

# **Rally Wednesday for Textbook Funding Relief**

A rally to encourage continued Maryland General Assembly support for a textbook loan program for non-public school students is scheduled for the Saint Ursula School auditorium in Parkville, Maryland at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31, 2001.

The program enables the state to purchase non-religious textbooks for loan to children attending non-public schools. Last year, the General Assembly approved Governor Glendening's request for a first year program investment of \$6 million. The Governor's proposed \$21 billion budget for fiscal 2002 requests \$8 million for the program. Students, parents, teachers, administrators and others from schools around the region will gather Wednesday evening to demonstrate their concern and discuss advocacy efforts toward achieving a continuation of textbook funding in the 2002 state budget.

Archdiocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Dr. Ronald J. Valenti, will attend and be available to media upon request. Several area legislators have been invited.

St. Ursula's School is located at 8900 Harford Road. Media are invited to attend. Points of contact are Ray Kempisty or Matt Lane at 410-547-5379.