

Susan and Rick Cagnetti

Our family moved to Baldwinsville two years ago. We toured both a public school and St. Mary's Academy. In the end, St. Mary's just felt right.

Here are 10 reasons why we chose a Catholic school:

- 1.) Teachers approach YOU about the right book or exercise for your child.
- 2.) The Principal and staff know your kids and cheer them on by name! Especially at basketball games.
- 3.) They learn the Bible and the virtue of Saints
- 4.) School Masses. They learn our Sacraments, how to participate and they take turns public speaking.
- 5.) Outreach, thinking of others. Staff, parents and students pray for and rally around each other. Such as daily prayers for a teacher who has been sick, a baby born too soon, or a 6th grader saying good-bye.

This leads me to:

- 6.) Service learning, fostering a sense of sharing and serving others. For example, raising money for a sick child's hospital bills, collecting and packing food for families in need, or simply singing Christmas carols at a senior citizen home.
- 7.) We love uniforms! Everyone looks the same. There's no guess work in the morning on what to wear.
- 8.) Along with learning their Common Core curriculum, they receive an education of the whole child, building their faith, their character, and their soul.
- 9.) Their Catholic school is their extended family. They are comfortable and secure here.
- 10.) Our son thinks of God as a part of his everyday life, not something he only thinks about on Sunday.