



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
**OF CHARLESTON**

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

## PRESS RELEASE — *For Immediate Release*

media@charlestdioocese.org | 843.261.0535 | **April 28, 2023**

### Catholic Conference issues statement on ESA passage

**The South Carolina Catholic Conference released the following statement regarding the state General Assembly's passage of S. 39: the Educational Scholarship Trust Fund (ESAs).**

"The South Carolina Catholic Conference affirms its strong support for educational reform and is grateful that the General Assembly has passed legislation that gives families greater educational opportunities.

"The Catholic Church teaches that education is essential to the development of the human person, and parents are the first and primary educators of their children. As such, parents have the right to make decisions that support quality and personalized learning for their families. ESAs honor and uphold this right.

"ESAs give parents the freedom and funding to select the best learning environment for their children's individual needs. This program will help qualifying families who are most in need of support in our state.

"Quality and equal educational opportunities are the birthright of every child. Every child deserves to receive an education that prepares them to reach their full, God-given potential.

"ESAs and other initiatives that recognize the needs of South Carolina communities will help progress education in our state.

"We are excited to see the transformation of education in the Palmetto State and pray for a future where all families are provided equal opportunities to excel in all aspects of life, especially those which involve their formation and growth."

For questions, please contact (843) 261-0535, or [media@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:media@charlestdioocese.org).

Contact: [media@charlestdioocese.org](mailto:media@charlestdioocese.org) or (843) 261-0535.

#### ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

Founded in 1820, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston is comprised of 114 parishes and missions, 32 Catholic schools, and 350,000 people. It encompasses the state of South Carolina.

###