lot.
- Students must have a way to contact parents/guardians using a school phone provided by the school.
- The rules do not apply during travel to or from off-campus learning, such as technical school classes, work-based learning and college classes during the school day.

As stated in HB2299, the use of ALL personal electronic devices is prohibited by law. Students should leave all electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, personal computers, tablets) at home or in their vehicles. We understand that younger students and non-drivers may need their phones for before and after school. For students who will be bringing their phones to school, TC will require families to purchase a phone locking pouch that phones and watches can be kept in during the school day. Phones will be turned off and placed in the pouch before the school day begins and can be kept in student lockers. The cost of each pouch will be \$30 and will be placed on the student’s PowerSchool account.

1st Offense The student will serve a detention the next day and the device will be confiscated and kept in the office until the end of the day that the detention is served.

2nd Offense The student will receive a one-day out-of-school suspension.

3rd Offense The student will receive a three-day out-of-school suspension, parents will need to meet with administration, the student’s pastor will be notified, and the student will be required to turn in their phone to the school office each morning for the remainder of the school year.

SCHOOL PHONE USE

The phones in the office are for business use only. Students may use the phone outside the main office with permission. Phones in classrooms are not to be used by students without teacher permission. **If parents must get in contact with their son/daughter during school hours, they are to call the front office. 620.662.5800** The office will then contact the student.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Trinity Catholic has developed the following attendance guidelines in an attempt to help the student to become successful.

1. Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school office as soon as possible when a student will be or has been absent from school.
2. If a student arrives late to school, he/she must check in at the front office. Also, if a student leaves school early, he/she must check out at the front office.
3. Regular attendance is directly related to academic success. Students at Trinity Catholic will be allowed up to a total of ten (10) absences per class per semester. School-related absences will NOT count toward the allotted ten (10) absences. When a student has missed more than ten classes of any period in a semester, the school will withhold credit. After (10) absences, the student could also be considered not in good standing with the school and face expulsion. There are students whose chronic health conditions or other educational needs make regular attendance difficult, and the school has the right to adjust the attendance requirement for these students.
4. Juniors and Seniors are allotted three (3) college visits per year that will not count toward the ten (10) absences per semester. Students must visit with the Trinity Catholic counselor prior to the college visit.

Truancy: In accordance with state law 72-1113, a student shall be considered truant if the child is inexcusably absent on either three (3) consecutive school days, five (5) or more days in any semester, or (7) days in a school year. The principal shall notify the County Attorney, DCF, or other appropriate officials in writing of a student(s) who has been determined to be truant from school; the number of days the student(s) has been truant, and the name and address of the parents/guardians.

TARDY POLICY

Tardies are placed in two (2) categories: tardy to school (*1st hour of the day*) and tardy to class (*2nd through 8th hour*). A student is tardy to school after 8:00 am. A student is tardy to class when he/she arrives at the classroom after the bell, but within the first ten (10) minutes. Tardies to **Zero Hour** will be considered tardy to class. A tardy to class in excess of ten (10) minutes will be considered an absence. The following penalties will accompany the identified number of tardies in each class per semester.

Tardy to School

1 st – 5 th	Warning
6 th – 10 th	Detention
11 th – 12 th	In School Suspension (ISS)
13 th +	Students will be considered “not in good standing” with Trinity Catholic. This is in addition to out-of-school suspension consequences. A student who exceeds thirteen (13) tardies could face possible expulsion.

Tardy to Class

1 st – 3 rd	Warning
4 th – 8 th	Detention
9 th – 10 th	In School Suspension (ISS)
11 th +	Students will be considered “not in good standing” with Trinity Catholic. This is in addition to out-of-school suspension consequences. A student who exceeds eleven (11) tardies could face possible expulsion.

DETENTIONS

Classroom teachers and administrators have the prerogative of assigning detention time as they see fit, and which is appropriate and will act as a deterrent to incidents that disrupt or distract from the educational atmosphere of the school.

Students who do not follow the Trinity Catholic handbook (*such as out of uniform, showing disrespect to person or property...*) will be assigned a detention. Students will immediately receive a detention slip from the assigning faculty/staff/coach indicating detention time to be served. Parents will be emailed when a detention is given.

