

A Foundation of Faith



Education for the Future

February 12, 2010

Dear Parents,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for participating in the Parent Satisfaction Survey. It is clear from your responses that families are very satisfied with the quality of the education provided and the environment created here at St. Mary's School. Your general observations were particularly helpful and it is with those ideas in mind that we plan the future of our program. After receiving your feedback we have decided to expand our Middle School Curriculum to include Regents level Accelerated Mathematics and Science courses.

As we prepare for the next school year, we take into consideration many factors. Among them is our ability to provide a challenging, academic program and to maintain tuition rates at an affordable level. We understand that each of our families is experiencing the impact of the struggling economy. Together with the school board, we have created a budget which has enabled us to maintain some of the lowest tuition rates among Catholic Schools in our area. Tuition rates for students in our K-8 program will increase just slightly over 1.5 %. Such a small increase is possible due, in large part, to the increase in the Parish's financial support of the school which increased in 2009 by \$10,000 and will increase again by an additional \$5,000 in 2010.

Please remember also that sources of financial aid are available to families who qualify. Families with currently enrolled students or children transferring from another Catholic School are eligible to apply for the Lally Scholarship and the Beacon of Hope Scholarship. St. Mary's School Tuition Aid is also available due to the generosity of our parents, friends and parishioners through the penny fund. **Families must apply through FACTS online at www.factstuitionaid.com in order to be considered for any form of financial aid.** Financial Aid is not available to our Pre-K program. It is our expectation that families receiving financial aid volunteer in some way to assist our school community.

A schedule of Tuition Rates and Diocesan Fees for the 2010-2011 school year, along with registration materials, is enclosed. We encourage you to return your registration forms as soon as possible as it is likely some classes will close out.

We truly look forward to having your child continue as a vital member of our St. Mary's School family and community. As always feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have on the enclosed material.

Sincerely,

Rev. David J. Kelley, OSA
Pastor

Mrs. Mary H. Rushkoski
Principal