



PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT Brie Hall
Holy Redeemer School
bhall@holy-redeemer.org
301-474-393

Margaret Kaplow, Public Relations Manager
National Catholic Educational Association
mkaplow@ncea.org
571.206.1533

RELEASE **Holy Redeemer School Principal Selected from 150,000 to Be Honored at NCEA 2017 Convention & Expo in St. Louis**

NCEA Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award recognizes educational leadership and excellence

Washington, D.C. — Maria Bovich, principal at Holy Redeemer School in College Park, Maryland, will receive the 2017 *Lead. Learn. Proclaim. Award* from the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) for dedication and commitment to excellence.

Mrs. Maria Bovich was chosen from more than 150,000 teachers and administrators, as well as diocesan leaders and organizations dedicated to the nation's Catholic schools. Mrs. Bovich will be recognized during the annual NCEA 2017 Convention & Expo, which will take place April 18 – 20 in St. Louis, MO. The annual award honors those whose ministry is Catholic school education and who have demonstrated a strong Catholic educational philosophy, as well as exceptional ability, dedication and results.

This prestigious award, bestowed upon forty-two recipients across the country, honors individuals who have consistently demonstrated outstanding efforts, contributions and achievements on behalf of Catholic school education.

An educator for 30 years, Mrs. Bovich has been the principal at Holy Redeemer School for the last eight years. She is well known for her motto, “*Excellence in Education with the Power of Faith.*” Under her leadership, Holy Redeemer School has witnessed enrollment growth and has had two teachers receive the archdiocesan Golden Apple Award during her tenure.

“My goal and vision is to create a school environment in which our Catholic identity seamlessly saturates all elements of our students’ lives within the school setting; academic, social, behavioral, faith formation, and extra-curricular and co-curricular programs,” said Mrs. Bovich. “Our mission statement is posted in every room and hallway ... ‘Holy Redeemer School is a Catholic parish school rooted in the Gospel values, and is committed to excellence in education with the power of faith.’”

In September 2016, Mrs. Bovich was named the 2016 Archdiocese of Washington’s Distinguished Principal of the Year, an honor presented to her for many of the same attributes and qualities that are recognized by the NCEA, said William Ryan, Superintendent for Catholics Schools, Archdiocese of Washington. “Maria embodies superior spiritual leadership, a strong commitment to academic excellence, and actively collaborates with the school community for the success of her school. She began working for the archdiocese as a special education teacher in 1977 and has been the principal of Holy Redeemer School for eight years.”

“It takes dedicated people in the schools, the dioceses, the parishes and the communities to carry out the mission of faith formation in Catholic schools. They are the living messengers of God’s purpose from generation to generation,” said Jim Pavlacka, NCEA director of Leadership Development.

About the NCEA Convention & Expo

NCEA's convention, held this year in collaboration with the Archdiocese of St. Louis, is the largest private education association gathering in the country. It draws participants from all facets of Catholic education, including elementary and secondary schools and religious education programs. The event features professional development sessions, liturgies and an exhibition of educational products and services. For more information, visit: www.NCEA.org/convention

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Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) is a professional membership organization that assists its members to fulfill their teaching mission of the Church and to lead, learn and proclaim the good news of Catholic school education. For more information, visit www.NCEA.org.