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New Catholic High School Acquires Land

Archbishop José Gomez announced a major step forward in opening John Paul II Catholic High School with the Archdiocese of San Antonio's purchase of a parcel of land in northern Schertz. In making the announcement, Archbishop Gomez said, "We are happy that we now have a home for this Catholic high school that will meet the academic and spiritual needs of so many families in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. We look forward to its opening in August of 2009."

The 53-acre site on which the school will be built is located off Friesenhahn Road and FM 482. Dr. Alex Urteaga, head of the Building Committee for the school, said the site was chosen for its easy access from the entire region. Urteaga further explained, "Schertz, New Braunfels, Converse, and Seguin all have wonderful Catholic elementary schools, and now parents will be able to send their students to a quality Catholic High School closer to home."

This new Catholic high school will be built in the shadow of the historic, 144 year-old St. Joseph Chapel, giving the school's students a daily reminder of the long and rich history of the Catholic Church in the community. Sister Carla Marie Lusch, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese of San Antonio, said, "The purchase of the land begins to make even more concrete the vision the families and the archdiocese have for this school. It will truly be a blessing to the communities it will serve."

The school council was assisted in this venture by Carl R. Olson, Jr., ALC, CCIM of Olson Properties, Inc., a company that has had considerable experience and success in site selection and consultation services for all segments of the real estate industry with a focus on commercial properties and transitional land in the San Antonio Metro Area and South Central Texas.

Mr. Craig Zgabay, the president of the school council, indicated that the school will open with freshmen and sophomore classes. He said, "The school will offer a classical education with advanced placement and dual credit opportunities for students." Plans also include having extra-curricular activities available to students in the school's first year of operation.

A series of meetings is scheduled for parents of interested students. These will be held at area schools and parishes during the month of October. For more information visit the school website, www.johnpaul2chs.org.