

Dear Parents:

Thank you for all you do for our students, our school and for the Catholic Church. It is my prayer that you recognize what a truly integral part you are of one of our Church's most vital missions, the mission to educate our children in the Catholic tradition.

Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, our Parish Sponsored Education model will change. Over the past 18 months it has become abundantly clear that a 100% tuition subsidy by the parish is not a sustainable model. For this reason, we will be once again charging tuition at St. Mark's Parish School. The parish will continue to support our school, devoting nearly 13% of the total parish budget to offset the cost of educating your children. Our Foundation and Home and School Association will also work relentlessly to support our efforts.

A St. Mark's Parish School education remains a great value and a wise investment in the future of your children. The following are but a few reasons you will want to enroll your child here:

- **The Catholic School Advantage.** (Research shows that students who attend a Catholic school from kindergarten through grade eight will receive the greatest benefit.)
- **Faith based education rooted in gospel values.**
- **Rigorous academic preparation for high school and beyond.**
- **Daily prayer and the opportunity to celebrate the sacraments on a regular basis with teachers, friends and family.**
- **Revitalized STEM education efforts.** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
- **A safe and comfortable learning environment.** (Upgraded security, including new security cameras.)

"Thanks to my experience at St. Mark's, my freshman year at Bishop Kelly was a breeze. Additionally, St. Mark's had me prepared for my time at Gonzaga."

-Keriann Brinegar, St. Mark's class of 2007

Attached to this letter is the registration form for 2014-2015 explaining tuition and fees. Our School Board, School Foundation and Finance Council have worked tirelessly to establish a fair tuition rate that allows St. Mark's to offer the most affordable experience possible. We will also be offering financial assistance in an effort to keep every student here. Details of how to apply for assistance will be available by March 7th.

Please review all the attached information and sign and return the 2014-2015 Tuition Contract by March 14th for a \$25 discount in your registration fees. All registration documents must be turned in by March 21st.

We have a tremendous opportunity to strengthen our tradition of excellence, our bonds with each other, with our Church and with Jesus Christ here at St. Mark's. Each one of us plays an important part in making this happen. I look forward to working with you toward the success of our school and the future of your children.

Yours in Christ,



Mark Hopkins
Principal, St. Mark's Parish School

TUITION

- Cost to education one student (Grades K-8) - \$4,951
 - Non-Active or Non-Parish Members - \$4,951 per student
- If you are able, please partner with us and meet the cost of educating your child.
All payments above your subsidized tuition amount may be taken as a charitable tax donation.*

ACTIVE PARISHIONER:

- Registered member of St. Mark's for at least one year.
- Current Annual Stewardship Commitment Card on file (completed every Oct/Nov).
- Regular Mass attendance on Sundays & Holy Days of Obligation at St. Mark's Parish.
- At least one Adult member of the household is committed and active in at least one parish ministry.
- Committed to Biblical tithing with a goal of 5% of gross income to parish, 1% to Annual Diocesan Appeal and 4% of gross income to other charities (This suggested amount does not include tuition or fees).
- Know that your commitment entails a respect and cooperation with those who provide Catholic education- the priests, parishioners and teachers and their policies.
- Resolute in fulfilling your annual commitment to the parish.

SUBSIDIZED TUITION (Grades K-8) **For Qualifying Active Parishioners**

One Child - \$3,449 • Two Children - \$6,382 • Three Children - \$8,625 • Four Children - \$9,833

REGISTRATION FEE

A Registration Fee of \$275 is due at the time registration materials are submitted to the school and is non-refundable. A \$25 early registration discount per child is available to those who return the paperwork and the Registration Fee by Friday, 3/14 @ 3:00 p.m.

FEES IN ADDITION TO TUITION *(All Fees Are Non-Refundable)*

- Grades K-8 Technology Integration/Science Fee - \$35 (standardized testing, AR tests, science education, computer maintenance)
- Class Fees (Rates will vary from grade to grade, please refer to Supply List that will be included in the summer mailing)

POSSIBLE INCIDENTAL FEES THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

- Lunch (including milk)--\$2.50
 - Milk Fee (optional) - \$20
 - Bus - \$25 monthly one-way, \$50 monthly round trip per student (maximum \$100 per family per month)
 - Choir—purchase t-shirt
 - Sports (TVCS fee paid to Athletic Director, per sport)
 - Class Fees (refer to Supply List)
 - Class and individual pictures
 - Safe Environment Workshop Background Check (needed to volunteer**) - \$30 per adult
- **EACH Volunteer (field trip drivers, classroom helpers, coaches, etc.) must complete the Diocesan sponsored Safe Environment Workshop and pay the \$30 Background Check fee*

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENT

Each family is REQUIRED to provide 24 VOLUNTEER HOURS PER YEAR at the school. Six of these hours will be spent working on the annual dinner auction, if possible. Hourly credit will be given for each item donated to the auction or for each sponsor solicited. There will be a \$100 per hour charge for any hours below the 24 hour requirement and an invoice will be mailed reflecting these charges. When a parent or guardian contributes any volunteer hours, it is their responsibility to log those hours with the Home and School Association via Volunteer Spot.

Saint Mark's Parish School Registration

Tuition Contract for School Year 2014-2015

Family Name: _____ (If the bill is to be split between two parties, complete #1 and #2 below)

1. Person(s) Responsible for bill: _____

Billing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work #: _____ Cell #: _____ Email: _____

2. Person(s) Responsible for bill: _____

Billing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work #: _____ Cell #: _____ Email: _____

The Cost to Educate One St. Mark's Student is \$4,951

☐ I/we want to help to educate our child(ren) or others by making a tax deductible donation. \$ _____

Please forward this donation to the following: ☐ St. Mark's School Tuition Assistance Fund*
☐ St. Mark's School Capital Improvement Fund

*Donation to St. Mark's School Tuition Assistance Fund: The Idaho Education Tax Credit lets you support Idaho Catholic Schools with dollars you would otherwise pay on your Idaho Income Tax Return. In addition, the normal charitable deduction permits you to deduct the amount of your contribution on your Federal Income Tax Return as well as on your State Income Tax Return if you itemize your deductions. The Idaho State Tax Credit was specifically designed by our lawmakers to help you support an approved educational institution of your choice in Idaho. If you have a tax consultant, discuss this contribution with him/her or consult your Idaho Income Tax Instructions.

TUITION

Non-active or non-parish members,

Tuition \$4,951 x _____
Number of Kindergarten-Grades 8 Students

Sub Total: \$ _____

Active Parishioner

☐ 1st Student - \$3,449

Sub Total: \$ _____

☐ 2nd Student - \$2,933

Sub Total: \$ _____

☐ 3rd Student - \$2,243

Sub Total: \$ _____

☐ 4th Student - \$1,208

Sub Total: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

I WILL MAKE TUITION PAYMENTS ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE

(Families choosing to make monthly payments are required to do so via electronic funds transfer)

☐ I will make a one-time payment by August 15, 2014

☐ Semi-Annual: due August 15, 2014 and January 15, 2015

☐ 10 Monthly payments due the ☐ 5th of each month or the ☐ 20th of each month (check one)

☐ 12 Monthly payments due the ☐ 5th of each month or the ☐ 20th of each month (check one)

Signature of Parent/Guardian (financially responsible)

Date

Submit Form