



ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE-JUNEAU
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 22, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us always.

As your Archbishop, I take seriously and with humility the responsibility to serve in the role of Shepherd to the people of the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau. In the name of Jesus, our Lord and with the people of God, I seek to work together in truth and charity with civility and love. I write to you to ensure clarity and transparency.

Since the creation of the new Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau last year, I have been in dialogue with affiliated institutions of the Archdiocese to formalize their relationship to the Catholic church. I am writing today to inform you about Holy Rosary Academy.

The Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau is a new archdiocese, distinct from the former Archdiocese of Anchorage. Pope Francis appointed me to serve as the competent ecclesiastical authority for all Catholics and Catholic institutions, schools, and organizations within its territory. I and my staff have been in dialogue with the members of the Holy Rosary Academy Board of Trustees for the past six months.

If Holy Rosary Academy wishes to be recognized as a Catholic school by the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau, it must recognize the full scope of this authority under the teachings and law of the Catholic Church and meet the minimum standards for Catholic schools in the Archdiocese. I informed the Holy Rosary Academy Board of Trustees of the minimum standards in an April 20, 2021, letter, which I have attached to this letter.

I am not interested in controlling the personnel, curriculum, or business matters of Holy Rosary Academy. But I am obligated to protect the interests of all of the People of God in this Archdiocese, including those served by any Catholic school. This is why I insist that the members of the Holy Rosary Academy Board of Trustees accept the minimum standards, some of which are substantially similar to the conditions required by prior Archbishops of Anchorage.

I remain hopeful that the members of the Holy Rosary Academy Board of Trustees will agree to the minimum standards by October 25, 2021. I hope to be able to support Holy Rosary Academy as a Catholic school for many years to come.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Andrew E. Bellisario, C.M.
Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau



ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE-JUNEAU
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

April 20, 2021

Mr. Sam Wolfe, Chairman
Board of Trustees
Holy Rosary Academy
1010 West Fireweed Lane
Anchorage, AK 99503

RE: Recognition of Holy Rosary Academy as a Catholic School
within the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

On May 19, 2020, Pope Francis united the Archdiocese of Anchorage and the Diocese of Juneau and erected the new ecclesiastical circumscription of the Metropolitan Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau. At the same time, the pope appointed me the first Metropolitan Archbishop for the new archdiocese and the ecclesiastical province of Alaska. The Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau was inaugurated and I was installed on September 17, 2020. As the duly appointed and installed Metropolitan Archbishop of this archdiocese, I am the competent ecclesiastical authority for all Catholics and Catholic institutions, schools, and organizations within its territory.

Our Lady of the Rosary – Alaska, Inc. d/b/a Holy Rosary Academy was granted the use of the term “Catholic” and affiliated with the former Archdiocese of Anchorage in written agreements from former archbishops of Anchorage. To continue to bear the name Catholic School in the new Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau pursuant to Canon 803, Holy Rosary Academy must obtain my written consent to such status before July 1, 2021.

Recognition by the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau

I will grant Holy Rosary Academy the status of a Catholic School and consent to the use of the term “Catholic” by Holy Rosary Academy pursuant to Canon 803, provided that the Board of Trustees of Holy Rosary Academy expressly adheres to and fulfills the following terms and conditions:

1. **Competent Ecclesiastical Authority.** Holy Rosary Academy acknowledges that pursuant to the Code of Canon Law, the Metropolitan Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau is the competent ecclesiastical authority who may grant, restrict or deny the use of the term “Catholic” for schools within the territory of the Archdiocese.
2. **Regular Communications.** Holy Rosary Academy must maintain regular, ongoing communications with the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau, and must obtain written approval of its curriculum by the Archbishop or his designee at least every three years. Holy Rosary Academy shall promptly comply with, and respond to, any communication and/or request from the Archbishop or his designee.

3. Ministry Clearance Policy. Holy Rosary Academy shall comply with the “Ministry Clearance Policy ‘Vetting’ for Visiting Clergy, Religious, Laity, and Ministry Groups.”

4. Approval of Teachers of Religion. I reserve the right of the local Ordinary under canon 805 to appoint or approve the teachers of religion at Holy Rosary Academy and, if religious or moral considerations require it, to remove them or require that they be removed.

5. Liaison. I will appoint an ex officio full member of the Board of Trustees of Holy Rosary Academy effective July 1, 2021 to serve as my liaison to ensure that the conduct of Holy Rosary Academy is consistent with the educational mission of the Catholic Church.

