



The Institute for
**CATHOLIC LIBERAL
EDUCATION**
The Truth Shall Set You Free

Oftentimes, after a brief introduction to Catholic classical liberal arts education (or, more simply, *Catholic education*), many educators will respond with, “We already do that.” We have found this to be the case because the intentions and desires of most dedicated, well-meaning Catholic educators are in alignment with the Church’s vision. Sadly, by no fault of their own, they have been cut off from the Church’s time-tested approach, rooted in the classical liberal arts and sciences. Instead, they have been subjected to a secular, industrialized model of education that discourages teachers and fails to inspire students. It is essential to understand these differences.

Secular Education	Catholic Classical Liberal Arts Education
Ordered toward material, temporal ends	Ordered toward eternal happiness
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● fragmented, industrialized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● integration of subjects, knowledge, faith
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● focus on practical skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● restores meaning and purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● emphasis on information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● awakens wonder
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● ignores the moral imagination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● nurtures the moral imagination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● one mile wide, one inch deep	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● cultivates habits of rigorous thinking
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● lectures + testing = passive learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● constant discussion = active learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● susceptible to indoctrination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● develops intellectual freedom