



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

A Ministry of St. Joseph Parish

5411 SOUTH MAIN STREET
SYLVANIA, OHIO 43560

March 3, 2017

Dear Parent:

Registration for the coming school year opens parish-wide and to the community at our annual St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School Open House this Sunday, March 5, 2017. We are excited to present our faculty, staff and students to potential new families; however, our currently enrolled families take first priority. **New for the 2017-2018 school year is online registration for our currently enrolled families. Enclosed are the instructions for you to register through your SchoolSpeak portal.** Following is the tuition structure for next year:

2017-2018 Tuition (all students)	\$6,060.00
Less: Parishioner Scholarship (see below)	\$1,970.00
Net Due (before applicable financial aid, SCRIP, other adjustments)	\$4,090.00

The Parish Finance and School Advisory Councils have carefully reviewed current school operations, financial information, budgets and projections for student enrollment. We also benchmarked our curriculum, school activities, and tuition against other Catholic schools in the area to guarantee St. Joseph School continues to offer the highest quality education while ensuring the fairest and most equitable tuition possible.

Every effort was made to minimize the increase in tuition while still addressing the operating needs of the school. In the process of setting tuition and establishing the budget, we remained committed to the excellence in our educational program.

PARISH SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS: In order for a student to be awarded a 2017-18 Parishioner Scholarship, a family must meet the criteria listed below and commit to the following:

- At least one parent and all children attending St. Joseph School must be Catholic and currently registered in the Parish.
- Worshipping regularly (weekly) as a family at St. Joseph.
- Contributing financially to the support of the Parish to the best of their ability.

REGISTRATION PROCESS: **Online Registration is due by Friday, March 24. Please see insert for instructions.**

In completing the online registration, you are asked to select either “Tuition With Parishioner Scholarship” or “Tuition Without Parishioner Scholarship” for the coming year. It is important to have carefully read the criteria as set forth above. Please note that registration is not complete until you have



finalized tuition payment arrangements. Once tuition payment arrangements have been completed, registration information enters our database and student can be assigned to classrooms for the fall.

TUITION PAYMENT: There are two options for paying tuition and fees:

1. Prepayment – Tuition and fees (workbook and activity fees) are due to be paid in full for the coming school year by July 1, 2017.

2. Tuition & Fees Payment Plan –Automatic payments through the St. Joseph Monthly Payment Plan beginning in July and ending in April 2018. Payment dates can vary. If you choose to budget through our payment plan, you must utilize the SchoolSpeak portal. There is a fee equal to 4.5% of the amount financed for a family using this option, with a minimum fee of \$75.00. Financing fees will be rounded to the nearest dollar amount and will be added to your account due, with the payment spread over ten months.

FAMILIES MUST INDICATE THROUGH THE SCHOOLSPEAK PORTAL IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MONTHLY PLAN

WORKBOOK AND ACTIVITY FEES: These fees are determined in March and April and will be announced by May 1.

St. Joseph School is a community of dedicated families who make many sacrifices for the sake of Catholic education. We are blessed with a strong parish that provides financial support as well. Last year approximately \$188,000 was awarded to students as financial aid for the current school year. **At St. Joseph, we are committed to the philosophy that no family be denied for financial reasons the opportunity to attend our school.** Enclosed is a list of tuition assistance opportunities that exist for most St. Joseph School families. The applications and informational links for each of these may be accessed from the school website at www.stjosephschoolsylva.org.

Thank you for choosing St. Joseph School. It is our privilege to serve your family and the education ministry of our Parish. As your partner in education, we are grateful for your continued support.

Sincerely.

Rev. Msgr. Dennis Metzger
Pastor

Sally A. Koppinger
Principal

James R. Floyd, Sr.
Business Manager

SchoolSpeak Registration for Fall 2017

We are excited to be able to offer online registration to current and new families for the fall 2017 school year. We have put together a few instructions below to help families get started. There will be two new links on the left-side navigation pane when logging into SchoolSpeak:

Registration 2017-2018– Use this link to re-register current St Joseph students for the fall 2017 school year. Registrations due by March 24, 2017.

