

EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION



ABERDEEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

All Faiths Welcome

Who We Are

A small school offering a unique Catholic experience.

A one-of-a-kind school built on Catholic traditions, Roncalli offers a positive, prayerful take on private education. Faith is at the center of all that we do, and a prime focus of the experience we offer.

We offer a full variety of activities, fine arts, and athletic programs, so there's something to fit most every student. We teach STREAM, which is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) but with Religion and Arts added.

With under 500 total students across primary, elementary, junior high, and high school, our class sizes stay small. We maintain a family-like atmosphere as we prepare our students for college, career, and a life spent in spirituality.



Aberdeen Catholic School System

1400 N. Dakota St.
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-226-2100
aberdeenroncalli.org

GRADES
PreK-12

TOTAL STUDENTS

470

STUDENT/TEACHER RATIO

10:1

SCHOOLS

3

NAMED AFTER

**POPE JOHN
XXIII**

ALL GRADES PARTICIPATE IN

STREAM

THE ONLY PREK-12 STEM CERTIFIED SCHOOL
IN THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

OUR UNIQUE History

Catholic education has served Aberdeen for nearly 125 years.

The first Catholic school was established inside Sacred Heart Church in 1886, and a freestanding school was built a few years later.

Roncalli High School was established in 1964. Roncalli Junior High, grades 7 and 8, was established in 1969 at Sacred Heart School. In

1988, those students moved to the high school, which became Roncalli Junior/Senior High School.

In 1980, the Aberdeen Catholic School System was consolidated and Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Schools were renamed Roncalli. Kindergarten was also added to the educational program. In the 1988-89 school year, the Roncalli Sonshine Patch Preschool/Daycare Program was created. In 2002-2004, new facilities were constructed for Roncalli Primary School and Roncalli Elementary School.



DEFINED BY Faith

Without Faith, there is no Roncalli.

It is central to everything we do. Each and every day, our students attend religion classes. They pray in class daily, and worship in school-wide masses weekly. Outside the classroom, students practice what they learn through Christian service to the community.

Our commitment to faith is also apparent in the way priests can constantly be found walking the halls, talking to students, and sharing God's word.

As a ministry of Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Parishes in Aberdeen and under the auspices of the Sioux Falls Diocese, the Church is the defining element of a Roncalli education.



People describe Roncalli as a family, but for me, this idea takes on even greater meaning. Not only am I a Roncalli alum, my dad and his siblings, my siblings, my cousins, and my own children are also proud Roncalli graduates.

STEPHANIE LITZEN
RONCALLI GRAD, PARENT, AND TEACHER



STUDENT Volunteerism, Retreats and Ministry

Volunteerism

Every student, appropriate to their grade, is asked to spend a minimum number of hours volunteering. Half of these hours are spent in service to the church, the other half in the community at large. These include working at a food pantry, the school owned second hand store, shoveling snow, raking leaves, and other jobs.

Volunteer hours required per grade

7 th — 12 hours	10 th — 20 hours
8 th — 16 hours	11 th — 22 hours
9 th — 18 hours	12 th — 24 hours

Retreats

Starting at 7th grade and continuing through senior year, retreats are a big part of spiritual development at Roncalli. Each class has their own focused time together, either at a local home or one of the two local parishes. This is a special, beloved time for students, when they can grow closer to God.

Campus ministry

An area at the school is dedicated to campus ministry. Students come to relax, talk through problems, and build vital relationships.



STREAM

In a world that's growing more and more complex, today's students need technical knowledge and skills.

Roncalli believes in providing education focused on the principles of **STEM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) with a couple needed improvements.

We've heavily invested in **STREAM**, a curriculum that teaches the essential four disciplines above, but also adds **Religion** and **Arts**. To us, this modification leads to well-rounded students and the proper focus on God.

- Roncalli is the only PreK-12th STEM certified school in the state of South Dakota.
- 7th and 8th graders take a STREAM exploratory class, while high schoolers can choose from STREAM, Multimedia Design, Robotics, Computer Programming 1 & 2, and Senior Capstone.
- All our STREAM teachers are certified with a 12 to 15 credit course on teaching student led classes.

Dual Credit Courses

One good way to save money on a college education: earn credits while in high school. Roncalli offers dual credit courses that allow our students to build toward enrollment in South Dakota universities and tech schools. In the case of our 2021 graduating class, 78% of students earned such credits and got a big jump on their freshmen year.

SEE OUR REGISTRATION BOOK FOR A FULL LIST OF AVAILABLE COURSES.

ACT Scores

We're proud to say our student scores are higher than the statewide and Aberdeen Public School averages. Since 2018 our scores have been at least 2 points higher than the national average!

High School Preview

We ask Roncalli 8th graders to spend some time making a four year plan for their upcoming high school experience. It helps them choose the right classes and enter their high school experience with more intent and purpose.