Detentions will be held before school on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 7:00 - 7:45 am. Students will report to detention on-time and in proper school uniform. This includes being in proper school uniform even if the student reports to PE for 1st Hour. During the detention period, students will sit quietly with their hands on the desk for the entire 45 minutes, no homework, no sleeping, no talking.

Failure to attend or removal from a detention will result in time being doubled or ISS.

ACCUMULATED DETENTIONS

When detentions accumulate, the following will be followed:

- Detentions #1-4 = detention served
- Detention #5 = detention served and meeting between student, parent(s), and principal
- Detention #6 = in-school-suspension (ISS) to be served and meeting between student, parent(s), pastor, and principal
- Detention #7 = ISS to be served and student being placed on a behavioral contract. When it becomes apparent that a major disciplinary problem exists, the student is in jeopardy of being dropped from school for the remainder of the semester, with loss of credit.

The detention count will be reset at the beginning of the second semester. However, the student will remain on a behavioral contract through the remainder of the school year.

SUSPENSION POLICY

Acts of unacceptable behavior may result in suspension. Trinity Catholic imposes two levels of suspension: in-school suspension (ISS) and out-of-school suspension (OSS).

1. willful violation of any published regulation for student conduct,
2. conduct which substantially disrupts, impedes, or interferes with the operation of any school,
3. conduct which endangers the safety of others or substantially impinges upon or invades the rights of others, at school, on school property, or at a school supervised activity,
4. conduct, which if the student is an adult, constitutes the commission of a felony or, if the student is a juvenile, would constitute the commission of a felony if committed by an adult,
5. conduct at school, on school property, or at a school supervised activity which, if the student is an adult, constitutes the commission of a misdemeanor if committed by an adult,
6. disobedience of any order of a teacher or other school authority, when such disobedience can reasonably be anticipated to result in disorder, disruption, or interference with the operation of any school or substantial and material impingement upon or invasion of the rights of others

A written notice of any suspension and the reason therefore shall be given to the student involved and to his/her parents or guardians.

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION OFFENSES

Acts of unacceptable behavior may result in suspension or expulsion **upon the first offense**, depending upon the severity of the infraction, or which may result in suspension for repeated infractions, include but are not limited to the following:

1. Possession, consumption, or sale of alcoholic beverages, e-cigarettes, narcotics, marijuana, addictive drugs, or drug paraphernalia
2. Possession, threat, or use of lethal weapons
3. Vandalism or destruction of school property
4. Theft of property and/or extortion of any type or amount
5. Failure to comply with reasonable requests from the administration, teaching staff, and other school employees
6. Fighting, intimidation, or threatening by word or deed
7. Possession and/or ignition of any form of fireworks
8. Excessive tardiness or absence
9. Open defiance of authority. Use of profanity or vulgarities
10. Repeated violation of school regulations

A probationary period of five (5) school days will be assigned for each day of out-of-school suspension (OSS). During the probation, one additional disciplinary referral may result in long-term suspension from school. Immediate dismissal from participation in any extra-curricular activities will be in effect during the time the student is suspended. A probationary period will be in effect upon the return to school for any student suspended from school for more than one (1) day. A student suspended for the second time in a school year will be placed on probation for the remainder of the school year. Immediate dismissal from any extra-curricular activities will be considered upon the second suspension. A third suspension will result in the student being suspended long term or expelled.

IN-SCHOOL-SUSPENSION

Students serving an in-school-suspension will report to the front office by 7:55 am with study materials to be working on the ENTIRE day. Students will be dismissed at 3:25 and may attend a practice (*coach's discretion*) but not participate in nor attend a sanctioned event. Classroom assignments, tests, or projects must be completed for 50% credit.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL-SUSPENSION

Out-of-school suspension separates offenders from the student body and is a warning that this separation may become permanent unless serious behavior changes are made. Students serving an out-of-school-suspension are to remain off campus. This includes activities, practices, and all other school activities both home and away. Missed class time, assignments, and assessments due to suspension will result in zero credit. Although a student in OSS receives zero credit, he/she will be held accountable for information missed and may be required to make up missed work.

