



SHRINE CATHOLIC Schools

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shrine Catholic Schools Names Next CYO Athletic Director

New leader set to inspire next generation of athletic excellence



ROYAL OAK, Mich. – August 5, 2021 – With another exciting competitive season of fall sports set to begin in the coming weeks Shrine Catholic Schools welcomes Mr. Eric Gardner as its next Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Athletic Director (AD).

“Eric stood out among the many pool of qualified candidates,” said James Mio, Shrine Catholic High School and Academy principal. “Eric’s passion for Catholic education coupled with a strong teaching and coaching background made him an excellent choice to lead Shrine’s successful CYO program which is supported by the Shine Catholic Grade School and Academy Dads’ Club.”

Mr. Gardner joins the Shrine community after serving as CYO AD and Physical Education teacher, most recently at Bloomfield Hills St. Regis Elementary School. Eric has managed an average of thirty teams each school year at St. Regis and has had a history of motivating student athletes to their fullest potential at Anderson Middle School and Berkley High School (both in Berkley).

“It has been said that Shrine fosters a championship culture. I am so impressed with Shrine’s championship record and am humbled to join this amazing community,” said Gardner.

“Our CYO program has long held a reputation for developing strong athletes,” said Joanne Swan Jones, Shrine Catholic Head of Schools. “I have every confidence that Eric will further Shrine’s athletic legacy.”

Shrine is set to unveil its new turf athletic field on its’ high school and academy campus. The field will be home for all Shrine student athletes. The 2021-2022 CYO sports season is set to officially begin in late August. To learn more about CYO sports at Shrine Catholic Schools please visit shrineschools.com.

About Shrine Catholic Schools and National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica

Shrine Catholic Schools are parish schools of the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica in Royal Oak, Michigan. Founded in 1934, the schools provide a co-educational Christ-centered learning environment for Pre-K through 12th grade, with a focus on excellence in college preparatory education as well as extracurricular activities and many after-school programs and clubs. The National Shrine of the Little Flower, named a minor Basilica in 2015 by Pope Francis, was founded in 1926 and serves a parish of approximately 4,200 families in and throughout the Metro-Detroit area.

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