



SCHOLARS LEADERS SAINTS

The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

Catholic Schools Office

October 27, 2017

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Greetings as we begin preparing for the 2018-2019 school year. Thank you for your commitment to providing your child(ren) with a Catholic school education. 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 Chattanooga Deanery Catholic Schools Operating Fund (CDCSOF). Along with providing the standard subsidy for every Catholic child in Catholic school, this fund provides additional assistance to our Catholic families who desire a Catholic school education for their children but might not otherwise be able to afford one. The CDCSOF is administered by the Chattanooga-area pastors, with the assistance of Diocesan and School 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 work hard 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 CDCSOF.

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

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| -Holy Spirit | -Shepherd of the Valley | -St. Catherine | -Sts. Peter and Paul |
| -Our Lady of Lourdes | -St. Augustine | -St. Jude | -St. Stephen |
| -Our Lady of Perpetual Help | -St. Bridget | -St. Mary (Athens) | -St. Therese |

Please know we make every effort to provide a Catholic education to as many Catholic families as possible regardless of their inability to afford the tuition. We continually strive to seek additional ways to support our CDCSOF. In gratitude to the generosity of our parishioners, we have been able to provide additional resources to CDCSOF from a distribution from Catholic Education Trust Fund (CETF), a grant provided by St. Mary's Legacy Foundation (SMLF), the second collection in August, and this year we have added our new calendar/raffle money.

Please continue to pray for our schools, for the generosity of the parishes and for all of the children in our Catholic schools. Also, 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.

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