BULLYING/HARASSING BEHAVIOR

Bullying and harassing behaviors by students are not acceptable. This conduct does not need to occur on the school premises or at a school-sponsored event to be within the jurisdiction of the Diocese.

“Bullying” is an intentional gesture or threat by a student, staff member, or parent creating an intimidating environment for any student, parent, or staff member. Trinity Catholic will include periodic training for faculty, staff members, and students about bullying, harassment, social alienation, and the consequences of such behavior. Students who are determined to have engaged in such behavior will be subject to progressive discipline ranging from mandatory counseling and suspension from participation in school-related activities and privileges, to disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion. “Parent” includes a guardian, custodian, or other person with authority to act on behalf of a child. “Staff member” means any person employed by the school.

VERBAL/PHYSICAL ASSAULT, THREAT OR HARASSMENT OF A STAFF MEMBER AND/OR DAMAGE TO AND/OR THEFT OF PRIVATE PROPERTY BELONGING TO OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF A STAFF MEMBER

A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause physical injury to a staff member or intentionally behave verbally in such a way as could reasonably be interpreted as a threat of physical violence to a staff member. A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause damage to any property and/or theft of any property belonging to or under the control of any staff member. A student shall not use language or exhibit actions or gestures that could reasonably be considered profane, indecent, or obscene at or toward any staff member ...

1. on the school grounds during, before, or after school hours
2. on the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group
3. off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event
4. off the school grounds during, before, or after school hours, provided the act is a direct result of a staff member performing his/her duties
5. via email, social media, or other types of texting/posts

Violation of any provision of this behavior code may result in suspension and/or expulsion from school. (KSA 38-120)

FIGHTING

1st Offense (Punches Thrown) Student removed from school and three (3) days of out-of-school suspension (OSS) and probation.

2nd Offense (Punches Thrown) Student removed from school and five (5) days of out-of-school suspension, probation, and possibly expulsion.

CHEATING

Cheating will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will be discussed in all classes where longer papers and research assignments are given. Plagiarism is considered cheating. Cheating is defined as using unacceptable means to attain academic success, including the use of artificial intelligence (AI). Cheating may include, but is not limited to: copying tests, computer assignments, homework or class work, obtaining verbal assistance or looking at another student's work during a test, using unauthorized test material, or allowing another student to copy any school work.

The consequences for cheating may include: loss of credit on the academic project (test, homework, etc.) and/or detention. Repeat offenses may cause the student to lose class credit.

ALCOHOL & DRUG USE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS OR AT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Possession, consumption, or use of alcoholic beverages, e-cigarettes, narcotics, marijuana, addictive drugs, or drug paraphernalia while attending school, representing the school, or attending a school function, on or off the school premises, may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement officials and will result in the following suspension consequences:

1st offense

1. Expulsion or a short-term suspension of up to five (5) days
2. Suspension from all student activities for the remainder of the season or a period of not less than 1 month
3. If the student returns to school, he/she is placed on probation for the remainder of the year

2nd offense

1. A punishment up to and including expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year
2. Suspension of all school activities and offices for the remainder of the school year

The goal or purpose of this effort is to identify potential substance abuse by the student and to provide information, guidance, and support to the student and parents in a difficult situation.

Selling or distributing drugs will result in expulsion from school and referral to legal authorities.

USE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS AWAY FROM SCHOOL AND NOT AT A SCHOOL ACTIVITY

A Trinity Catholic student carries with him/her many responsibilities both in and out of school. This is mainly due to the high visibility of being a Trinity Catholic student. If a Trinity Catholic student, while away from school and not at a school activity, admits to or is seen by a teacher, coach, adult, any school official, charged by police with possession or consumption of alcohol/illegal drugs, or tested positive on a drug/alcohol test will receive the following consequences:

1st offense

1. Two (2) days in-school suspension
2. Suspension from all student activities for the remainder of the season or a period of not less than one (1) month

2nd offense

1. Expulsion or suspension of five (5) days
2. Suspension from all student activities and offices for the remainder of the school year
3. Student is placed on probation for the remainder of the year

3rd offense

1. Expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year

NOTE: When rumor of alcohol consumption or drug use has surfaced, parents or guardians will be contacted. **Students** and **parents** must be aware that it is illegal for **ALL** Trinity Catholic students to consume alcohol or illegal drugs. Any consumption of illegal alcohol/drugs in concurrent years may result in continuous consequences. Random canine drug search and/or drug testing may occur periodically throughout the year. Positive results from any student or student property will result in consequences as per policy and payment of the testing by student.

