

It is the duty and calling of Catholic parents to educate their children, and that includes grounding in the faith. Our Catholic schools provide a way for many families to fulfill that calling. At the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, we have many children and adults who have benefitted from Catholic schools. You may not realize that the parish provides financial subsidies for each of our parishioners who attend St. Jude, OLPH, or Notre Dame High School. In fact, this year we have more than 31 children from our parish attending one of these three Catholic schools. But with rising costs, the need is still great, so that most families need further assistance in order to be able to attend a Catholic school. The traditional Precepts of the Church called for all practicing Catholics to support the Church in her apostolates, which includes our Catholic schools. In the spirit of this tradition, I ask that you please support our second collection for Catholic School Tuition next weekend. Please read the information below that the Diocese of Knoxville has provided to help us understand the need.

The Catholic schools in our diocese provide spiritual and intellectual growth for 3,200 students in our two high schools and eight elementary/middle schools. The need for supplemental tuition support has doubled over the past 5 years. A record \$4.2 million in tuition support was given to families this past year.

Help ensure all children have the opportunity to enjoy a Catholic education by supporting our Catholic Schools Tuition Support Collection next weekend, August 17-18.

**A Quick Look at Catholic Schools in Our Diocese:**

- 3,200 students across 10 schools in the Diocese
  - ◇ 2 high schools
  - ◇ 8 elementary/middle schools

**The Need for Support:**

- The difference between the cost of Catholic education and our families; ability to pay continues to grow.
- The need for supplemental tuition support has doubled over the past 5 years.
- A record \$4.2 million in tuition support has doubled over the past 5 years.
- Hundreds of Catholic families in East Tennessee choose public schools for their children because they can't afford a Catholic education.
- Over the past two years, more than \$140,000 has been raised during the Diocese of Knoxville's second collection for tuition support.
- While there are many ways we seek support for our schools, no one way fully meets the growing need each year. This is why we still need your help now.
- Have you benefitted from a Catholic education yourself? - Pay it forward!

**How Can You Help?**

- Please give generously to help us ensure that all children are afforded the spiritual and academic advantages of a Catholic school education.

**There are 3 simple ways to give:**

- Place your gift in the basket at Mass on August 17-18
- Mail a check payable to:

Catholic Schools Tuition Support  
Diocese of Knoxville  
805 S. Northshore Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919

- Make a gift online at [www.dioknox.org/holler](http://www.dioknox.org/holler)

