

Thy Kingdom Come!

## **Principles of a Regnum Christi School**

### **I. Mission of the Regnum Christi School**

Regnum Christi is an apostolic movement of apostolate within the Catholic Church comprised of Legionary and diocesan priests, seminarians, consecrated men and women, and lay people throughout the world who serve the evangelizing mission of the Church. Its mission is to promote the integral formation of apostles, inspiring them to fully live their vocation as Christian leaders within their social environment. A Regnum Christi school accepts and seeks to carry out this same mission.

The mission of the Regnum Christi school is the formation of Christian leaders who will transform society. A Regnum Christi school is a Christ-centered educational community of excellence, focused on the integral formation of its students, offering an experience of joy that comes from encountering Christ and becoming apostles eager to exercise their Christian leadership with a spirit of mission, helping the Church build Christ's Kingdom, impact culture and transform society.

### **II. Our Philosophy of Education<sup>1</sup>**

A Regnum Christi school's philosophy of education is rooted in the Christian view of the person and is shaped by the charism of Regnum Christi which aims to evangelize and form passionate apostles for Christ.

- A. We believe each person is made in the image and likeness of God, and consequently discovers his true identity in and through Christ. Thus, Christ is the criterion, center, and model of the educational process.
- B. We believe each person has a unique and transcendent mission in life and finds authentic fulfillment through a deepening personal relationship with Christ and in the giving of himself in service to others.
- C. We believe that a Catholic school is a Christian community that helps parents to fulfill their responsibility for their children's formation. Because of its loyalty to the Church, a Regnum Christi school seeks to be a sign and instrument of communion with God and with men; it is a "home and school of communion,"

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<sup>1</sup> Under our Philosophy of education, we are stating our anthropological vision of man and the core values and principles that determine the specific nature of the educative relations in the Regnum Christi schools.

as is the Church itself.

- D. We believe that our schools are called to be at the service of the Church, obedient to the Magisterium, and to actively participate with their local diocese.
- E. We believe that the Regnum Christi charism shapes our educational principles and is the animating element of our educational collaboration and community.
- F. We believe that to educate is to love. Therefore, faculty and staff are continually renewed in the experience of being loved by God to become signs and instruments of the love that God has for each one of the persons they serve. This experience of relationship and love drives and permeates all dimensions of the school's activity.
- G. We believe that to teach is more than a profession; it is a vocation and a true apostolate of formation and witness. We believe that, with the aid of grace and in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, faculty are called to imitate Christ and to educate in the way He formed his apostles.

### III. **Our Educational Model<sup>2</sup>**

We seek to educate the whole child and accompany him in his personal development, taking into consideration all the dimensions of his person. Through curricular and co-curricular programs,<sup>3</sup> we focus in a harmonically integrated and coherent manner on four dimensions of formation: intellectual, human, spiritual, apostolic.

- A. We believe that each person is called by God to be the best person he can be, therefore we strive for excellence in the formative process by encouraging continual growth and taking into consideration each students' specific talents, limitations, history and opportunities. This belief is reflected by the schools' motto *Semper Altius*.
- B. We believe that each student is unique, therefore, we accompany each one on their personal journey to be transformed into the person of Christ.
  - 1. We recognized the genuine differences and strengths of each sex, consequently we provide specific formation for boys and for girls.

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<sup>2</sup> The educational model builds from our philosophy of education and presents the specific ways in which the educational process takes place.

<sup>3</sup> Curricular programs refers to all courses on academic content, co-curricular programs refers to all other programs offered by the school to complement the academic experience.

- C. We believe that the relationship between *educators*<sup>4</sup> and students is foundational to the education process.
  - 1. We offer developmentally and formatively appropriate support and guidance for the development of students' intellectual, spiritual, emotional, psychological and social dimensions.
- D. We believe that each member of the school community<sup>5</sup> plays a unique role in the formative process and is summoned by Christ to do so through mutual collaboration, respect, witness and communion.
- E. We believe in the necessity for on-going formation and professional development to ensure our *educators* are equipped to fulfill their transcendental mission in a society characterized by rapid change.
- F. We believe that the essential relationship of the school to parents, as primary educators, is collaborating with and supporting the integral formation of their children into Christian leaders.
  - 1. We implement regular, efficient and purposeful two-way communication with parents as the best means of ensuring a unified direction in the formation of the students.
  - 2. We involve parents in the education of their children by offering formation courses to support them in their mission as the primary educators

#### IV. **Dimensions of Our Educational Model of Integral Formation**

- A. **Intellectual Formation.** We believe that truth is one, is knowable, and is the foundation and purpose of all learning, and that through a demanding, coordinated and systematic implementation of the academic disciplines, students will develop a genuinely organic and coherent view of the world, humanity and God.
  - 1. We foster the development of the mind with order, method and precision, allowing students to integrate faith and reason in their personal and passionate search for truth, goodness and beauty.
  - 2. We implement a curriculum vertically and horizontally aligned with interdisciplinary connections focused on a holistic understanding of reality

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<sup>4</sup> We consider *educators* those who have a direct and formative relation with students: teachers, coaches, counselors, instructors of formation, deans of students, formation department members.

