



## The Diocese of Knoxville

*Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee*

### Catholic Schools Office

December 15, 2016

Dear Parents,

I am tremendously grateful that you are committed to providing your child(ren) with a Catholic school education. Thank you for continuing to support and have faith in this everlasting gift. Providing Catholic school education is part of our mission of evangelization which is shared by all of our Catholic community. Just as you have made sacrifices, many parishioners and supportive donors throughout the region have demonstrated their commitment to our Catholic school ministry.

Our Diocese is richly blessed to have supportive parishes who contribute monetary support to the Knoxville Regional Catholic Schools Operating Fund (KRCOSOF). Along with providing the standard subsidy for every Catholic child in Catholic school, this fund provides additional assistance to our families who desire a Catholic school education for their children but might not otherwise be able to afford one. The KRCOSOF fund is administered by Knoxville-area pastors, with the assistance of Diocesan personnel. Based on the information you provide on your 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 generously give of their time and talent to process the information you provide. Once approved by the parish pastors the tuition support provided by the parishes is distributed to the respective schools through the KRCOSOF.

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

- |                        |                         |                        |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| -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 KRCOSOF are Holy Family, Holy Trinity, St. John XXIII, St. Mary (Athens), St. Mary (Gatlinburg), St. Therese (Clinton) and St. Thomas.

In order to realize our goal that no Catholic child will be denied a Catholic school education because of a families' inability to afford the tuition, we continually strive to seek additional ways to support our KRCOSOF. In gratitude to the generosity of our parishioners, we have been able to provide additional resources to KRCOSOF from a distribution from Catholic Education Trust Fund (CETF), a grant provided by St. Mary's Legacy Foundation and the second collection in August.

Thank you again for your support of Catholic school education. Please continue to pray for our schools, for the generosity of the parishes and for all of the children in our Catholic schools. Also, please remember to support your parish with your time and talent. You and your family are in my prayers.

Because of Jesus,

Sister Mary Marta Abbott, R.S.M., Ed.S.  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

## Knoxville Regional Catholic Schools Fund

Dear Parents:

This year the Knoxville Catholic schools are introducing a new system for determining tuition support, using the FACTS Management online application. We are grateful for everyone's patience as we implement the online application on December 26, 2016. This computer analysis adds an additional look at how to size up our different families' needs. We have limited funds and are making every effort to help as many people as we can, as well as, those with the greatest need.

For the 2017-18 school year, you will be asked to **fill out an online application** and **submit documentation** (your tax returns) to FACTS. There is a **\$30 fee** to apply for tuition support which is paid online after you have filled out the application. (If you do not have access to a computer, please contact me.)

You can reach the application at this link: <https://online.factsmgmt.com/aid>. At this point, you will create an account or, if you already have a FACTS payment account, you may use that sign-on.

If you have any questions during the application process, please contact me at [lindacrawford@cctn.org](mailto:lindacrawford@cctn.org) or call me at 865-251-0494. Veronica Gil is fluent in Spanish and you may reach her at 865-251-0494 or at [veronicagil@cctn.org](mailto:veronicagil@cctn.org). There is also a **24-hour FACTS Parent Hotline** which you can call (866-441-4637) if any issues arise while filling out the application. **(Also available in Spanish)**

Once you have **filled out this application\***, **sent in the necessary documentation** and **paid the fee**, you will be contacted to meet with either myself, Veronica or one of the other evaluators. These **mandatory interviews** take place at our Division Street office unless otherwise informed. As in the past, this will be your opportunity to tell us why you feel tuition support is necessary for your family and to explain any unusual circumstances that may keep you from being able to pay the full amount of tuition. Please bring the past month's pay stubs for you and your spouse and your 2016 W-2 if you have received it by interview time.

Recommendations for tuition support can only be made after all of these actions have taken place. Tuition support is awarded after careful review of the family's financial circumstances. An application for support does not guarantee that such support can be granted. Families should apply for each new school year; *tuition support cannot be renewed automatically each year.*

**The deadline for the first round of tuition support is Friday, January 13, 2017. Please make every effort to meet this deadline, as there are not as many funds available for those who miss this deadline and apply during the second round.**

Again, feel free to call myself or any evaluator with any questions. Thank you for your commitment to giving your child the best possible education – a Catholic education.



Linda Crawford,  
Program Manager Knoxville Region Catholic Schools Fund

Evaluators: Lesley Brennan, Mary Dale, Sarah Petty, Veronica Gil

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