

# Prince of Peace Catholic School

## Catholic Education Honor Roll Application 2020-2025

1. **Enter the school's website.** [www.princeofpeacetaylors.net](http://www.princeofpeacetaylors.net)
2. **What is the school's mission statement?** We are the primary apostolate of Prince of Peace Parish, collaborating with families to offer children a rigorous curriculum that promotes intellectual formation and virtue development, immersed in the teachings of the Catholic faith.
3. **What is the school's educational philosophy?**
4. Prince of Peace Catholic School endorses the call of the Catholic Bishops of the United States to express its educational ministry through the objectives of personal spirituality, social justice, and a strong academic program in accord with the Curriculum Guide for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina.
  1. To develop the total Christian personality by instilling in the students a respect for life and reverence for Christian living.
  2. To develop within the school a strong religious education program based on Catholic Theology, Scripture, Liturgical experience, and service so that each child will grow and develop in the Christian way of life.
  3. To facilitate the intellectual, social, and physical development of each child through a variety of instructional methods such as small and large group instruction, departmental classes, and other tools for basic knowledge and formation.
  4. To aid students in evaluation of their own capabilities and vocational possibilities.

It is the consensus of the faculty that every human being has a right to pursue knowledge corresponding with his/her dignity and God-given ability, regardless of background or sex. In the early years, education is often of the utmost importance because through education and guidance the children of today become the Catholic citizens of tomorrow.
5. **Select the response that describes the "type" of school.** Parochial or parish
6. **In which diocese is the school located?** Diocese of Charleston
7. **What is the governing model?** Pastor

### Additional details

<b>7a. How many Board members do you have?</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>7b. How many Board members are Catholic?</b>	<b>12</b>

### Professional Staff

<b>8a. What is the total number of full- time (&gt;30 hours) teaching faculty? (Note: The count should include administrators who currently teach.)</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>8b. Percentage of full-time faculty who are practicing Catholics?</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>8c. What is the total number of part- time faculty (&lt; 30 hours)?</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>8d. Percentage of the part-time faculty who are practicing Catholics?</b>	<b>80</b>
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**Number of faculty and staff who are:**

	<b>Not Available</b>	<b>Full-time (&gt; = 30 hours)</b>	<b>Part-time(&lt;30 hours)</b>
<b>9a. Religious sisters</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>9b. Religious brothers</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>9c. Members of the clergy</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**10. Which of the following are explicitly stated in the school's mission statement, policies, or publications?**

The school is a place of encountering God and his love and truth.

The school has Christ as its foundation.

The school is a community united with the Church.

The school is faithful to the Magisterium.

The school provides frequent opportunities for prayer, sacred scripture, and the Church's liturgical and sacramental traditions.

The school engages in the integral formation of the human person - spiritual, intellectual, and physical.

The school presents a Christian worldview of humanity emphasizing the dignity of the human person.

The school transmits culture in the light of faith.

The school prepares students to be instruments of evangelization.

**11. Personnel and other policies are consistent with Catholic teachings and the Church's mission for Catholic education. Yes**

**12. Evaluation of personnel takes into account their commitment to the mission and Catholic identity of the school.**

Administrators	Yes
Faculty	Yes
Staff	Yes

**13. Additional Information**

13a. The Church's mission for Catholic education guides strategic planning and school improvement.	Strongly agree
13b. The school is effective in advancing the Church's mission of evangelization of students.	Strongly agree

13c. The school protects the mission of Catholic education in light of new educational paradigms, consumerist demands, government interference, and threats to religious freedom.	Strongly agree
13d. The school's Catholic identity is prominently featured in marketing materials and publications.	Strongly agree

**14. Describe how the school evaluates its institutional commitment to the Church’s teaching on the divine mission of Catholic education.**

Prince of Peace Catholic School is very blessed to have a very active advisory council that works to uphold the mission of the school in teaching the Catholic faith. A Catholic Identity subcommittee of the council works closely with the pastor and principal to assess literature, programming, events, and resources to ensure that each experience and endeavor at the school is in line with its Catholic mission.

Each year, the school administers a survey our parents, faculty, staff, and students on the effectiveness of the school’s ability to teach the faith and fulfill our commitment to Church teachings. The work of the council and survey results serve as feedback to assess the strategic plan being executed by the school with regard to its Catholic identity:

GOAL: The school will uphold the calling in the mission statement that identifies the school as the chief apostolate of the parish for the handing down of the faith.