SOCIAL MEDIA, COMPUTER & INTERNET USAGE

Every student is responsible for his/her behavior on school and internet computer networks. Use of the internet on school computers must be in accord with the teachings of the Catholic Church, the philosophy of Trinity Catholic, and the Catholic Diocese of Wichita.

The school does not guarantee the protection of privacy. Students and staff members using the internet on school computers and network facilities should know that confidentiality is sometimes compromised. Trinity Catholic reserves the right (and the responsibility) to monitor computer use. School issued student email is for school use only, is owned by Trinity Catholic, AND will be monitored. Individual computers/devices will not be allowed in the building unless approved by the principal.

The following actions are **not** acceptable internet or computer behavior:

1. Violation of copyright law
2. Damaging the computer or the network, including loading viruses
3. Using another student's or a teacher's password
4. Trespassing in another student's or a teacher's file

5. Accessing websites that are inappropriate and/or are not part of an assigned lesson
6. Using obscene or offensive language
7. Sending or displaying obscene or offensive messages or pictures
8. Insulting or harassing another person
9. Any actions deemed inappropriate by staff or administration
10. Making bad choices

LOCKERS

All students will be issued a hall locker in which they may keep their personal property, such as books, notebooks, and coats. All students are requested to mark all personal property so it can be identified and should keep it in a locked locker when not in use. No bags or other articles are to be left in the hallways. The school cannot take responsibility for valuables left in halls, restrooms, rooms, or unlocked lockers. Lockers are jointly accessible to the student and school administration and may be subject to search at the discretion of school administration. Inappropriate materials, posters, and pictures should not be attached to the inside of student lockers. Students are not to share lockers, and are to use only the locker assigned to them. All physical education students and athletes will be given a lock and locker to store their belongings before, after, and during classes or athletic practices and contests.

MEDIA RECOGNITION

Trinity Catholic takes pride in recognizing students throughout the year for their accomplishments through the media, such as Trinity Catholic social media, TC website, marketing materials, The Catholic Advance, parish bulletins, and newspapers. Enrolling in Trinity Catholic gives the school permission to publish student names/photos to the media. If a parent does not want their son/daughter's name or photo released to the media, the parent must submit in writing such a request to the school office or submitted through the PowerSchool portal..

LUNCH PROGRAM

At the beginning of the 2007 school year, Trinity Catholic implemented a Federally Mandated Wellness Policy. We were required to follow these guidelines for our lunch program. There will be a closed lunch period, and all students will eat at school in the lunchroom. Students are not allowed to leave for lunch unless they are accompanied and signed out by a parent. The students may bring their own "sack lunch" if desired, but there will be NO FAST FOOD brought onto the campus, either by students or parents during the lunch period. It is the responsibility of the parent to make sure student lunch balance is paid either using eFunds in PowerSchool or sending funds to the school office. A student with a negative lunch balance greater than \$10 will be given an alternative sack lunch. Ala carte items can only be purchased with a positive balance. Food will remain in the cafeteria. No opened food or drinks are to be in the hallways or lockers.

Lunch fees: STUDENT \$4.10 ADULT \$5.10

LIBRARY

Sr. Theodosia's Resource Center is a library, a computer lab, and a classroom. During the school day, a library atmosphere is to be observed showing respect to those studying or in class. Students are encouraged to use the library resources. NO FOOD or DRINK is allowed in the library at any time.

VISITORS POLICY

Trinity Catholic welcomes visitors. Parents or other friends of Trinity Catholic are welcome to visit the school provided they first check-in at the front office. If a visitor is a prospective student, he/she will be directed to the counselor after check-in. Any visitor interacting with Trinity Catholic students is to be VIRTUS trained.

