More Than 1,600 Catholic School Educators Come Together to Pray For the Coming School Year

Archbishop William E. Lori will celebrate Mass and offer a blessing to 1,600 Catholic school principals, teachers, and staff members who will gather at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen on Friday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m. prior to the August 26 start of the 2014-15 school year.

The gathering, which will open with remarks by Dr. Barbara Edmondson, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, will include a special awards ceremony for educators celebrating milestone anniversaries, as well as remarks from newly-appointed Chancellor of Education, Jim Sellinger.

"It is an occasion for educators across the Archdiocese to join together to pray for the upcoming school year, for the children we serve, and to celebrate the beginning of another school year in the Archdiocese of Baltimore," said Dr. Edmondson.

About Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore:

- 99% of students graduate high school; 99% attend college;
- Catholic high school students average 100 points higher on the SAT than the national average;
- Of the 18 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore designated as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, 11 have received the designation since 2008; and
- Catholic middle school students score in the top third on standardized tests in Reading and Math.

To learn more about an Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic school, call 1-800-5-CATHOLIC or visit www.archbalt.org/schools.