



The Institute for  
**CATHOLIC LIBERAL  
EDUCATION**  
The Truth Shall Set You Free

Oftentimes, after a brief introduction to Catholic classical liberal arts education (or, more simply, *Catholic education*), many educators will respond with, “We already do that.” We have found this to be the case because the intentions and desires of most dedicated, well-meaning Catholic educators are in alignment with the Church’s vision. Sadly, by no fault of their own, they have been cut off from the Church’s time-tested approach, rooted in the classical liberal arts and sciences. Instead, they have been subjected to a secular, industrialized model of education that discourages teachers and fails to inspire students. It is essential to understand these differences.

<b>Secular Education</b>	<b>Catholic Classical Liberal Arts Education</b>
Ordered toward material, temporal ends	Ordered toward eternal happiness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● fragmented, industrialized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● integration of subjects, knowledge, faith</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● focus on practical skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● restores meaning and purpose</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● emphasis on information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● awakens wonder</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ignores the moral imagination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● nurtures the moral imagination</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● one mile wide, one inch deep</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● cultivates habits of rigorous thinking</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● lectures + testing = passive learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● constant discussion = active learning</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● susceptible to indoctrination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● develops intellectual freedom</li> </ul>