STUDENT VEHICLES

When students drive, they must please consider the safety of other drivers and pedestrians as well as those who ride with them. All joyriding around the school building is prohibited. Driving on school property is a privilege and may be restricted if rules of good judgment and common sense are not followed. Students are restricted to the west and north of the gym parking lots and must park properly in the designated areas. Front row curb parking in the west parking lot is reserved for senior parking during school hours. A \$20 fine or loss of driving privileges will be assessed for illegal parking or other moving violations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Service Hours are required in all of our diocesan high schools to help form our students into true disciples of Christ. Service is the natural expression of our discipleship. It helps one to grow in holiness after the image of Jesus who “came to serve and not to be served” (Matt 20:28). We hope the following guidelines will ensure that the purpose of service hours is being met at Trinity Catholic.

High School: Students will complete a minimum of 15 hours of service each year in any category or combination of categories: Church, School, or Community. Please see your religion teacher for any questions. **Junior High:** Students will complete a minimum of 10 hours of service each year in any category or combination of categories: Church, School, Community or Family (*Family is understood as extended family outside the home. Service within the home is not extraordinary and should be expected from every member to help one's family.*) Please see your religion teacher for any questions.

The religion teachers will monitor the student's progress and it will be part of the student's religion grade.

STUDENT COMMUNICATION

When social media is used for sending information, correspondence with students (including texting, IM/chat, emails, or messaging) should always include another adult. There should never be just one (1) adult on any student correspondence. When communicating with youth via electronic communication, the primary purpose shall be for providing information related to the class/team/group and not for socialization or other personal interaction. Counseling of youth through such communication methods is prohibited.

Acceptable hours for communication with youth via electronic communications are between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Communication outside of the acceptable hours may be used only in emergency situations or to communicate time-sensitive information related to the class/team/group or activity-related event.

Students and parents are responsible for all material posted on all forms of social media. Consequences can be imposed if material is deemed illegal or damaging to the school, any school employee, or if it violates the Acceptable Use of Technology Policy for Catholic School Students signed at the beginning of the school year.

VIRTUS

Any student turning eighteen (18) between July 1, 2026 and July 31, 2027, and Trinity Catholic seniors will participate in VIRTUS training in the fall of 2026. VIRTUS: The Protecting God's Children program is a three to four hour awareness session that is designed to educate adults on how to recognize the warning signs of child sexual abuse and what to do when they suspect a child is being victimized.

ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, & ORGANIZATIONS

Extra-curricular activities are an important part of Trinity Catholic. The purpose of the school offering an athletic/activities program is to present additional opportunities to guide students in their spiritual, moral, physical, and social development at Trinity Catholic. Students at Trinity Catholic have a variety of organizations and clubs in which they may participate, as listed below.*

HS ACTIVITIES CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Campus Ministry	Key Club	Senior Discipleship
Chess Club	Mass Choir	Student Council
Class Officers	National Honor Society	Sources of Strength
Debate	Pep Band	Theatre
Drum Line	Powerlifting	Vocal Music
Forensics	Pratt Academic Olympics	Yearbook
Instrumental Band	Scholars Bowl	

HS ATHLETICS

Boys & Girls Tennis	Boys & Girls Cross-Country
Boys Football	Girls Volleyball
Girls Cheerleading	Boys & Girls Basketball
Girls Softball	Boys & Girls Golf
Boys & Girls Track & Field	Boys Baseball

JH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Campus Ministry	Sources of Strength
Chess Club	Student Council
Instrumental Band	Vocal Music
Quiz Bowl	

JH ATHLETICS

Boys & Girls Cross-Country	Girls Volleyball
Boys Football	Boys & Girls Basketball
Boys & Girls Track & Field	Boys & Girls Tennis
Girls Cheerleading	

**Is subject to change based on interest and involvement.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The eligibility requirements set forth by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) will be strictly adhered to and will apply to all students involved in interscholastic activities at the school. To be eligible, students must have passed five (5) classes in the previous semester and be currently enrolled in five (5) new classes. Additionally, students must adhere to specific school eligibility rules for extracurricular involvement.

