

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

# ARCHDIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY





# TEACHER FEEDBACK



I believe the presentation made a strong case for the dignity and worth of all humans from conception until nature death. The presenters were excellent. I look forward to inviting the Culture Project back to my school soon.

**BISHOP MIEGE HIGH SCHOOL, SHAWNEE MISSION, KS**

Aaron and Melina were fantastic! They effortlessly handled the questions poised by our teens about the various areas discussed in their presentation while upholding Catholic teaching.



**PRINCE OF PEACE SCHOOL, OLATHE, KS**





# STUDENT FEEDBACK



I absolutely loved this presentation. I also struggle with comparison, and hearing Melina talk about her experiences and beliefs really opened my eyes to myself. Knowing now that we are all beautiful and deserving of love just because we are us, we are humans, is something truly amazing to me. I wanna thank you guys for taking the time to come to my school and tell us what we all need to hear!

**PRINCE OF PEACE SCHOOL, OLATHE, KS**

Very great presentation, Bailey & Patrick did an amazing job. The presentation helped me understand human dignity more than I knew before.

**BISHOP WARD HIGH SCHOOL, KANSAS CITY, KS**

I loved all of the presentations that I have heard already. It was very informative and very interesting. Thank you for your time in teaching us all about what is going on today on this world.



**SACRED HEART CHURCH, MOUND CITY, KS**

# MISSIONARY ENCOUNTER

A 7th grade boy walked up to me shyly, shoulders down, clutching a note card after a human dignity presentation and q&a session. He looked at me hesitantly and said "I don't have a question or a prayer request, but I really want you to have this" as he handed me the note card. I thanked him and he walked away with his shoulders raised just a little bit higher. After we packed up and got to the car I eagerly pulled out the notecard to read it. He had written a note saying "thank you so much for this presentation today. It meant a lot to me, and it inspired me. It also helped me in personal struggles I am dealing with in my life. You really connected to my soul. Thank you." As we give so many talks week to week I am sometimes numbed to the gravity of what we speak into during our presentations. This young boy almost brought me to tears by his willingness to express gratitude and reminding me that what we do is changing lives.

**BAILEY SANDERS**  
FIRST YEAR MISSIONARY





# OCTOBER 2024 - JUNE 2025



## OVERVIEW

**4,661** STUDENT ENCOUNTERS

**1,084** ADULTS

**8,055** ENCOUNTERS

**183** PRESENTATIONS

## PRESENTATION BREAKDOWN

**50** HUMAN DIGNITY TALKS

**44** SEXUAL INTEGRITY TALKS

**27** SOCIAL MEDIA TALKS

**1** PARENT TALK

## PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

**5** Q&A

**11** PRO-LIFE TALKS

**1** RECRUITMENT TALK

**5** THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

**9** LUNCH VISITS

**3** TABLING EVENTS

**1** FUNDRAISING EVENT

**2** YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

**1** PRO-LIFE PRAYER

**23** OTHERS



The presenters did an amazing job of handling tough topics with care, it was not awkward and I know it will make a difference little by little. Thank you!

SACRED HEART CHURCH, SHAWNEE, KS



# PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

## HIGH SCHOOLS

Bishop Miege High School, Shawnee Mission, KS	10
Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City, KS	2
Hayden High School, Topeka, KS	7
Saint Thomas Aquinas High School, Overland Park, KS	2
St. James Academy, Lenexa, KS	1



## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Corpus Christi School, Lawrence, KS	1
Curé of Ars Catholic School, Leawood, KS	3
Holy Name Catholic School, Kansas City, KS	1
Holy Spirit Catholic School, Overland Park, KS	2
Most Pure Heart of Mary School, Topeka, KS	14
Prince of Peace Catholic School, Olathe, KS	8
Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School, Shawnee, KS	1
St. Joseph Catholic School, Shawnee, 11 KS	
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School, Leawood, KS	15
St. Rose Philippine Duchesne School, 5 Garnett, KS	





# PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS



## PARISHES

Christ the King Church, Topeka, KS	2
Church of the Ascension, Overland Park, KS	2
Church of the Nativity, Leawood, KS	1
Corpus Christi Parish, Lawrence, KS	3
Curé of Ars Catholic Church, Leawood, KS	1
Holy Angels Church, Garnett, KS	4
Holy Family Church, Kansas City, KS	1
Holy Spirit Church, Overland Park, KS	6
Holy Trinity Church, Paola, KS	1
Mother Theresa of Calcutta Church, Topeka, KS	1
Prince of Peace Church, Olathe, KS	3
Queen of the Holy Rosary Church, Overland Park, KS	1
Sacred Heart Church, Mound City, KS	5
Sacred Heart Church, Shawnee, KS	6
St. Bernard Church, Wamego, KS	4
St. Dominic Church, Holton, KS	10
St. Gregory Church, Marysville, KS	6
St. John the Baptist Church, Kansas City, KS	1
St. Joseph Church, Flush, KS	3







# DIOCESAN ENGAGEMENT

## OTHER

Archdiocese of Kansas City Kansas  
Benedictine College  
Emporia State University  
Johnson County Deanery Meeting  
Night of Beauty and Culture Young Adult Event  
Planned Parenthood (Wyandotte Health Center), Kansas City, KS  
Prairie Star Ranch  
Rural Catholic Youth Conference  
ReachKCK Retreat  
Regional Youth Leader Meeting, Lenexa, KS  
St. Mary's Food Kitchen, Kansas City, KS  
Topeka Deanery Meeting  
Tuesdays at the Boulevard (City on a Hill), Kansas City, KS  
Washburn University, Topeka, KS  
Willa Gills Soup Kitchen  
Wyandotte Deanery Meeting