Strategies:

1. Provide literature and resources to school and parish that support the Catholic mission.
2. Explore opportunities to enhance the school respect for life initiatives.
3. Implement charitable outreach experiences to compliment current outreach efforts by the school and parish.
4. Research and schedule an annual speaker series to support and enhance the Catholic mission of the school.
5. Support the administration in the implementation of faith-based programming that enhances the religion curriculum of the school.

**15. The school ensures that operations are faithful to the Code of Canon Law, Catechism of the Catholic Church, and other magisterial teachings of the Church. Yes**

**16. The school community serves, supports, and participates in the activities of the local church. Strongly agree**

**17. Describe how the school is united in service to the broader community.**

Prince of Peace Catholic School is deeply committed to instilling a fundamental understanding of the calling by God to serve others.

Teaching about Giving: Prince of Peace engages in a monthly school-wide service project entitled "Teaching About Giving". This outreach is a partnership between home and school, and families are expected to approach the opportunity together. Each month is dedicated to a different charitable outreach. The rotation often includes food for the poor and replenishing local food shelves, collecting supplies for unwed mothers, and collecting funds to support charitable institutions. Beyond the giving, we take the opportunity to teach students about the nature of suffering, the need to respond, and the impact that giving has on the lives of others. The goal in this is to develop virtuous habits of giving and recognizing that all people are created in the image of God and, as a result, are worthy of our love, care and support.

BETA Club Service Hours: Starting in 4th grader, students are able to apply to serve at student leaders in our BETA Club. As a part of that leadership in service to the school and the larger community, student leaders are to engage in a minimum of 20 service hours during the course of the school year. Many members exceed the required hours by a considerable amount.

**18. School documents reflect Catholic teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children.** Yes

**19. How are parents invited to participate in a meaningful partnership with the school?**

Parents of Prince of Peace are invited to attend weekly all-school masses and prayer experiences during the course of the school year including recitation of the Rosary, Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and Eucharistic adoration.

Beyond the spiritual aspect of the school, parents are encouraged to partner with the school in living out its mission. There are a wide variety of opportunities to volunteer and assist in the life of the school, including serving on the School Board and Parent Teacher Organization, and the various subcommittees that support both. Room parents support each classroom in communication and planning of grade-level events and experiences. Parent coaches provide great support to our athletic programs, as well as serving as chaperones for school field trips.

At Prince of Peace, parents are active, engaged, and recognized as the primary educators of their children. This wonderful partnership fosters great collaboration between home and school in the making the mission of the school come to life for all stakeholders.

**20. The school has policies and procedures to make education accessible to families who share the mission, including large and economically disadvantaged families.** Yes

**21. The school's program assists students to develop respect, kindness, mercy, and forgiveness when interacting with each other, parents, school employees, and volunteers.** Strongly agree.

**22. Does the school have a morality clause or statement that defines expectations for employee behavior to ensure a commitment to Catholic ideals, teachings and principles?** Yes

**23. The school ensures that employees and volunteers understand and respect the teachings of the Catholic Church and moral demands of the Gospel by demonstrating consistency between personal faith and public behavior.** Yes

**24. The school ensures all employees are committed to, and participate in, the religious formation of students.** Strongly agree

**25. How many hours per school year are directed to faculty development which specifically targets the Church's mission?** 50+

**26. Specify the qualifications for faculty involved in the formal catechesis of students.**  
**Additional Policies**

27a. The school protects Catholic moral norms in the selection of outside service providers and organizations.	Yes
27b. The school protects Catholic moral norms in the approval of student and faculty organizations, associations, and activities.	Yes

**28. The school ensures opportunities for students to encounter the Living God through:  
Select all that apply.**

Recitation of the Rosary

Devotion to the Holy Spirit

First Fridays

Saint of the Day

The Feast day of St. Joseph

The Feast day of Patron Saints  
 All Saints/All Souls  
 Lenten Activities  
 Stations of the Cross  
 Advent Prayers  
 May Crowning  
 Marian Processions  
 Adoration/Benediction  
 Veneration of Sacred Relics  
 Litanies  
 Novenas  
 Daily Prayers for Others  
 Personal Prayer  
 Lectio Divina  
 The Angelus  
 St. Michael/Angel Prayers  
 Spiritual Bouquets  
 Sacred Chant  
 Enrollment in the Scapular  
 Holy Medals and Cards

**29. Frequency of Mass for students:** Weekly – required; Additionally – all holy days of obligation that within the school year are required Masses for all students and staff.

