

**SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST RECTORY**  
**2326 Fairhill Avenue**  
**Glenside, PA 19038**

February 1, 2007

Dear Parents,

Next week we will begin registration for new students for the 2007 – 08 school year. Before the registration process begins, I would like to introduce to you, the new tuition structure that was recently approved by the Parish Finance Council. But first, allow me to provide you with some background information.

During my tenure as pastor, I have tried to keep the annual tuition increases as reasonable as possible in order to keep Catholic education affordable for the families of our parish. The cost of educating one child in our school for the current school year is \$3,600. Therefore, tuition alone does not cover the cost of educating a child. The remaining amount is made up by the contributions of our parishioners. That means that each child who attends our school is the recipient of a \$ 1,850 scholarship from the parish. You should also know that non-parishioners are required to pay the actual per capita cost of educating a student in our school because they do not contribute to the Sunday collections.

In the fall of the year, I introduced an increased offertory program in our parish. The majority of our parishioners understood the financial difficulties we face in maintaining our parish and school and they responded generously to my appeal. I am pleased to tell you that it is because of those parishioners who made a commitment to increase their weekly offering that I am able to offer a multiple-child tuition plan to you for the coming school year.

You should also know that our records indicate that approximately 30% of our school families do not contribute regularly to the Sunday collection. I am sincerely grateful to those who do make a weekly offering. Your generosity has helped us in making the multiple-child tuition plan a reality. However, we need every school family to understand that we cannot continue to depend solely on the contributions of only a segment of the school parents and other parishioners. Everyone needs to be invested in this effort. I know there are parishes that require a specific weekly contribution to supplement the school tuition. This is not a practice that I choose to adopt at this time. I prefer rather to ask you to understand that while contributing a specific amount to the Sunday collection is a personal decision, it is also a responsibility as a member of our parish.

I again urge you to take advantage of applying for a BLOCS grant for tuition assistance. We are happy to announce that once again we have successfully secured a number of business owners who have made financial contributions to this program. This significant amount of money is restricted to Saint Luke School. It is up to you, however, to apply for a BLOCS grant. If you need information concerning these tuition grants, you should contact the principal.

I applaud you for the sacrifice you make to provide a Catholic education for your child(ren). I am also confident that your child(ren) is receiving an outstanding academic education as well as a firm foundation in the Faith. I believe that with God's grace, together, we can keep Catholic education strong in the community of Glenside.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. J. Michael Flood  
*Pastor*