

Letter from Archbishop Thomas A. Connolly, Archbishop of Seattle

September 5, 1968

Parishioners of St. Mary's Parish

Anacortes, WA

Dear Beloved in Christ:

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity of extending my sincere felicitations to each and every one of you on this happy occasion. Your combined zealous and energetic efforts are responsible for the dedication of this new religious education and cultural and social center.

The erection of this new CCD Center to the honor and glory of Almighty God and for the religious education of your children is at once a tribute to the indefatigable zeal of an enterprising Pastor as it is a manifestation of the vibrant faith of a self-sacrificing people. It is a pledge and promise of a fuller and finer Christian life in all who shall avail themselves of its facilities for generations to come.

As you know, the primary and immediate end of a Christian education is to cooperate with Divine Grace in forming the true and perfect Christian, that is, to form Christ Himself in those regenerated by baptism. The objectives of Christian education, therefore, are those of character in action, of Christ like living in relation to God and the Church as well as to our fellowmen and our natural surroundings.

You and your Pastor have every reason to be happy and proud of this glorious achievement and I welcome the opportunity to rejoice with all of you on this historic occasion.

Praying every blessing upon you and with every best wish and blessing, I am

Devotedly yours in Christ

Thomas A. Connolly

Archbishop of Seattle