

May 1, 2017

Dear Parents,

Budgeting at a Catholic school is a rather complicated process! Initially, the principal creates a hypothetical budget that she/he would LOVE to have for the upcoming school year. The School Committee reviews this tentative budget and offers feedback. The principal then revises the budget based on the School Committee's recommendations. Next, the budget is reviewed by the pastor and individuals who oversee finances for the parish. Usually, changes need to be made to the school budget so that it aligns with the parish budget. Finally, the Parish Finance Council approves the school budget as part of the parish budget. Over the past three months, St. Mary's School Committee, Deacon Greg Urban (with the assistance of Sammi Spizziri), Father Russell, myself and ultimately the Parish Finance Council have diligently worked our way through this process. As of last Tuesday night (April 25), St. Mary School has a budget for the 2017-2018 school year.

There are three main sources of funding for our school: tuition, parish support, and "other", which is predominantly fundraising, donations, and other contributions. During the 2015-2016 school year, the last year that financials are available, 64.3% of our school income was from tuition, 18.7% of our income was from parish support, and 17% of our income was from "other".

Unfortunately, it has been a difficult year for St. Mary Parish because of the needed physical plant repairs. A considerable amount of money had to be invested to repair the leaking roof and remodel the crumbling front steps. Due to these capital improvements at the parish, our support from the parish must be reduced for the 2017-2018 school year by \$36,419.68 (from \$196,419.68 to \$160,000). Therefore, although the School Committee and myself would have liked to remain at a 3% tuition increase (the same increase as this school year); tuition will need to increase 3.5% for the upcoming year. For an individual student, that is an increase of \$129.00 over last year.

To maintain our high quality of education without raising tuition an exorbitant amount, these three changes will also go into effect next year:

- Our dedicated staff, who had their salary "frozen" this year at the 2015-16 rate (65% of DeKalb), will receive a 2% salary increase, based on the DeKalb School District salary scale. That means that each teacher will be receiving 67% of the amount of money that a DeKalb teacher would be making with the same degree and the same number of years experience. For example, if a DeKalb teacher is making \$100 on the salary scale, a St. Mary School teacher with the exact same qualifications will be making \$67!!! Our staff "sacrifices" to remain at our school and committed to Catholic education. For them, it is a ministry, not a job!
- Our Spanish teacher will no longer be full time with benefits. I have created two part-time positions, neither receiving benefits. That amounted to a savings of \$11,580 simply on health insurance.

- Our three-year-old preschool will now be one session only offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, instead of two sessions (Monday/Wednesday/Friday and Tuesday/Thursday). That, also, amounted to a savings of \$11,580 on health insurance.
- Our fundraising endeavors at the school will need to increase to \$83,500 from this year's budget figure of \$78,000 (which we have already surpassed due to our amazing parental support!).

In summary, St. Mary Parish has always been there to support us in the past. This year the school must work creatively to continue our tradition of educational excellence with less parish support. I have no doubts that St. Mary School families will rise to the occasion.

Thank you for your sacrifices to support Catholic education for your children,

Roseann Feldmann, Principal

**FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS FOR ADMISSION AND CONTINUED INCLUSION AT  
ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN DEKALB, ILLINOIS**

**TUITION FOR 2017 - 2018**

**Registration Fee<sup>‡</sup> (K-8):**     \$100 non-refundable registration fee per child currently enrolled  
   \$175 non-refundable registration fee per child for new students

<sup>‡</sup> After June 5th, registration fees increase to \$125 per student for currently enrolled families

**Kindergarten through Grade 8  
Parishioner Tuition Rate**

1 Child	\$ 3,811*
2 Children	\$ 6,812*
3 Children	\$ 9,307*
4 Children	\$ 11,482*

\*Non-Parishioner Tuition Rate per Child is 1.5 times Parishioner Rate

**Pre-Kindergarten – Child must be 4 Years Old by September 1, 2017**

(Not eligible for family discount)

Monday through Friday(7:50 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.)	\$ 3,825 per child (\$425/month)
Registration Fee	\$ 175 per child
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only (7:50 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.)	\$ 2,295 per child (\$255/month)
Registration Fee	\$ 150 per child

