

# 5 Marks of an Excellent Catholic Teacher

1

## Recognizes that each person has an eternal destiny and is created in the image of God

*The role of an excellent Catholic teacher is to embrace the dignity of humanity by:*

- Respecting each child of God
- Preparing his or her students for their eternal destiny
- Developing all aspects of the child: intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually
- Seeking personally to grow in his or her spirituality and faith

2

## Expresses and develops a living Catholic vision of the world

*The role of an excellent Catholic teacher is to enliven a Catholic vision of the world by:*

- Understanding Catholic teachings and doctrine
- Living a sacramental life that reflects Catholic values
- Framing, for students, a Catholic perspective of learning and life

3

## Permeates faith wisdom through pedagogy and curricular content

*The role of an excellent Catholic teacher is to animate a faith-infused curriculum by:*

- Fostering love for wisdom and truth, and integration of faith, culture, and life
- Cultivating in themselves and developing in their students a passion for truth that defeats moral and cultural relativism
- Teaching that truth is the fundamental value that is critical in the protection of freedom, justice and human dignity
- Merging consciously 'faith' and life

4

## Witnesses to others a life lived in relationship with Jesus Christ

*The role of an excellent Catholic teacher is to witness by:*

- Testifying to a relationship with Jesus Christ through words and actions
- Modeling fidelity to truth and virtuous behavior
- Sharing authentically his or her journey of faith
- Living a life of joy and hope

5

## Contribute to a spirituality of communion

*The role of an excellent Catholic teacher is to contribute to a spirituality of communion by:*

- Creating opportunities for the involvement of all students in classroom-based spiritual activities, being especially conscious of incorporating otherwise marginalized students
- Fostering positive interpersonal relationships among students and staff to promote a sense of mutual trust and belonging
- Striving to identify and call forth the individual gifts of students and inviting them to put those gifts at the service of the common good
- Building partnerships with the home and parish in an effort to create an inclusive, holistic and hospitable Catholic school community