Laptops

All students grades 7 - 12 receive a Chromebook to use with homework, studying, collaboration, research, and more!

Financial Aid

As a ministry of Sacred Heart and St. Mary's, over half of the cost of each student's education is subsidized. Our goal is to make a Catholic education available to any family who chooses it. Annually, Roncalli offers \$100,000 in tuition assistance for K-12. Numerous generous donors have established tuition scholarships at Roncalli. Tuition assistance is also available through the state.



Activities & Fine Arts



Activities for Every Student

92% of students participate in an activity, athletics, or fine arts.

The Drama program has produced one act plays that have qualified for state competitions for ten straight years. Many times, the play was also awarded with a “Superior” designation.

Our Oral Interpretation team received an award of excellence and numerous students awarded “Superior” at state competition.

We have an All-State chorus and marching band, winning gold awards at Gypsy Days, Arlington, Groton and Aberdeen.

Our Robotics and Lego League teams were the 2020 North Dakota state champions and 2018 Nebraska state champs.

Roncalli has a new Esports team, and it’s already top rated.

Trapshoot team finished 2nd in state last year.

The Dance team has been selected to perform at state basketball tournaments.

Our Cheer team won “Spirit of 6 award”.

Fine Arts

- Band
- Debate
- Drama
- Oral Interpretation
- Vocal

Activities

- Campus Ministry
- Cavalier Club
- Cheer Team
- Dance Team
- E-Sports
- Jazz Band
- Journalism and Yearbook
- Liturgical Ministries
- Liturgical Music
- National Honor Society
- Retreat Team
- Robotics
- SADD
- Sound Crew
- Student Council
- TATU
- Trapshoot

Athletic Achievement



A tradition of excellence

- **Recent team champions:**
2021 Girls Basketball, 2015 Boys Basketball, 2015 Boys Golf, 2014 Wrestling, 2012 Girls Soccer.
- Individual champions in both golf and tennis.
- Most Roncalli programs have qualified for state in recent years, including Girls and Boys Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Volleyball, and Track.

Roncalli received the SDHSAA (South Dakota High School Activities Association) "Academic All-State" award, given to schools in which all students enrolled in varsity athletics and fine arts achieve a combined grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

We're proud of our strong Athletic participation rate (89%). Everyone at Roncalli is encouraged to play.

Athletics Programs

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Boys Basketball | • Girls Basketball |
| • Boys Cross Country | • Girls Cross Country |
| • Boys Golf | • Girls Golf |
| • Boys Soccer | • Girls Soccer |
| • Boys Tennis | • Girls Tennis |
| • Boys Track & Field | • Girls Track & Field |
| • Cheerleading | • Gymnastics |
| • Competition Cheer | • Hockey |
| • Competition Dance | • Volleyball |
| • Football | • Wrestling |



I love playing football, basketball and running track at Roncalli. We are a smaller school, so I get a chance to try a lot of different things.

M, SOPHOMORE CLASS





**You can go
anywhere
from here.**

Class of 2021 after graduation

78%
4 YEAR
SCHOOL

11%
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE

7%
WORKFORCE

4%
MILITARY

A Roncalli education builds the foundation for a life full of learning and personal development.

The Roncalli teachers are awesome! I always know they will help with anything I need.

J, SENIOR CLASS

The staff is so supportive and helpful towards their students. I genuinely feel loved by my teachers and like being in school.

E, SOPHOMORE CLASS

Continuing Education

A few of the places our graduates have continued their education at include:

- St. John's University
- College of St. Benedict
- Northern State University
- Creighton University
- South Dakota State University
- University of South Dakota
- Black Hills State University
- Arizona State University
- Dakota Wesleyan
- Dakota State University
- Notre Dame
- Presentation College
- University of Mary
- Mitchell Tech
- Lake Area Technical College
- Southeastern Tech
- Mankato State University
- University of Nebraska
- Grand Canyon University
- University of Denver
- University of Southern California
- Augustana University
- Various branches of the military



LET'S MAKE
This Work

OUR PROMISE

If you sincerely wish to come here, we'll do everything we can to make it work.

What's Next?

To learn all about Admissions, Enrollment, Financial Aid, and Scholarships, simply go to:
aberdeenroncalli.org/admissions

Schedule a Visit

Schedule a school tour by visiting www.aberdeenroncalli.org or call 605-226-2100.

Apply Online

www.aberdeenroncalli.org/admissions/enroll

Questions?

Call: 605-226-2100

Online: www.aberdeenroncalli.org

Email: info@aberdeenroncalli.org

Learn more about Roncalli at **ABERDEENRONCALLI.ORG**





Get in touch to schedule your visit today.
We look forward to seeing you soon!



Aberdeen Catholic School System
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Aberdeen, SD 57401
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abernethyroncalli.org

Scan the
code to
schedule
your visit!