**Preschool – Child must be 3 Years Old by September 1, 2017**

(Not eligible for family discount)

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (7:50 - 10:50 a.m.)	\$ 1440 per child (\$160/month)
Registration Fee	\$ 75 per child

**Before & After School Care (Per Child)**

Monday through Friday	7:00 am to 7:45 am	\$ 3.00 per day
Monday through Friday	2: 30 pm to 5:30 pm	\$10.00 per day
Early Dismissal Days	10:50 am to 2:30 pm	\$ 8.00 per day

**FUNDRAISING PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

**St. Mary 365 Day Raffle:** Each family is required to participate in the 365 Day Raffle by selling fifteen (15) raffle tickets at \$15.00 each. Tickets are sold from September 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. The cost of any tickets not sold by the family is added to the cost of tuition on January 1, 2018.

**Family Obligations for Parishioner Rate\*:** To qualify for the parishioner rate, a family must be:

- registered parishioners at St. Mary in DeKalb, Christ the Teacher in DeKalb, or a neighboring parish that does not provide Catholic school education
- active parishioners who attend weekly Mass and financially contribute to their church

If you are affiliated with (attend and financially contribute to) a nearby Catholic parish, we will request a tuition subsidy from your pastor. We invite you to talk to and encourage your pastor to participate in the tuition subsidy by agreeing to have your affiliated parish pay this nominal amount.

If it is determined by the pastor of your parish that you are not fulfilling the obligation as set forth above, the tuition that will be charged to you will be at the non-parishioner rate.





St. Mary Catholic School  
210 Gurler Road  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Above  
&  
Beyond

Spiritually • Academically • Socially

## Tuition and Fundraising Agreement 2017-2018

Full Name of Student (PLEASE PRINT)

Grade Entering 2017-2018

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**I understand that tuition can be paid in full by August 15, 2017 or paid monthly by utilizing the SMART Tuition Program. (PLEASE INITIAL ONE BOX BELOW)**

- I will pay my tuition in full by August 15, 2017.
- I will pay my tuition in two equal payments. The first by August 15, 2017 and the second by January 15, 2017.
- I will be utilizing the SMART Tuition Program to make monthly payments. (Families need to register for SMART Tuition by going to [enrollwithsmart.com](http://enrollwithsmart.com))

**I understand that I am responsible for selling 15 calendar raffle tickets. (PLEASE INITIAL BELOW)**

- I will sell 15 raffle tickets at \$15 each by December 31, 2017. If I do not sell 15 raffle tickets, then the \$225 will be added to my tuition on January 1, 2018.

**I understand that the amount owed for tuition is based on whether or not I am a contributing member of a local Catholic parish. (PLEASE INITIAL ONE BOX BELOW)**

- I am a registered and contributing parishioner at this Catholic parish: \_\_\_\_\_; therefore, I should be charged the parishioner rate.
- I am Catholic, but I am not a registered and/or contributing parishioner at any parish; therefore, I should be charged the non-parishioner rate.
- I am not Catholic; therefore, I should be charged the non-parishioner rate.

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder: Registration fees increase to \$125 for currently enrolled students after June 5, 2017.**

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Registration Packet Emailed to Parent/Guardian on \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by Check # \_\_\_\_\_ /  Cash  Applied to SMART Date \_\_\_\_\_

School Physical Received (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Dental Exam Received (2, 6) \_\_\_\_\_





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## St. Mary School Family Directory 2017-2018

For the 2017-2018 school year, the St. Mary School Family Directory will be generated from your family information in SchoolSpeak. You must indicate whether or not you would like your family information to be included in the directory. Each family will receive a directory regardless of whether their information is included. Please follow the instructions below.

**NO.** We do not wish to have our family's information included in the family directory.

**YES.** We would like our family information to be included in the directory.

If you chose NO, please fill in your family name only, there is nothing more for you to do.

If you chose YES, please fill in your family name and check the boxes for the information you would like included in the directory.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name       Father's email       Father's cell phone

Mother's name       Mother's email       Mother's cell phone

Home Address       Home phone number

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR TUITION AND FUNDRAISING AGREEMENT**