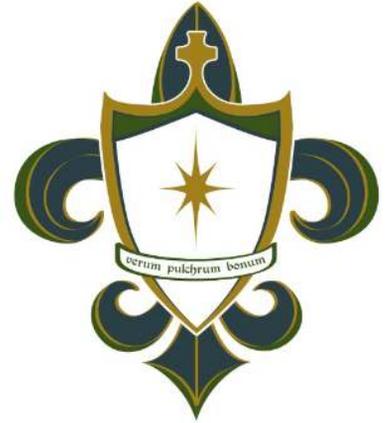




**Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School  
Classical Education in Service of the Family**

## Our Mission Statement

Under the patronage of our Blessed Mother, the mission of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School is to support parents in their role as the primary educators of their children. Our rigorous classical training draws out of students their natural desire for wisdom and virtue. By fostering a love for truth, beauty, and goodness, we seek to form disciples of Jesus Christ, set free to realize their full potential by living joyfully in accordance with the truth revealed by God through nature and the Catholic Church. Classical education seeks to foster a love for learning in every student that will inspire the student towards lifelong learning and love for Christ.



## What our supporters are saying:

"With the breakdown of the education system in our country, we are thrilled to support the Classical Catholic Education offered by Our Lady of Lourdes, because it seeks to form its students by the cultivation of wisdom and virtue, seeking the truth in all things, which recognizes Jesus Christ as the fullness of truth."

- Lourdes Classical Donor

## What our parents are saying:

"We love Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School! We are very demanding about our child's education; we want a rigorously academic curriculum with an authentically Catholic environment in all facets, and a caring community that would help our son flourish. At Lourdes we found all three!"

— Dr. Tim Gray, President, Augustine Institute; Consultant, USCCB Committee on Catholic Education

"Lourdes Classical is everything we wished we had when we were young: A vibrant and authentic Catholic Christian identity combined with the Classical approach, which nurtures a genuine love for learning and forms the mind to truly think about the material at hand. Add to this the extraordinary administration and teachers who truly believe in their mission, and you have the recipe for one of the best Catholic Schools in the nation."

— Kyle Mills, Instructor, Denver Catholic Biblical School

"Words cannot express how pleased we are with Our Lady of Lourdes. Our first grader was challenged and invigorated the entire year! The quality of the curriculum far surpassed our expectations, but our biggest surprise was the transformation in our daughter's love for the Lord. Attending Mass, reciting the Rosary, and leading prayers for our family has become her joy! Lourdes Classical is truly a gift!"

— Dr. Mario & Mrs. Therese Chavez





**Catholic Classical Education in Service of the Family**

May 25, 2017

Dear Friends of Lourdes Classical,

Thank you for your support of our school. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School is flourishing due to your generous donations and sacrifices.

We have something refreshingly different to offer the families at Lourdes Classical and we are the only Catholic Classical school in the Archdiocese of Denver. The goal of our school is first and foremost to help students on their journey towards sainthood. We are also proud that our graduates go out into the world as leaders with conviction and knowledge.

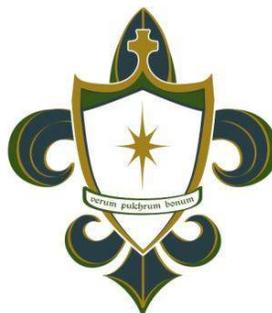
As you will see through this annual report, Lourdes Classical offers something so unique; our students and families understand what a blessing Catholic Classical education truly is for our children. In the following pages, you will read stories about the way God is working through this school and the blessings of our spiritual and academic success, the increasing trends of our enrollment, and our financial picture.

May God bless your generous hearts and continue to draw you closer to Him now and always,  
In Christ,

**Ms. Rosemary Anderson**  
Principal

**Mr. Ryan O'Connor**  
Vice Principal

**Fr. Brian Larkin**  
Pastor



# CLASSICAL EDUCATION

Classical education seeks to recover what has been largely lost; that is, return to the original purpose of education. Rather than the modern pragmatic approach of training students for college and/or a career, the classical approach sees the purpose of education as forming human beings for excellent, virtuous living.

## The Trivium

There are 3 stages to classical education: grammar, logic, and rhetoric. Each of these stages incorporates our Catholic faith and teaches the students the ultimate truth of the Incarnation and Salvation History. Each stage matches the development of the student's brain.

- The Grammar Stage (K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) – The grammar stage teaches the child the foundational knowledge for all subjects.
- The Logic Stage (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade) – This stage adds a level of depth to the information the student has acquired in the grammar stage, and gives the questioning student the right tools to answer the many questions that arise.
- The Rhetoric Stage (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) – It is during this time that the focus becomes writing and speaking beautifully and persuasively in defense of the integrated truth they have acquired.

