



“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42).

March 9, 2023

Parents and Guardians of St. Mary Elementary & Jr. High Students;

As a child, my mother used to hand me an envelope marked “Tuition,” a couple times a year. Each time, she would say “Your education is worth its weight in gold!” Once, she made the mistake of not sealing the envelope. I peeked! She wasn’t kidding!

God bless you and thank you for giving the blessing and opportunity to work with your child(ren). Know that I appreciate the financial sacrifice and investment that is made when choosing to provide your child or children with a Catholic education. The funds necessary to operate our school come from tuition, fees and fundraisers provided by the parents of our students and of our donors. St. Patrick’s Parishioners also invest an additional \$174,000 towards a tuition subsidy of St. Mary’s School. We recognize that, as an active St. Patrick’s parishioner you are contributing twice. In recognition of this, we offer reduced tuition rates for our In-Parish, active families. In order to be eligible for and to receive the In-Parish tuition rate the following requirements must be met:

1. You **MUST** be a registered member of St. Patrick Parish as the head of a household. Your children must also be listed in the parish family database. If you are not sure you and your family are registered, please contact the parish office at 815-284-7719 x0 to confirm your registration.
2. We **MUST** have on record that you attend mass and contribute regularly on weekend Masses. Mass attendance is an obligation but more so a blessing to receive the gifts from weekly attendance with an open heart.

We will be reviewing registrations and contributions for the period of April 2022 through July 2022 prior to the March 2023 Open House. All current St. Mary’s families will be evaluated to ensure they meet the registration and contribution criteria of an In-Parish, active family. Out-of-Parish families will be notified prior to or during the March Open House as will the St. Mary School office for proper billing for the 2023/2024 school year. Again, I thank you for the blessing that you give us in allowing us to educate your children, not only intellectually, but also spiritually! I am confident that, together with your help, the St. Mary School community will continue to grow, excel and uphold quality education and that we will have a great 2023/2024 school year!

God Bless You,

Fr. John Evans – Pastor

Mrs. Jean Spohn--Principal