**30. Availability of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for students:** Weekly

**31. Based on the response above, estimate the percentage of the student body who participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.** 100

**32. The school ensures that liturgies and the Sacrament of Reconciliation follow Church norms.** Yes

**33. Frequency of Eucharistic Adoration:** Monthly

**34. Based on the response above, estimate the percentage of the student body who participates in Eucharistic Adoration.** 100

**35. The school has the Blessed Sacrament reserved and readily available for student visitation.** Yes

**36. Frequency of prayer:**

Start of class	Sometimes
Start of day	Always
Special events	Always
End of day	Always
Performances	Always
Meetings	Always
Meals	Always
Athletic events	Always
School assemblies	Always

**37. Describe how the school assists students to ensure experiences in prayer, scripture and sacrament are personal, meaningful, and respectful.**

All students attend weekly Mass and have the opportunity to participate in the recitation of the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Seasonal prayer experiences, such as the Stations of the Cross and Benediction during Lent are also an important part of the spiritual formation of our students.

The school is very intentional about enrolling families that understand and support the Catholic mission of the school and parish. As a result, students typically come into the school with a solid catechetical foundation and with great respect and reverence given to the experience of prayer, scripture and the sacraments at the school.

The pastor of Prince of Peace serves as an inspirational leader when it comes to faith formation at the school and plays a vital role in ensuring that the liturgical and sacramental experiences of the school are grounded in the teachings of the Church. This approach is outlined in his Pastoral Letter on the Liturgical Formation of Children at Prince of Peace that all families receive when they enroll in the school.

Participation is also a key component in the personal aspect of the spiritual experience at prince of Peace. Ample opportunities to participate in serving in school liturgies are offered for students including choir, lectors, altar servers and leading the congregation in the Litany of Mary after each Mass. Altar serving is both valued and respected at the school, with an average of twenty servers participating in the celebration of each Mass.

**38. The school community celebrates when students are initiated into a Sacrament (Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, Confirmation).** Strongly Agree

**39. The school ensures that opportunities for prayer, liturgy, and sacraments are prioritized on the school calendar and daily schedule.** Yes

**40. The school ensures that Sacred Scripture is part of the student experience and life of the school.** Strongly Agree

**41. Frequency of student retreats during the school year: (Not applicable for K-8).** Annually – required

**42. The school offers formational spiritual retreats for students that include the opportunity for:** Reconciliation, Mass.

**43. Spiritual direction is available at school from:**

Priest	< 30hr/wk
Religious	< 30hr/wk
Trained Laity	< 30hr/wk

**44. Describe how the school supports students in a vocation to the religious life?**

At each school Mass the student body, along with faculty and staff, pray for an increase in priestly vocations to the Church.

Additionally, the school has many opportunities for students to actively participate in school liturgies, and the pastor uses that as an opportunity to foster and encourage consideration of pursuing the religious life. Each year the school invites the Vicar of Vocations of the Diocese of Charleston to visit the school and parish. During his visit he meets with students, families, faculty and the governing bodies of the school to assist them in supporting measures to increase awareness and opportunities to consider pursuing religious life.

**45. Theology coursework and participation in liturgies and devotions is expected of students, including non-Catholic.** Yes

**46. How does the school ensure that students (including non-Catholics) attend required liturgies and participate in the catechetical and spiritual life of the school?**

Weekly all-school Masses, and holy days of obligation, are required for all students, faculty, and staff to attend. Parents and parishioners are also invited to attend. Expectations are made very clear at the time of enrollment that all students are required to attend liturgies and to participate in the catechetical and spiritual life of the school.

Beyond liturgies, all students take part in a daily morning prayer assemblies, as well as monthly recitations of the Rosary and Stations of the Cross and Benediction during Lent. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered weekly to all students prepared to receive. All students participate in mealtime prayer, as well as prayer to end each school day.

**47. The school provides opportunities for parents to participate in:**

Liturgies, Prayer groups, Eucharistic and Marian processions, Adoration/Benediction, School-wide devotions, Adult faith-formation classes, Service projects.

