



# *St. Jude Catholic School*

March 6, 2024

Dear St. Jude Families,

We are excited to be thinking about the 2024-2025 year. On behalf of our administration and teachers, we want to warmly welcome all of the new families along with all of our current families to St Jude for the next school year.

We know there is a lot of information in this letter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any one of us.

As you read through this information, please know that it is the priority of St. Jude that Catholic education is accessible and affordable for all families. We are excited to have strong registration numbers so far with several classes already full!

## **TUITION**

Each year tuition calculations must be approved by the Diocese and with the many changes to the calculation of tuition this approval process has taken longer than anticipated. We appreciate your patience as we work through this process. The cost for St. Jude to educate each student next year will be **\$7550**. This cost, determined after careful review of the budget by school administration and the Parish Finance Council, establishes our standard per child tuition rate. This rate allows us to continue to offer the level of excellence for which St. Jude is known and to significantly increase teacher compensation to address the current teacher shortage and competition with public schools for high-level teachers. It also allows us to cover curriculum and instruction improvements, utility and insurance costs, and facilities needs.

## **PARISHIONER/ MULTIPLE CHILD DISCOUNT**

Due to the parameters of the Indiana School Choice Scholarship Program, there is no longer a parishioner or multiple child discount.

## **TUITION ASSISTANCE**

All parish families enrolling their children at St. Jude School should apply for tuition assistance. St. Jude has consistently given generous, parish financial assistance, and intends to continue to do so. In addition, recent policy changes in the State of Indiana have been put in place to provide state funding (scholarships), to allow school choice options for a significantly large number of families.

If you qualify for school choice, you will still be responsible for the balance of the tuition due. The remaining balance will be determined in Spring of 2025 after the state releases its final amounts for Choice Scholarships. Your spring 2024 enrollment deposit will be applied to this remaining balance.

## INDIANA SCHOOL CHOICE INCOME LIMITS

Income Eligibility (AGI) Based on Household Size for the 2024-2025 School Year

<b>Choice Income Guidelines</b>	
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>400% of Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligibility Annual Household Income Limit<sup>1</sup></b>
1	\$111,444.00
2	\$151,256.00
3	\$191,068.00
4	\$230,880.00
5	\$270,692.00
6	\$310,504.00
7	\$350,316.00
8	\$390,128.00
9	\$429,940.00
10	\$469,752.00
<sup>1</sup> Add \$39,812 for each additional family member.	

### Opportunities for tuition assistance include:

- Indiana School Choice Scholarship Program (voucher; based on family income limits)
- Scholarship Granting Organization/SGO (scholarship money for qualifying families that is used as a pathway to a School Choice Scholarship)
- Parish Scholarships

In order to be eligible for Parish Scholarships, a family must be active parishioners, regularly participating in stewardship of prayer, service, and sacrificial giving within the parish. An active parishioner:

1. Participates in weekly Sunday Mass at St. Jude Church
2. Is involved in parish ministries, events, and service opportunities through both the school and the church. Active parishioners would be easily recognizable by the Pastor or parish staff as being actively involved at the parish.
3. Participates in regular offertory giving using envelopes or online giving, including pledging in any parish capital campaign and the Annual Bishop's Appeal. Your financial

support of the parish should be in proportion to the way you have been blessed. Those receiving tuition assistance are also asked to contribute what they can on a regular basis.

4. Is current on tuition payments and all associated school fees. Individual circumstances will be accommodated as possible if they are brought to the attention of the Pastor and Principal. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Those registered at other parishes without grade schools will receive a request to have your pastor review and sign an affidavit

## **FACTS**

**Families wishing to receive any source of tuition assistance or scholarships will be required to complete the confidential FACTS Grant and Aid Assessment each year.** Completing this assessment will verify how your family best qualifies for each source of tuition assistance.

We anticipate that many of you may have a range of questions about accessing different forms of tuition assistance.

- All tuition and financial assistance information will be available on the school website by March 31, 2024.
- If you have any immediate questions regarding this information, please contact Emily Nufer, our Business Office Manager at [business@stjudeparish.net](mailto:business@stjudeparish.net) or 574-291-0570.

## **FEES AND FUNDRAISING**

The non-refundable Enrollment Fee for 2024-25 will remain at \$100. Families have already submitted a \$100 per family registration deposit that will be credited towards their tuition or the remaining balance in Spring of 2024.

### **You Can Lend a Hand Fundraiser**

Our other required fundraiser is the Diocesan-wide "You Can Lend a Hand" coupon program. Each family is expected to sell \$10 per child in February.

We are a very blessed community and grateful to be able to continue our mission of living for Christ, learning for life each day.

God bless,



Father John  
Pastor



Emily Nufer  
Business Office Manager



Ana Maria Lewis  
Principal