1. Students must be in "good standing" with Trinity Catholic.
2. Students must be academically eligible. Students who receive any failing grade on an ineligibility report during the semester will be ineligible. Ineligibility reports will be run every three weeks. Students receiving a failing grade at the time the report is run will be ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity for that week (*including Saturday*). The following steps are required to regain eligibility:
 - a. Students raise grade(s) to a passing standard.
 - b. Student obtains a note indicating grade is satisfactory signed from the teacher and A.D.
 - c. Student presents the note to the head coach.
3. A student must be in attendance **by 10:00 a.m.** and for the rest of the school day on days in which the practice and/or activity takes place. Exceptions are with the permission of the principal. All rules and regulations of KSHSAA will be in effect.

LETTER AWARDS

School letters and pins will be presented to students who achieve a specified standard in athletics and other competitive activities. If a student participates and finishes an activity in good standing his/her eighth grade year, the student will receive a chenille numeral indicating their year of graduation. High school students will be presented a chenille "T" after the first lettering guidelines have been met in a specific activity. Pins will be awarded thereafter. Regulations for lettering can be obtained from the activity sponsor or coach.

SCHOOL DANCES

Trinity Catholic organizes three (3) dances exclusively for high school students: the fall and winter homecoming dances, and prom in the spring. The Wichita Diocese prohibits schools from organizing dances for middle school students. Students are permitted to invite an outside guest, but same-sex couples are not allowed. All school-sponsored dances will have faculty and parent chaperones, and attendees must undergo a breathalyzer test. If any dancing is deemed lewd or excessively sexual by the administration or adult chaperones, students will be asked to dance appropriately or be removed from the dance. Students are expected to dress modestly, and all other existing school uniform policies are still in effect. Individuals aged 21 years or older are not allowed to attend.

GUIDANCE COUNSELING

Counseling services are available to all students who wish to receive assistance with vocational, educational, or personal needs. These services normally include academic guidance, individual counseling, and information relating to occupational or educational needs. Appointments should be made whenever possible. No student should be in the guidance office when scheduled for a class unless he/she has a pass from the counselor or teacher of the class being missed.

STUDENT HEALTH

A cumulative health record for each student is kept on file with the school nurse. Hearing and vision testing will be administered every other year by the Trinity Catholic school nurse. Catholic schools do not insure students for injuries or accidents that may occur at school, on school premises, or at school-related events. As a condition of enrollment each year, every student must verify proper immunization and have a current Kansas Certificate of Immunization signed by a medical or osteopathic doctor (or their representative), A Health Department official or a diocesan nurse using official records supplied by the parent. K.S.A. 72-5208 through 72-5211.

MEDICATION

ALL medications will be kept in a secure and locked location. An administration of medication form must be completed by the parent or guardian and if prescription medication, also by prescribing physician. No medication will be allowed on the student, in the locker, or in backpacks.

HUMAN SEXUALITY (via *Diocesan Handbook*)

All members of the Catholic school community are expected to strive to live a life of chastity guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church in all aspects of their lives. Our pastoral policies and regulatory practices are written in fidelity to the moral guidance and teachings of the Catholic Church.

Definition of Terms: Sex means the biological condition of being male or female as based upon physical differences at birth. Gender is a person's identity as male or female, harmonious with one's biological sex upon birth. (CCC #2333) Chastity is the moral virtue by which individuals master and direct their powers of sexual intimacy. Chastity reserves sexual intimacy for marriage. (CCC #2337-#2365) Marriage is a covenant by which one man and one woman unite in a lifelong partnership and commitment for the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children through the sacrament of Matrimony. (CCC #1601)