**48. Faculty are required to attend religious services when student attendance is mandatory. Yes**

**49. The school provides opportunities to faculty for spiritual retreats, prayer, and reflection. Strongly agree**

**50. The school provides opportunities to its governing board for spiritual retreats, prayer, and reflection. Agree**

**51. What sacred images, icons, artwork, furnishings, or spaces are present in the school? Select all that apply.**

Crucifix in each class

Crucifix in hallways

Images, icons or statues of Christ

Images, icons or statues of Our Lady

Images, icons or statues of Saints

Images, icons or statues of Guardian Angels

Images, icons or statues of Angels

Images of the Sacred Heart

Picture of the Pope

Picture of the Bishop

Scripture quotes

Relics

Prayer corners

**52. The school assists students to understand the relationship between mind, body, and soul and the importance of spiritual, physical, and mental well-being. Strongly agree**

**53. How does the school incorporate the Catechism of the Catholic Church and other materials to ensure students understand and appreciate the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church?**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a foundational support for our religious education program. "The Spirit of Truth" covers the breadth of the Catechism in a rich and age-appropriate way and is designed to connect with students of diverse backgrounds and differing familiarity with the Catholic Faith. The Catechism is referenced throughout the teacher's manual and utilized by faculty when constructing lesson plans.

The religion curriculum standards utilized by faculty and established through the Diocese of Charleston, is also grounded in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

**54. The school teaches students respect for the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. Yes**

**55. How does the school ensure that athletic programs contribute to student growth in Christian virtue?**

All coaches hired to serve in our athletic program are bound by the Employee and Volunteer Pledge to lead and serve as a Christian example to others. Athletes and coaches pray before practice and competitions. We believe coaches are an extension of the classroom and serve as important role models helping to fulfill our mission.

**56. The school ensures that the visual and performing arts foster integral formation and Christian virtue.** Strongly agree

**57. The school ensures that expectations for dress, language, music, and dances aid in the development of modesty and Christian virtue.** Strongly agree

**58. How do student disciplinary policies reflect a commitment to teach virtue?**

Students at Prince of Peace Catholic School are expected and required to act with behavior that reflects Gospel values. They are expected to show respect and consideration for their parents, teachers, school staff, and especially fellow students on or off campus. This respect helps to maintain a harmonious school atmosphere that is conducive to learning. Parents are expected to be involved in correcting any behavior problem(s) with their children. Parents are ultimately responsible to see that their child's behavior is in line with school expectations and does not interfere with the education and experiences of other students. It is the duty of the entire Prince of Peace Catholic School Community to promote a positive environment, exemplify mutual respect and compassion, and celebrate diversity and each other while striving for academic excellence. Therefore:

- Good manners are expected to be used at all times.
- Welcome our visitors with loving smiles and kind words.
- Approach games, contests and competitions with a positive attitude and good sportsmanship.
- Develop good study habits.
- Keep our campus, classrooms, cafeteria, and church clean.
- Represent our school well on all field trips and extra-curricular activities.
- Make every day the best day possible.

To that end, when policies are enforced, virtue is emphasized as a source of strength taking responsibility for choices made, and making amends for those choices if they are in violation of expectations.

**59. The school provides for the needs of students with educational, developmental, and physical exceptionalities.** Agree

**60. The school provides for interdisciplinary instruction that exposes underlying relationships among academic disciplines.** Agree

**61. How does the school teach students to confront materialism and relativism?**

The most effective way in which the school confronts materialism and relativism is through the monthly service outreach opportunities. Giving and responding to those in need is emphasized. This fosters a desire to serve others, recognize others as made in the likeness and image of God, and to become a selfless example of giving. Through our service outreach opportunities, students learn about compassion, and the calling to put the needs of others before material possessions.

**62. The school provides clear and unambiguous instruction in Catholic moral and social teaching.** Yes

**63. The school teaches responsibility and the right use of freedom.** Strongly agree

**64. The school informs students of the impact of technology on the development of human virtue, how to use it in healthy, productive ways, and the risks associated with overuse/misuse of social media, cyber-bullying, and pornography.** Strongly agree

**65. What are the three most important ideals a Catholic school student should learn before graduation from the school?**

First and foremost, students from Prince of Peace should learn that all people are created in the image and likeness of God and, as a result, are worthy of respect, care, compassion and understanding.

Secondly, students should learn that we must love and protect human life from the moment of conception until natural death. The recognition of the sanctity of life is a great priority for both the school and parish.

Lastly, students should learn that they are called to holiness and vocation in their lives. Whether discerning religious life, single life or marriage, they are called to be holy and to become them young men and women that God intends them to be.