- **Profile update:** click on Begin Registration at the bottom of the screen, please review all the information that you previously entered for each child to be sure the information is up-to-date.
- **Register for Fall:** After the profile update you will be brought to the registration screen to fill in information regarding tuition, financial responsible parties, and payment arrangements.
- **A link to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment is embedded in the registration process in SchoolSpeak**

New Student Application – This is only for brand new families or current families adding a new student to our school. After families enter application information, they will receive an email to continue with their registration.

Please note that registration is not complete until you have finalized tuition payment arrangements. Once tuition payment arrangements have been completed, registration information enters our database and student can be assigned to classrooms for the fall.

Scholarship Opportunities and Financial Aid Assistance

St. Joseph School, Sylvania

St. Joseph School is blessed with a community of dedicated families who make many sacrifices for the sake of Catholic education. In these difficult economic times, we want to re-emphasize our open-door policy concerning financial aid. Last year approximately \$136,205 was awarded to students as financial aid for the current school year. At St. Joseph, we are committed to the philosophy that no family be denied the opportunity to attend our school for financial reasons. As a staff, we are dedicated to making the information for and the process of applying for aid as accessible and easy as possible. Enclosed with your registration packet is a list of tuition assistance opportunities that exist for most St. Joseph school families.

At St. Joseph School, our doors are always open to discuss ways we can help your family gain the most from the gift of Catholic Education.

FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment:

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3WT0B>

The first step in applying for any form of tuition assistance at St. Joseph School is to submit an online FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment application. Completing this application online is simply the fastest way for any family to seek financial help. Facts Management Co. (FMC) is an independent, national family assessment firm used by most northwest Ohio private schools to assist in determining financial need. FMC does not award grants or scholarships but provides confidential analysis. Applying for assessment is now even easier when you click on the direct link to FMC. Please note that all information and discussions regarding financial aid are kept confidential. The deadline for submitting applications to FACTS in order to be considered for financial aid is April 30, 2017.

The Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund:

<http://tinyurl.com/NOSF17AP>

A privately funded scholarship, the Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to help low-income children attend the non-public school of their choice. These scholarships are funded exclusively through the private donations of individuals, corporations, and foundations. Each scholarship is based on individual family size and income, with a maximum scholarship of \$1,500 per child for elementary students. Income information is re-evaluated each year with the scholarship amount adjusted accordingly. For more information or to apply, please visit www.nosf.org. Applications are also available by contacting the school office. Families already receiving a scholarship for one or more children should not submit this form. If you want to add younger siblings of current NOSF Scholars, you will apply for them on your Re-Qualification paperwork. The deadline for new applications is April 28, 2017. *Online applications only.*

EdChoice, EdChoice Expansion

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship-Program>

EdChoice Expansion: The Income-Based Scholarship program was implemented for the 2013-14 school year with 2,000 scholarships available for students entering kindergarten. It will grow one grade level every year. The scholarship is worth \$4,650 per year.

The first application period begins February 1 and ends April 30, 2017.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR EDCHOICE?

- Students currently attending a designated public school in their resident district; to view a list of designated schools go to <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship-Program/EdChoice-Scholarship-For-Districts>
 - Students attending a public school in their resident district who will be assigned to one of the designated public schools for the upcoming school year;
 - Students currently attending a charter/community school whose assigned home school is a designated public school building;
 - Students eligible to enter kindergarten for fall 2017 (and who will be age 5 by 1/1/2018) who would be assigned to one of the designated public schools; or
 - Students enrolling in an Ohio school for the first time who would be assigned to one of the designated public schools for the upcoming school year. Students who DO NOT meet any of the preceding eligibility criteria may still be eligible for the EdChoice "expansion" scholarship if they meet the following criteria: • Student is eligible to enter kindergarten, first, second, third or fourth grade for fall 2017;
 - Student does not live in the Cleveland Municipal School District; and
 - Family household income is at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP? The EdChoice scholarship amount is currently \$4650 for grades K-8. To view Federal Poverty Guidelines, go to: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship-Program>