

National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective

Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools

Rubrics for Benchmarks

Standard 3: An excellent Catholic school adhering to mission provides opportunities outside the classroom for student faith formation, participation in liturgical and communal prayer, and action in service of social justice.

Benchmark: 3.2

Every student is offered timely, regular, and age-appropriate opportunities to reflect on their life experiences and faith through retreats and other spiritual experiences.

Level 4 Exceeds Benchmark	Retreat experiences (on or off site) are an integral part of student life at all grade levels. When age appropriate, students have the opportunity to participate in the planning of retreats or other spiritual events. Students are given frequent opportunities to participate in guided reflection on their life experiences and faith (as in such daily practices such as the Examen or Direction of Intention).
Level 3 Fully Meets Benchmark	Every student is offered timely, regular, and age-appropriate opportunities to reflect on their life experiences and faith through retreats and other spiritual experiences.
Level 2 Partially Meets Benchmark	Students are offered a retreat on an infrequent or irregular basis, with minimal opportunity for reflection on life experiences.
Level 1 Does Not Meet Benchmark	No retreat or reflective experiences are offered to all students in a timely, regular, and age-appropriate way.
Possible Sources of Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retreat schedules for class retreats• Schedules for Days of Recollection or similar special programs• School day schedules show time set aside for reflection• Observation