6. Safe Environment. Holy Rosary Academy recognizes its responsibility to ensure the safety and protection of all of its students and to provide a safe environment.

a. Holy Rosary Academy shall require its faculty, staff, and volunteers to review, acknowledge, and comply with the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau Pastoral Policies, promulgated on September 17, 2020, including Part A-Standards of Conduct and Part B-Sexual Misconduct Policies (“Safe Environment Policies”), and any revisions and/or amendments to those policies that are promulgated in the future.

b. Holy Rosary Academy shall require all newly hired individuals, including volunteers, to pass a criminal background check in accordance with Archdiocesan policy. This must be completed as part of the hiring process and prior to beginning employment or volunteer service. Additionally, Holy Rosary Academy shall ensure its faculty, staff and volunteers pass a criminal background check completed at least every five years. The criminal background check process shall be approved by the Archdiocesan Office of the Chancellor.

c. All faculty, staff and volunteers at Holy Rosary Academy will complete Safe Environment training prior to the start of their employment or volunteer service at Holy Rosary Academy and on a biennial basis (every two years) in accordance with Archdiocesan policy. Holy Rosary will provide Safe Environment training to all of its students on an annual basis. The curriculum of the Safe Environment training must be approved by the Archdiocese.

d. Holy Rosary Academy shall notify the Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Safe Environment of any known sexual offender, pursuant to Safe Environment Policies and Alaska state law, who seeks access to school grounds or buildings.

7. Health and Safety. Holy Rosary shall comply with all other health and safety measures promulgated by the Archbishop which apply to all Catholic schools within the territory of the Archdiocese.

8. Indemnification and Hold Harmless.

a. Effective as of July 1, 2021, Holy Rosary shall indemnify the Archdiocese and hold the Archdiocese harmless if the Archdiocese is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, and in any inquiry or investigation that could lead to such an action, suit or proceeding, against any and all liabilities, obligations (whether known or unknown, or due to become due or otherwise), judgments, fines, fees, penalties,

interest obligations, deficiencies, other actual losses (for example, verifiable lost income related to time spent defending such claim or action) and reasonable expenses (including, without limitation amounts paid in settlement, interest, court costs, costs of investigators, reasonable fees and expenses of attorneys, accountants, financial advisors and other experts) incurred or suffered by the Archdiocese in connection with such action, suit or proceeding arising out of or pertaining to any actual or alleged action or omission by Holy Rosary Academy. Each such liability, obligation, judgment, fine, fee, penalty, interest obligation, deficiency, other actual losses, and reasonable expenses being referred to herein as a "Loss," and collectively as "Losses." Any Loss incurred by the Archdiocese shall be paid by Holy Rosary Academy on a regular monthly basis.

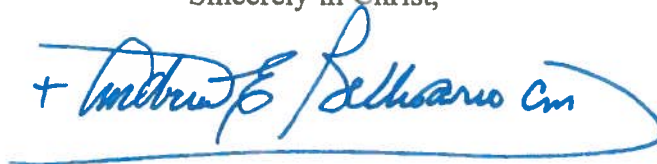
b. Holy Rosary Academy shall maintain an insurance policy or policies providing general liability insurance with respect to the acts or omissions covered by this Agreement and the Archdiocese shall be covered as a named insured entity in accordance with the terms of such insurance policy or policies to the maximum extent of coverage available.

9. Annual Compliance Reviews. The Archdiocese will conduct an annual compliance review of the terms and conditions of the Archbishop's recognition of Holy Rosary Academy as a Catholic school within the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau. This will allow the Archbishop the opportunity to continue this recognition and/or modify its terms and conditions, if necessary.

Acknowledgment of Terms and Conditions by Holy Rosary Academy Board of Trustees

If the Board of Trustees resolves to adhere to the terms and conditions written above, please provide me with acknowledgment of this recognition by the Board of Trustees via a copy of a resolution adopted at a Board of Trustees meeting and by the signature of the Chair of the Board of Trustees below on behalf of the Board of Trustees no later than June 30, 2021. Also, please include verification of insurance and indemnification no later than June 30, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Pat Travers, the Vicar General at (907) 723-7303 or ptravers@caa-ak.org.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Andrew E. Bellisario C.M." The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a blue oval.

Most Reverend Andrew E. Bellisario, C.M.
Archbishop of Anchorage-Juneau

Our Lady of the Rosary – Alaska, Inc. d/b/a Holy Rosary Academy shall adhere to the foregoing terms and conditions for qualification and recognition as a Catholic School within the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau.

Sam Wolfe
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Date