

Dear Parents –

Greetings from the Schools Office! I'd be remiss if I didn't begin this message with a heartfelt thank you for the decision you have made to choose a Catholic school for your child's education. It never comes without sacrifice – and seldom in small amounts. So, we thank you!

We are also blessed that so many others – donors, parishes and parishioners – have chosen to make a similar sacrifice. And it is because of their generosity that we are able to provide this tuition assistance opportunity for families in need. We thank them all!

All Saints	Our Lady of Fatima	St. John Neumann
Divine Mercy	Sacred Heart Cathedral	St. Joseph (Norris)
Holy Ghost	St. Albert the Great	St. Mary (Oak Ridge)
Immaculate Conception	St. Francis (Townsend)	St. Theresa of Kolkata

Other parishes in our region support this fund as well: Holy Family, Holy Trinity, St. John XXIII, St. Mary (Athens), St. Mary (Gatlinburg), St. Therese (Clinton) and St. Thomas.

And in no insignificant way, we are also blessed with resources provided by the Catholic Education Trust Fund, St. Mary's Legacy Foundation and two different 2nd Collection efforts.

As a result, this **Tuition Assistance** fund (known as the Knoxville Regional Catholic Schools Operating Fund – KRCSOF) is administered by our area pastors with assistance from many. And based on information you provide, recommendations for assistance are offered. Once approved by the pastors, tuition support is distributed through the respective schools. And just as every student is unique, so is every family's financial situation.

This is our diocese; these are our parishes, and their lifeblood is our families. They flourish when all of us participate, celebrate and pray together. Whichever you choose, I don't have to tell you they provide so much more than money for the fund. So, we ask all to please pray for and be an active part in whatever way you can.

Please note: As you know, each of our schools has a tuition rate for Catholic families as well as a different one for those of other faiths. We are blessed to offer this more affordable Catholic rate to those who belong to one of the above-mentioned parishes. As you would expect, there is a process for determining that and we thank you in advance for completing the **PARISH STEWARDSHIP FORM**. Submitting this completed form is the only way to know which of our families should receive the Catholic rate of tuition.

The theorems of Geometry and the rules of English grammar are the same worldwide – those are not why we offer Catholic schools and they're certainly not why you have chosen them. There is so much more ... He is so much more. Please pray for them as we will pray for you.

George Valadie
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Diocese of Knoxville