## Why Latin?

Until the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the study of Latin has been a major point of emphasis in Western education, and this was the case even in American public schools up until 1962. As modern education turned toward utilitarianism, Latin study dropped 79% over the next 14 years. However, since 1976 Latin has been on the rise for some of the same reasons it is a major part of our curriculum at Lourdes Classical.

Latin is so highly and rationally structured and precise that students of Latin develop precision in higher order of thinking. This training helps students discover and make sense of the truth found in all content areas.

Christian worship, theological students, and discipleship formation are also greatly aided by studying what remains the official language of the Church.

Latin is everywhere. It's found not only in English, Scripture and theology, but also in history, science, literature and logic. Studies have repeatedly shown that Latin students consistently outperform their peers on standardized tests.

## Lions Showcase of Learning

At the end of each trimester, students perform poetry recitations showcasing classical education in action with each other and the audience.



## Living History Museum

Our students bring the past to life! Learning about history becomes exciting as they act out the famous people they have studied from all around the world.



## SPIRITUAL SUCCESS

Students in 6th-8th grade have been attending daily Mass 4 times/ week. Students have commented on their increased relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist and their understanding of the Old Testament in relationship to the Sacrifice of the Mass.

To date this year, we have welcomed 3 students into the Christian family through the Sacrament of Baptism!

### May Crowning

May is one of our favorite months at Lourdes Classical as it is the month of Mary. We honor Our Lady of Lourdes as the patroness of our school with a procession around the entire campus, followed by the crowning of Mary in the Grotto of our campus. The entire school participates with songs and prayers to Our Lady, and we are joined by many families and parishioners.



### All Saints Day

Devotion to the Blessed Mother, saints and angels is fostered and encouraged at Lourdes. On the feast of All Saints, our students, faculty and staff dress up as their favorite saint and process around the Lourdes Campus. Catholic culture at it's best!



## ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The chart below depicts the current 8th grade class and their overall core composite growth since 5th grade. While Classical Education teaches beyond the test, the data we capture from the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) demonstrates the students' growth and their ongoing critical thinking ability.



- Our curriculum does not differ from the curriculum set by the Archdiocese of Denver.
- Our approach in presenting materials does differ and in that we see students more engaged and excited to learn. Classical Schools are spreading across the nation as a return to the best education that is time tested and wildly successful!
- Students participate in living history museums, poetry recitations, and other methods of learning that offer experiential learning and a depth of knowledge that goes beyond the test.



# ENROLLMENT TRENDS

1. We have seen a 92% increase in enrollment since 2010-2011 school year
2. Many classes have waiting lists
3. We are trending to be at maximum capacity of 255 within 3 years

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	projected 17/18
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>220</b>



# LOURDES CLASSICAL BY THE NUMBERS

Our mission, as a ministry of the Catholic Church, is to serve all families who are seeking a Catholic Classical Education. We do not allow financial burdens to prevent families from enrolling.

Student Enrollment: 207

Number of students receiving financial aid: 104

Total Amount of Scholarship and Financial Aid:

Average Family Income: \$70,207

Average Family Size: 5 members

Cost to educate one student: \$6,100

Average Family Contribution: \$3,050

## Financial Information After FY 17

# LOOKING AHEAD

## Goals for Administration

- Continue to strengthen our Catholic Classical Program and increase awareness of its success.
- In the next 3 years increase enrollment to capacity- 255 students.
- Model for other schools to share the success of Catholic Classical Education.

## Goals for Community

- Pray for all of the families and benefactors of the school, past, present and to come!
- **COME OUT AND SUPPORT US AT THE GALA ON FEBRUARY 17, 2017!**
- Be ambassadors for the school and invite two families you know to come to our Open House or to schedule a tour.
- Check out our website for all the latest news and events that are coming up at the school. [www.lourdesclassical.org](http://www.lourdesclassical.org)

## Conclusion:

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School continues to grow and has become a model school for other schools in Denver! We are blessed with an incredible faculty who are dedicated to the spiritual, academic, physical and emotional growth of each individual student. When we began as a classical school in 2012 we were facing enrollment and financial crisis. As you can see, through our commitment to becoming the best Catholic Classical School in Denver we have faced and overcome the challenges of declining enrollment and financial peril.

God continues to bless the mission of Lourdes Classical and we are ardent in our desire to help students fall in love with the True, Good and Beautiful.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for Us!



	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	projected 17/18
<b>Pre-school</b>	7	16	18	17	21	28	26	30
<b>Kindergarten</b>	12	18	17	20	10	17	25	25
<b>1st</b>	8	15	22	15	23	14	16	25
<b>2nd</b>	6	12	15	24	15	23	22	16
<b>3rd</b>	14	11	15	16	23	13	25	20
<b>4th</b>	16	13	14	16	14	20	19	24
<b>5th</b>	10	21	20	11	14	14	24	19
<b>6th</b>	15	13	20	17	10	12	23	24
<b>7th</b>	9	14	10	16	15	10	15	22
<b>8th</b>	11	9	15	10	16	14	12	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>220</b>