**66. Sex education, which is a basic right and duty of parents, must always be carried out under their attentive care.** Yes

**67. The school ensures that students are able to explain and defend the Catholic faith.**  
Agree

**68. How does the school ensure transmission of Catholic culture that allows for a Christian understanding of the world?**

A Catholic worldview is a vibrant part of the culture of the school and parish. This worldview is presented in classrooms throughout the curriculum and is a fundamental part of our educational programming and learning experiences. Catholic imagery and religious icons are displayed throughout the school building. Prayer, Mass, adoration, and reconciliation are embraced by the students, faculty and families, and serve as a daily reinforcement of a Christian understanding of the world.

The strong partnership that exists between home and school also serves to reinforce the Catholic charism that the school hopes to impart to all students.

**69. The school ensures that curriculum standards, guides, texts, and pedagogy integrate the truths of the Catholic faith.** Agree

### Additional Information

70a. The school emphasizes Catholic contributions to theology, philosophy, ethics, literature, science, mathematics, and the visual and performing arts.	Agree
70b. The faculty challenge students to evaluate history in the context of Catholic moral and social teachings.	Strongly agree
70c. The faculty challenge students to evaluate civic (and for high schools economic) concepts and events within the context of Catholic moral and social teachings.	Strongly agree
70d. The school ensures that students gain cultural literacy and fluency in language, idioms, stories, civics, and knowledge that form the American experience.	Agree
70e. The school ensures that students understand the impact of a Catholic worldview on language, idioms, intellectual tradition, and stories of western culture.	Strongly agree

**71. Attach a PDF of major works and authors studied in grade 6-12 literature classes. (See below).**

**72. The science program presents significant contributions of Catholic scientists such as Mendel, Lavoisier, Pasteur, Galileo, Gregor, Volta, and Copernicus.** Yes

**73. The school presents the topics of creation, evolution, the environment, and genetics in the context of Church teachings and in opposition to secular materialism and scientism.** Yes

**74. The school emphasizes and integrates the unity of faith and reason throughout the curriculum.** Strongly agree

**75. How does the school ensure that students are prepared to evangelize culture and their fellowman?**

Our students are prepared to evangelize culture and their fellow man through the strength of their own comfort and confidence in their education and religious formation. Academic rigor, virtue development, intellectual formation and Catholic identity are the formative pillars that uphold our students and prepare them to become the virtuous and engaged young men and women that God intends them to be.

Opportunities to lead and serve abound at Prince of Peace. Students serve at Mass each week as acolytes, lectors and in music ministry. Our BETA Club offers students the chance to lead and serve the community in keeping with the ideals set forth by the school and parish. Monthly service projects connected to their learning in the classroom develops a selfless habit of giving in our students and a natural desire to help those in need. Our religion program is grounded in the teachings of the Catholic faith and provides the intellectual formation needs by our students to speak with wisdom in truth when challenged in their faith.

**Comments and Additional Explanation. (Please cite individual question with comment):**

## **Reading List from #71 Above:**

### **Third Grade**

*Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White

*A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond

*Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Grabenstein

*Poppy* by Avi

*Ben and Me* by Robert Lawson

Wonder's Reading Program

### **Fourth Grade**

*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis

*The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate

*Wonder* by R.J. Palacio

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*The Princess and the Goblin* by George MacDonald

*The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare

Junior Great Books from Great Books Foundation

### **Fifth Grade**

*The Cay* by Theodore Taylor

*Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry

*The Door in the Wall* by Marguerite de Angeli

*Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes  
*Phantom Tollbooth* by Norton Juster  
“The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry  
Junior Great Books from Great Books Foundation

### **Sixth Grade**

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor  
*Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare  
*Searching for Dragons* by Patricia Wrede  
*A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens  
“Rikki-tikki-tavi” by Kipling  
“Roadways” by Mansfield  
“The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” by Twain

### **Seventh Grade**

*The Hobbit* by Tolkien  
*Adventures of Ulysses* Interpreted by Evslin  
*Animal Farm* by George Orwell  
“The Necklace” by Maupassant  
“Birthday Box” by Jane Yolan  
“To Build a Fire” by Jack London  
“The Selfish Giant” by Oscar Wilde

### **Eighth Grade**

*The Count of Monte Cristo* by A. Dumas  
*Fahrenheit 452* by Ray Bradbury  
*MacBeth* by William Shakespeare  
“Rip Van Winkle” by Irving  
“The Ransom of Red Chief” by O. Henry  
“The Wish” by Dahl