

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Catholic Schools Week is an annual national celebration of the important role that Catholic education plays in providing a comprehensive, values-based education to approximately 2 million young people in 6,568 Catholic schools across our nation which includes approximately 7,900 students in 33 Catholic schools and early childhood centers in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the 169 years that Catholic Schools throughout Mississippi have educated thousands of students of all faith traditions and varying racial and ethnic backgrounds, in a learning environment of high academic standards, moral values and religious beliefs supported by the home; and

WHEREAS, we value and appreciate the thousands of teachers and auxiliary personnel who have provided and continue to provide outstanding education to youngsters in Catholic schools and early childhood centers throughout the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 celebration theme, *Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service*, expresses the concept at the heart of Catholic education: Our schools are communities that focus on faith development, to ensure academic excellence and develop the highest dedication to the service of others in the community at large:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the week of January 31, 2016 – February 6, 2016, as

Catholic Schools Week

in the State of Mississippi and encourage our citizens to join in celebrating and recognizing the incalculable contribution Catholic schools make by educating students in our State and in our Nation.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 4th day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and fortieth.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Bryant".

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR