



The Diocese of Knoxville
Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee
Catholic Schools Office

September 30, 2020

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

I would like to extend my warmest regards and sincere gratitude for your commitment in providing your child(ren) with a Catholic school education; it is a gift to your children that bears fruit eternally. It seems that we have just begun this school year, yet we are already making definitive plans for the 2021-2022 school year. The Diocese of Knoxville remains dedicated to Catholic school education, as it is essential to fulfilling the evangelizing mission shared by all in our Catholic community. I deeply appreciate the sacrifices you make to embrace Catholic school education. I also recognize, just as you have made sacrifices, many parishioners and supportive donors throughout the region have demonstrated their visible commitment to our Catholic school ministry through their faithful service and gifts of monetary value.

Our Diocese is richly blessed to have supportive parishes who contribute monetary support to the Knoxville Regional Catholic Schools Operating Fund (KRCSOF). Along with providing the standard subsidy for every Catholic child in Catholic school, this fund provides additional financial scholarship to our families who desire a Catholic school education for their children, but might not otherwise be able to afford one. The KRCSOF fund is administered by Knoxville-area pastors, with the assistance of Diocesan personnel. Based on the parental information given on the application, evaluators provide recommendations on the amount of tuition support needed for each family to the parish pastors. Each situation is unique and the evaluators work diligently to process the information justly. Once approved by the parish pastors, the tuition support provided by the parishes is distributed to the respective schools through the KRCSOF.

Without the contributions from the following parishes to the KRCSOF, our Catholic schools would not be able to help Catholic families afford Catholic school education for their children:

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| -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. Teresa of Kolkata |

Other parishes in our region who support the KRCSOF are Holy Family, Holy Trinity, St. John XXIII, St. Mary (Athens), St. Mary (Gatlinburg), St. Therese (Clinton) and St. Thomas.

Please know, every effort is made to provide a Catholic education to as many Catholic families as possible regardless of their ability to afford the tuition. The Diocese of Knoxville Catholic Schools' Office and Catholic schools continually strive to seek additional ways to support our KRCSOF. In gratitude to the generosity of our parishioners, we have been able to provide additional resources to KRCSOF from a distribution from Catholic Education Trust Fund (CETF), a grant provided by St. Mary's Legacy Foundation (SMLF), the second collection held last August, and our Catholic Schools' Raffle money. We hope to continue to increase revenues sources.

Please continue to pray for our Catholic schools, for the generosity of the parishes and for all of the children in our schools. I hope that you will also remember to support your parish with your time and talent. You and your family are in my fervent prayers.

In Christ,

Sedonna J. Prater, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools