



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Archdiocesan Elementary Schools to Close after 2023-2024 Academic Year

Over the past several years, the Archdiocese of St. Louis has reexamined our parishes, schools, ministries and agencies through a lens of responsible stewardship and effective proclamation of the Gospel. As part of this discernment, the Office of Catholic Education and Formation and the Episcopal Vicars began a series of consultative meetings last fall with pastors and parish leaders at roughly one third of the archdiocesan parishes with elementary schools.

The parishes were asked to review their school enrollment, staffing, building capacity, parish subsidies, archdiocesan funding, proximity to neighboring schools, and other factors related to immediate and long-term viability.

At this time, Archbishop Rozanski has accepted recommendations for the closure of two parish elementary schools: Little Flower School in Richmond Heights and St. Roch School in the City of St. Louis. The Archdiocese of St. Louis is providing placement assistance and other support to impacted faculty and staff, as well as enrollment assistance to families who wish to place students into other Catholic elementary schools.

For several other parishes, ongoing discernment is taking place, and additional closures may be announced before the commencement of the 2024-2025 school year. Regardless of the timing, we are committed to facilitating a seamless transition for all families, faculty, and staff who choose to continue in an Archdiocesan school.

We are profoundly grateful to our principals, teachers, and staff of these two schools, all of whom share their gifts in our diocesan schools, and to parents raising their children in our Catholic faith, including those who have made a commitment to Catholic schools.

Please keep all those who are impacted by these decisions in your prayers.

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[The Archdiocese of St. Louis](http://www.archstl.org) was established in 1826 and is comprised today of more than 444,000 Catholics in 11 Missouri counties. Led by the Most Reverend Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski in communion with His Holiness Pope Francis, we are called by our Lord, Jesus Christ, to be His Church and live His Gospel. Learn more about the Archdiocese of St. Louis at www.archstl.org, and on Facebook, Instagram, X, Threads and LinkedIn.