Offenses against chastity and marriage, including those described in the CCC, cannot be accepted or ignored. Behaviors that are contrary to Catholic morality and the expectations of the Catholic school include, but are not limited to, vulgar language and gestures of a sexual nature, sexual harassment or abuse, immodest dress or deportment, expressions of lust, masturbation, pornography, sexting, fornication, homosexual behavior, cohabitating in a sexual relationship outside of Christian marriage, adultery, voluntary sterilization, artificial contraception, in vitro fertilization, and procuring an abortion. Outside of normal classroom discussions on the teachings of the Church, members of the school community may not advocate, celebrate, or express same sex attraction, share publications of a prurient nature, or otherwise impede chastity in our Catholic schools. Sincere questioning of the practices of the Catholic faith in order to more deeply understand they are welcome. However, open hostility or public defiance and challenge of Catholic truths or morality may be signs that a student, parent, or employee is not a good fit for a Catholic school's primarily evangelical mission. Students, parents, or employees who are openly hostile or publicly defiant in their violation or opposition to Catholic truths or morality may be denied continued enrollment or asked to leave the school. It is the responsibility of the pastor or high school chaplain and the school administration, in consultation with the Superintendent, to determine the appropriate consequence in each instance. The moral teachings of the Church are not mere antiquated notions. In fact, Pope Francis repeatedly stressed the importance of a proper understanding of our sexuality, warning of the challenge posed by "the various forms of an ideology of gender that denies the difference and reciprocity in nature of a man and a woman and envisages a society without sexual differences" (*Amoris Laetitia* ("AL"), #56). Pope Francis further noted that "biological sex and the sociocultural role of sex (gender) can be distinguished but not separated," and that although we must always be "understanding of human weakness and the complexities of life," that does not require us to "accept ideologies that attempt to sunder what are inseparable aspects of reality" (*Ibid.*). Ultimately, "[w]e are creatures, and not omnipotent," and we must accept and respect our humanity "as it was created" (*Ibid.*; see also Gen. 1:27, Matthew 19:4, and Mark 10:6). The Holy Father stressed "the young need to be helped to accept their own body as it was created," so that "we can joyfully accept the specific gifts of another man or woman, the work of God the Creator" (AL, #285). [Taken from Diocese of Little Rock, Policies and Procedures Manual]

As Pope Francis noted, we must always respect the sacred dignity of each individual person, but that does not mean the Church must accept the confused notions of gender ideology. We must not demean or deny the sincerity and struggle of those who experience same-sex attraction or who feel their true gender identity is different from their biological sex. Rather, we seek to accompany them on their journey of life, offering them the light of the Gospel as they try to find their way forward. These truths are not merely faith-based; rather, such realities are also knowable through the use of properly functioning senses and right reason (Pope St. John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio*, #22). We do not serve anyone's greater good by falsifying the truth, for it is only the truth that frees us for the full life that God offers to each of us. Thus, when a person experiences same-sex attraction or some form of gender dysphoria, such struggles do not change the biological fact of how God created that person, and it would be untruthful for the Catholic Church or our Catholic schools to pretend otherwise. The policies of our Catholic schools, therefore, must reflect these fundamental truths. [Taken from Diocese of Little Rock, Policies and Procedures Manual]

GENDER DYSPHORIA

Every child is loved by God and therefore deserves respect and protection in a Catholic school. Especially at a young age and in schools, it is important that our children understand the depth of God's love for them and their intrinsic worth and beauty. Children should always be and feel safe and secure and know they are loved. (See Student Bullying and Harassing Policy 408a). Children, youth, and parents who are struggling with gender dysphoria deserve compassion, sensitivity, and respect. All of these can be expressed without infringing on the legitimate concerns about privacy and security on the part of the

other students and parents. All students are expected to conduct themselves at school in a manner consistent with their biological sex. Schools shall consider the gender of all students as being consistent with their biological sex, including, but not limited to, the following: participation in school athletics; school-sponsored dances; dress and uniform policies; the use of changing facilities, showers, locker rooms, and bathrooms; titles, names, and pronouns; and official school documents. Pastoral care will be available to assist the family in clarifying and defining issues of self (and sexual) identity in accord with Catholic teaching and God's natural plan. The school will provide or direct the family to appropriate counseling services. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the school, whose primary goal must always be to uphold Catholic truths and principles, then the student may be dismissed from the school, after the parents are first given the opportunity to withdraw the student from the school.

