



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

March 1, 2024

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

God bless you and thank you for giving us the blessing and opportunity to work with your child(ren) in our parish school. Know that we appreciate the financial sacrifice and investment that is made when choosing to provide your child or children with a Catholic education.

We have recently received questions about the difference between the “In-Parish” tuition rate, versus the “Out-of-Parish” rate. Why the discrepancy? Fair question! The funds necessary to operate our school come mainly from tuition, fees and fundraisers provided by you, the parents of our students and donors. An additional \$174,000 comes from our weekly collection taken at Sunday Mass. We recognize that, as an active St. Patrick’s parishioner, you are contributing to the life of the parish in addition to making tuition payments. In recognition of this, we offer reduced tuition rates for our In-Parish and active families.

In order to be eligible for and to receive the In-Parish tuition rate we ask that you prayerfully consider if you truly are an active parishioner. Here are some questions to help guide you in your answer.

1. Are you participating in the weekly Sunday Masses? As Catholics, we follow the precepts of the Church. God’s Third Commandment is that we refrain from unnecessary work on Sunday and participate in Mass, where we receive the most precious Eucharist.
2. Are you a registered member of St. Patrick’s, Dixon? If you are not sure you and your family are registered, feel free to contact the parish office at 815-284-7719 x0 to confirm your registration.
3. Are you providing for the needs of the Church? This is done multiple ways through the 3 T’s; Time, Talent and Treasure according to your own ability. An example of time might be daily prayer, reading scripture or sitting with our Lord in the Adoration Chapel. An example of talent is to use the gifts you have been given to feed the hungry, visit the sick, teach, console the lonely, pray for those in need or provide a helping hand. Treasure would be to share your money and material wealth with the Church and those in need.

We ask that you prayerfully reflect on your status as a parishioner of St. Patrick’s, Dixon. If you are not there yet, but would like to be, feel free to contact either of us. We are here to help! Again, thank you for the blessing that you give us in allowing us to educate your children, not only intellectually, but also spiritually! We are 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 2024/2025 school year!

God Bless You,

*Rev. John R. Evans.*

Fr. John Evans – Pastor

*Mrs. Jean Spohn*

Mrs. Jean Spohn--Principal