



## RANKED IN THE TOP 50 CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

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### Archbishop Stepinac Selected As One of the Top Fifty Catholic High Schools in the Nation

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. (Sept. 27, 2006) – The Catholic High School Honor Roll today announced its third annual selection of the best 50 Catholic secondary schools in America. The Honor Roll provides a powerful resource to parents and educators by acknowledging those schools that best maintain high academic standards, uphold their Catholic identities, and prepare students to actively engage in the world.

Archbishop Stepinac High School, located in White Plains, has provided a comprehensive college preparatory curriculum, grounded in Roman Catholic values and traditions, for 59 years. Part of the Archdiocese of New York, the all-boys' school (grades 9-12) was founded in 1948, through the efforts of 48 Catholic parishes in Westchester County under the leadership of their Patron, Archbishop Francis Cardinal Spellman.

Today, Archbishop Stepinac has approximately 700 students from Westchester, Bronx, New York, Rockland and Putnam Counties. The curriculum includes honors classes in English, Math, social studies, science, computer science, and Latin. Students take Advanced Placement in thirteen courses. Each year seniors have been designated National Merit Commended Scholars and AP scholars and Stepinac maintains a 100% consistent college acceptance rate. Extracurricular activities include a wide range of sports, cultural trips abroad, and a theater arts program that was featured in *The New York Times*.

When informed of the honor, President of Archbishop Stepinac – Msgr. Anthony Marchitelli stated, “As president of Stepinac High School, I am grateful that we have been recognized by the Catholic High School Roll as one of the top 50 Catholic High Schools in the United States. This is a well-deserved honor and I applaud the teachers, staff, students, and parents for their hard work and commitment to Catholic education.”

Nearly 1,300 Catholic high schools were invited to apply to the Honor Roll by completing surveys that measure academic excellence, Catholic identity, and civic education. With this high level of competition, inclusion on the Honor Roll indicates outstanding success in each of the disciplines examined.

Advisory board member Gerard Bradley, professor of law at the University of Notre Dame Law School, said the Honor Roll serves an important purpose. “High schools that are fulfilling their mission to form students morally and intellectually deserve to be recognized,” he said. “The Honor Roll brings recognition to these outstanding schools.”

The Honor Roll has certainly developed a greater awareness among Catholics that excellence in Catholic education means more than just excelling in academics,” explained Honor Roll consultant Kevin Schmiesing. “The best schools also have a vibrant Catholic identity and prepare students for fruitful vocation in politics, business, and the Church.”

The Catholic High School Honor Roll is an independent project of the Acton Institute, and international research and educational organization. The Honor Roll was produced in consultation with a national advisory board comprised of Catholic college presidents and noted Catholic scholars.