



Saint Viator Prepares for Entrance Exam After Being Named Among Top 10 Catholic High Schools in Enrollment



Saint Viator High School was named among the top 10 Chicago area Catholic high schools—among more than 40 in the city and suburbs—to post the biggest enrollment numbers last year, according to the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Office of Catholic Schools.

This came as good news to Saint Viator recruitment officials, who anticipate a strong turnout to the entrance exam on Saturday. The test is open to all eighth grade students, though teens may take the exam at only one Catholic high school.

Those interested in sitting for the exam should bring pencils and cash or a check made out to Saint Viator High School for \$25. Students will not be allowed to use cell phones or calculators during the test.

The test takes place from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday at Saint Viator High School, located at 1213 E. Oakton St. in Arlington Heights.

“We’re projecting an increase over last year,” says Bill Sanford, recruitment director, “based on the number of students who shadowed and on attendance at our open houses. Both those figures are up.”

He also points to some of its biggest feeder schools, that made the list of the top 30 elementary schools in the Chicago Archdioceses to see enrollment increases, including Our Lady of the Wayside in Arlington Heights, St. Theresa in Palatine, St. Raymond in Mount Prospect, St. Hubert in Hoffman Estates, and St. James in Arlington Heights.

As it is, Saint Viator’s enrollment stands at 1,058, which Sanford says is just two students away from its ideal number of 1,060.

“We would like to maintain 265 students in every class, and after that, start a waiting list,” he says. “The key to stabilizing enrollment, we believe, is setting a maximum number and keeping a waiting list.”

Saint Viator officials are seeing an increased growth from some new areas, they said, namely from portions of DuPage County, from students who formerly would have attended Driscoll Academy, as well as from students attending public junior high schools across its feeder area.

Currently, students in the school come from 90 different communities, Sanford added, with 50 to 60 schools represented in each class.