STUDENT PREGNANCY

Acts of premarital sex or abortion are serious sins. When sexual misconduct results in pregnancy, the school's response must first of all reaffirm our respect for the sanctity of all human life. While the charity of Christ moves us to forgive and help a young man and a young woman when a pregnancy results, in no way should our commitment to respond to the priority of life be interpreted as ignoring, treating lightly, or condoning sexual misconduct. Any student pregnancy requires a careful analysis of a student's status and presents the possibility of unique circumstances that require specific interpretations and application. The administrators of the local schools have the responsibility for making such interpretations and decisions as each circumstance warrants.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Trinity Catholic recognizes the importance of preparing a crisis management plan to address potential crises. Our students have an essential need for security and safety, and any event that jeopardizes this sense of safety will be treated as a crisis. There are countless scenarios that could pose a crisis for Trinity Catholic. A comprehensive crisis plan has been established and will be thoroughly discussed with each faculty and staff member annually. The student body and parents will be kept informed and guided through meetings, newsletters, media, and other channels as needed. Rest assured, all students and parents can feel confident that every necessary precaution has been and will continue to be taken to ensure the highest level of care and protection for each student. Trinity Catholic will conduct a minimum of two (2) crisis drills each school year.

FIRE DRILLS

Trinity Catholic will conduct a minimum of four (4) fire drills each school year. When the alarm sounds, all persons in the building **MUST** evacuate and report to their designated areas. Evacuation routes are posted in each room.

TORNADO DRILLS

The purpose of a tornado drill is to help ensure the safety of students and staff in the event of severe weather. Trinity Catholic will conduct a minimum of two (2) tornado drills each school year. When the drill begins, do exactly as you are instructed. All persons will proceed to the nearest north exit and proceed to the safe room (weightroom) located north of the gym.

BOOSTER CLUB/PTA

The TC PTA Booster Club is an organization uniting parents, faculty, and friends of the school to collaborate in providing both financial and volunteer support for the entire school community. The PTA/BC fosters a strong sense of Christian fellowship among the Trinity Celtics.

- **Membership:** ALL parents of Trinity Catholic are automatically members of the Booster Club.
- **Volunteer Involvement:** It is vital for each family to actively participate in volunteering, as there are opportunities available for everyone.

The Booster Club holds monthly meetings, typically on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons. ALL are invited and encouraged to attend.
TC Booster Club Officers for the 2025-2026 school year are President: Molly McElgunn,
Vice-President: Kari Bell, Secretary: Tai Williford, Treasurer: Anna Kiser

ANONYMOUS FORMS OF COMMUNICATION

The sad reality is that every so often, school administration or staff will receive letters or emails that are not signed. The Diocese of Wichita has guidelines on how to handle such forms of communication. Normally, there will be no response to the anonymous message. In the case that the form of communication is given to a staff member, the principal will be notified of such messages and the communication will be given to administration. Administration will decide if circumstances warrant an investigation into the anonymous communication. Anonymous letters/emails could be turned over to the proper authorities.

CLASS SPONSORS 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

SENIOR CLASS	Marcia Dillon / Shelley Dinges
JUNIOR CLASS	Clair Pennycuff
SOPHOMORE CLASS	Debbie Ohl / Isaac Miller
FRESHMAN CLASS	Jan Frieb / Max Lounsbury
8th GRADE CLASS	Greg Strecker / Anthony White
7th GRADE CLASS	Paul Gion / Roger Wilson

AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL & RECTORY ADDRESSES

Trinity Jr./Sr. High School 1400 East 17th Avenue Hutchinson, KS (620) 662-5800	Principal: Joe Godina
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Holy Cross Grade School 2633 Independence Road Hutchinson, KS 67502 (620) 665-6168	Principal: Mary Garcia
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Holy Cross/St. Teresa Parish Office 2631 Independence Road Hutchinson, KS 67502 (620) 665-5163	Father Jerome Spexarth Father Andrew Meng Father Matthew Cooke
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Holy Cross/St. Teresa Rectory 211 East 5th Avenue Hutchinson, KS 67501 (620) 665-5163	Father Jerome Spexarth Father Andrew Meng Father Matthew Cooke
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Our Lady of Guadalupe 612 South Maple South Hutchinson, KS 67505 (620) 662-6443	Father Eric Weldon
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St. Joseph

318 Rush Avenue
Andale, KS 67001
(316) 444-2196

Father James Weldon**St. Joseph, Ost**

13015 East Maple Grove Rd.
Mt. Hope, KS 67108
(316) 444-2210

Father Bernie Gorges**St. Patrick**

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