**#CSW23 a success for the St. Joseph Catholic Academy**

By Catherine Neumayr

Catholic Schools Week this year was filled with prayer, camaraderie, and joy.  The Deans made sure that each campus had a week of spirited fun as they enjoyed themes like “pajama day” or “favorite movie character.”

Intermingled with the fun were times of great joy as the entire Academy came together for an All Academy Mass at LeBlond for the first time since 2017!  The Bishop led the faculty, staff, and students in an uplifting hour filled with wise advice, especially that the Academy is a team of individuals working together in kindness, self-sacrifice, and friendship.

The Bishop stayed for the 7th and 8th grade Trivial Pursuit led by longtime teacher and leader, Mrs. Mary Ann Didde.  Thursday’s Vocation Day filled the campuses with religious sisters and priests who shared their calling with the students, inspiring them to listen to God’s call as they consider their own vocation to family life, religious life, or consecrated or single life.

The highlight for many students was the annual 8th grade vs. faculty volleyball games, spirited events that happened at each of the elementary campuses.  Parents were honored with breakfast one morning and special stewardship activities happened at each of the campuses illustrating the Catholic reality that love of God leads to love of and care for one’s neighbor.

How blessed we are to celebrate Catholic Schools Week as a family of five campuses filled with people seeking holiness and happiness in this life and the one to come.