# MISSIONARY ENCOUNTER

Our team went to Hayden High School in Topeka Kansas where we were giving all day talks on human dignity to every theology class. I was sitting in the campus ministry room waiting to give a talk when the school Chaplain came up to my teammates and I to speak with us. He explained to us that he was very thankful for us being at their school to speak and that he already noticed fruits of our work coming about despite us only giving two talks so far that day. He then explained how after one of the talks, a male student came to him and expressed that because of our presentation in particular, he wanted to get rid of an addiction in his life and live differently. The priest then explained how he told the boy that the school would have confessions tomorrow and that the boy said he'd be there. He really tried to affirm us in the goodness of our presence there. Our human dignity talk covers a variety of topics such as bullying, abortion, and pornography; and it's not everyday that we get to hear an immediate fruit of how our talks affect people, but it was such a gift to hear this from Fr. Maddock about the student whose heart was stirred that day.

**AARON VRBKA**  
FIRST YEAR MISSIONARY



# AFTER THE TALK

**87%**

OF 247 STUDENTS WHO FILLED OUT OUR SURVEY SAID AFTER HEARING THE HUMAN DIGNITY PRESENTATION "I BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF ALL HUMAN LIFE."

**70%**

OF 247 WHO FILLED OUT OUR SURVEY SAID AFTER HEARING THE HUMAN DIGNITY PRESENTATION "I WANT TO ADVOCATE FOR THE VULNERABLE/THOSE WHO ARE DEHUMANIZED."

**82%**

OF 97 STUDENTS WHO FILLED OUT OUR SURVEY SAID AFTER HEARING THE SEXUAL INTEGRITY PRESENTATION "I UNDERSTAND WHY SAVING SEX FOR MARRIAGE IS IMPORTANT."

**91%**

OF 457 STUDENTS WHO FILLED OUT OUR SURVEY SAID AFTER HEARING THE HUMAN DIGNITY, SEXUAL INTEGRITY, AND SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENTATION I WANT TO STOP WATCHING PORN (OR, CONTINUE AVOIDING IT)."



# STUDENT FEEDBACK



Thank you for coming to us to speak! You should do the pro-life apologetics presentation soon!

**MOST PURE HEART OF MARY, TOPEKA, KS**

I believe what they're are doing is an amazing thing and they could help a lot of people out there

**BISHOP WARD HIGH SCHOOL, KANSAS CITY, KS**

I'm so glad these important things are being addressed and discussed!



**ST. JAMES ACADEMY, LENEXA, KS**



# TEACHER FEEDBACK



This is our first presentation, it was excellent. Great, relatable missionaries, good mix of video/multimedia/talks. Thank you! We look forward to more.

**PRINCE OF PEACE SCHOOL, OLATHE, KS**

The presenters did an amazing job of handling tough topics with care, it was not awkward and I know it will make a difference little by little. Thank you!



**SACRED HEART CHURCH, SHAWNEE, KS**

# MISSIONARY ENCOUNTER

We were asked to be speakers at the Rural Catholic Youth Conference retreat. I gave the Women's Sexual Integrity talk to the group of girls. We tell them that it does not matter what they have been through or mistakes they have made, chastity is for them. We tell them that God's mercy is endless and He loves them individually so so much! After the talk I had a couple girls waiting to tell me how much they loved the talk or to say what thing in particular stood out to them in the presentation. At the end, there was a girl who appeared to be crying. As she wiped her tears I approached her and smiled and she said she wanted to thank me for speaking about all of this. She said she had never heard any of this before and that because of her past experiences she viewed herself as unworthy of God's love and mercy. She said this talk showed her that it doesn't matter that she isn't perfect that she's still loved by God.

**ALEXA SCHULTE**  
CP MISSIONARY 2023-2025







# A LETTER OF GRATITUDE

BY GREG SCHLEPPENBACH, THE CULTURE PROJECT CEO

Catholic education is everyone's responsibility: the family's responsibility, the parish's responsibility, the school's responsibility. What The Culture Project brings is one more layer of help, one more layer supporting our Catholic families, institutions, and values.

The Culture Project is not just an organization, it is a community driven by a shared mission and the heart and soul of our mission lies in our missionaries. They not only embody the spirit of our mission but also stand as living witnesses to the joy of a life lived virtuously. The Culture Project's unique and comprehensive approach, involving a rigorous selection process and robust formation, equips these missionaries as dynamic leaders who encounter, model, and teach middle and high school students about human dignity, sexual integrity and healthy use of social media, in order to help them build authentic relationships, know their inherent worth, and uphold it in others.

Through presentations, lunch encounters, Q and A sessions and many other opportunities or relationship-building,

the Kansas City team encountered over 4,661 students and 1,084 adults during the 2024/2025 school year in the Archdiocese. In addition, they have lived out the life of missionaries by immersing themselves in the Archdiocese through a variety of other engagements from praying at the local abortion center, to attending young adult events, to engaging in various corporal works of mercy. I am immensely proud of their hard work and accomplishments in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

We are keenly aware that our mission and missionaries work to supplement the tremendous work being conducted by the Archdiocese through its schools, parishes, youth and young adult ministry, religious education and pro-life programs. It is an extraordinary privilege for The Culture Project to work side by side with so many faith-filled leaders to form generations of young people who are thirsting to know who they are and what they are made for as children of God.

I want to express my profound gratitude to Archbishop McKnight and all of his staff for giving The Culture Project the privilege of serving the people of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.