Dear Father,

You are invited to participate in a study, *Factors Affecting Perceptions of Catholic Elementary Schools and Regionalization by the Priests of the Archdiocese of New York*. I am a Catholic School Superintendent in the Diocese of Gaylord, Michigan, and I am currently completing my doctoral degree from the Catholic University of America. I am a 24-year veteran educator of Catholic Schools. For seventeen years I also attended Catholic schools for my elementary, secondary, and collegiate education.

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the perceptions of priests in the Archdiocese of New York of Catholic Elementary schools in the areas of effectiveness, value, finance, and governance. The study will gather data about the factors affecting priests’ perceptions of Catholic elementary schools in light of the regionalization of Catholic Elementary schools by the Archdiocese of New York. The Catholic University of America has approved this study as it presents no risk for participants and adds valuable research to Catholic education.

This study has been approved by the Archdiocese of New York. I am hopeful that you will take 5-10 minutes to complete the following brief survey. Your responses will provide important data for Catholic educators in preparing for the future of Catholic schools. When you submit your responses, they will be returned directly to me. The surveys will remain confidential and anonymous as it will not be possible to track who has or has not completed the survey. By completing the online survey, you are giving your consent. If you choose to participate, please fill out your survey as soon as possible.

Your participation is voluntary, anonymous, and confidential conforming to the informed and consent requirements for the Protection of Human Subjects at The Catholic University of America.

I have tremendous respect for your work on behalf of His kingdom, and I am very thankful for your consideration. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Prayerful regards,

Mr. Michael Buell

[34buell@cua.edu](mailto:34buell@cua.edu)

To take the survey click following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ArchNYSurvey>