



Our Lady Star of the Sea School
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Pastor: Rev. Kenneth J. Gill
Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Thompson

February 2, 2022

Dear Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic School Parents and Guardians,

Through collaborative efforts of the finance committee, administration, and the advisory board, tuition and fees for our next school year have been discussed. Fr. Ken and I recognize that this past year has indeed been a difficult one, and we understand that many families are still impacted financially due to the pandemic. We have determined that a major increase in tuition at this time would negatively impact our school families, and therefore we will not be greatly increasing our tuition rates for the 2022-23 school year.

When determining tuition, we try to keep a balance between affordability for our families and the strategic needs of the school. The Catholic Schools Office requires our tuition to reflect one rate and to include the Catholic Active Parishioner Grant (CAPG) to offset that rate. After careful review of all considerations, the tuition for the 2022- 2023 school year will be \$7,770 per child (a 5% increase of \$370). While this percentage does not equal the current rate of inflation, it does allow for a small raise to our very dedicated teachers and attempts to cover the increased cost of utilities, supplies, PPE and basically everything at this time. Please see the attached page for a breakdown of our tuition rate and the Catholic Active Parishioner Grant requirements. (In a nutshell: the one-rate tuition of \$7,770 minus the CAPG of \$1,200 = \$6,570). Each Catholic family will need to complete the CAPG form and have it approved and signed by their Pastor to receive the Grant. The administrative fee will remain the same at \$200 per child (max \$400 per family).

We encourage our families to keep in mind that the actual cost to educate a student (approximately \$9,500/annually) is much greater than the tuition charged. We rely on support from our very generous Parishes, Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. John Vianney, our HSA, and other advancement efforts each year. Therefore, it is vital that families complete their required volunteer hours and participate in the life of the school as much as possible.

Additionally, I strongly recommend that families take advantage of the additional financial assistance and scholarships available by applying annually for the Archdiocese of Washington Tuition Assistance Program <https://adwcatholicschools.org/tuition-assistance/> and the Maryland BOOST Scholarship <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Pages/boost/index.aspx>. Parents/Guardians are required to apply for both assistance opportunities before any further tuition assistance will be considered. Please be aware of the deadlines.

Our goal is - and always has been - to provide the highest quality of faith-based education for your child. If you have any questions regarding financial assistance and/or tuition programs, please feel free to contact the school office.

Grace and Peace,


Jennifer Thompson, Principal Our Lady Star of the Sea School
principal@olsss.org

AN ISLAND OF LEARNING...A SEA OF FAITH