<sup>5</sup> The school community consists of all students, faculty, staff and parents.

that allows students to make connections between what they learn and the way they live in light of a coherent worldview enlightened by faith.

3. We employ the best and proven teaching methods and resources that demonstrate love and respect for students and simultaneously allows them to be protagonists in their own learning process.

B. **Human Formation.** We believe that genuine formation is founded on the Christian understanding of the human person; therefore through practice of the responsible use of their freedom our students become mature masters of themselves and their own formation.

1. We assist our students in reaching authentic maturity that is expressed in the coherency between what they believe and what they do. This is achieved through the formation of an upright conscience to choose the authentic good, by exercising reason enlightened by faith and the will over one's actions, passions and emotions.
2. We foster a school atmosphere imbued with Christ-like charity, as conducive to the development of the students, allowing genuine friendships, relationships and community to flourish.
3. We reinforce the educational process with formative discipline and positive motivation adapted to the age and maturity of the students and simultaneously we help them to interiorize the principles and virtues behind the norms so they can be freely chosen.

C. **Spiritual Formation.** We believe that spiritual formation is achieved through an atmosphere that fosters a personal relationship with Christ, rooted in the experience of his love and the awareness of His will, which brings joy and the desire to become like Him and be His apostle.

1. We ensure that Catholic identity is prominent in the physical environment and safeguard a physical and dignified space where the sacramental presence of Christ is accessible.
2. We offer regular and developmentally appropriate experiences of prayer and access to the sacraments for all students, faculty and staff.
3. We foster a spiritual experience marked by a personal love for Christ, filial devotion to Our Lady, love and adherence to the Church and the Holy Father, and the desire for the salvation of souls.
4. We employ in the teaching of the faith a methodology that allows students to connect knowledge with their everyday lives in an experiential manner.

D. **Apostolic Formation.** We believe that apostolic formation is the expression of a personal love for Christ and the desire to collaborate in His mission by actively responding to the spiritual, material and social needs within the students' reach to transform society into one of justice and love.

1. We provide students the opportunity to analyze the issues and needs of their local community and of the world, and to respond by proposing and developing apostolic projects, as developmentally appropriate.
2. We offer concrete leadership and apostolic programs that channel youthful energy and enthusiasm and that transform students into confident and effective leaders.
3. We give students the opportunity to lead and participate in school programs as a means to develop their leadership skills and disposition towards service.

**V. Pastoral Dimension to the School Community**

- A. We believe that our mission to evangelize extends to the whole school community, therefore we offer pastoral programs and faith formation to teachers, staff and parents.
- B. We foster the development of healthy faith communities of teachers, staff, parents and families through school activities and events.

**VI. Leadership and Governance**

- A. We believe that the leadership and governing bodies of a Regnum Christi school hold themselves responsible and accountable for the school's faithful living of its mission and identity.
  1. The school's governing documents are structured to commit the school to living the RC School mission and identity.
  2. The schools' governing board makes decisions and establishes policy based on the mission and identity of Regnum Christi schools.
  3. The school regularly assesses its alignment with the mission and identity of an RC School and works to continually to more fully live it.
- B. We believe it is essential that the members of the school leadership have a deep understanding and appreciation of the Regnum Christi charism and witness to it.

- C. We believe that the school operates in communion and collaboration with the Regnum Christi Movement at the local level.
- D. We believe that the members of the school leadership are called to promote a style of work according to the Regnum Christi charism.
  - 1. We promote teamwork and collaboration among faculty and staff, building a culture of mutual trust and respect.
  - 2. We promote accountability, implementing plans and procedures that are goal-oriented, ordered, and that are subject to assessment and evaluation.
  - 3. We implement an organizational model that pays close attention to the distribution of resources both human and physical as important components to the overall formation of the students.
  - 4. We ensure that the school's physical environment contributes to the integral formation of students and thus is marked by safety, natural lighting, beauty, elegant simplicity, order, functionality and cleanliness.

**Some bibliographical references utilized in elaborating this document:**

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