



Cor Jesu Academy

January 31, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISSOURI GOVERNOR MATT BLUNT VISITS COR JESU ACADEMY, ISSUES PROCLAMATION FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

On Thursday, January 31, 2008, Missouri Governor Matt Blunt paid a visit to Cor Jesu Academy in Affton, MO, where he issued a proclamation recognizing the vast contributions of the Catholic school system in Missouri, which is comprised of 50,000 students. During his half-hour visit, Blunt toured the private, Catholic, all-girls high school with student tour guides, junior Kendra Allenspach and senior Melissa Hollabaugh. In addition, the governor visited classes, including Anatomy and Physiology, AP Physics, Introduction to Engineering, and American Studies, an upper-level class that integrates American history and literature.

Blunt declared January 31 Catholic Schools Heritage Day in honor of the ways in which the Catholic school system “strengthens the moral character and intellectual fabric” of the state. “I was extremely impressed by the rigor of the [Cor Jesu] classrooms, and I’m certain that you will go on to serve Missouri very well,” Blunt told Student Council representatives.

“It was a privilege to have the governor visit the school and see a Cor Jesu education in action,” said Principal Sr. Kathleen Mary Coonan, ASCJ. “We were very proud to have had the opportunity to show Governor Blunt why Cor Jesu is a leader in Catholic, secondary education for young women.”

“It was a huge honor to be able to represent our school and to be a symbol for everything that Cor Jesu stands for,” said Melissa Hollabaugh ’09, one of the tour guides. Junior Kendra Allenspach agreed. “Taking Governor Blunt on a tour was a great chance to show off the school to him and show him what Cor Jesu students are made of.”

Spearheading the visit was Cor Jesu graduate Mary Beth (Bitsy) Luna Wolf ’92, who serves as the St. Louis Director for the governor’s office. “As an alumna of Cor Jesu, I am glad that I was able to arrange for Gov. Blunt to visit my alma mater,” said Wolf. “The community, students and staff at Cor Jesu Academy are truly something special, and I am thrilled that the governor was able to witness the spirit and energy that fills the halls.”

Cor Jesu Academy, which is operated by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, provides a premier education to 580 young women, fulfilling the students’ academic, spiritual, emotional and physical needs. Since it opened in 1956, Cor Jesu has educated more than 4,500 women, who are directly impacting the communities in which they live. The school has been at its present 13-acre location since 1965.

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