



## The Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance Endowment

### Tuition Assistance Endowment



The Diocese created a new endowment fund as part of the Rooted in Faith ~ Forward in Hope Capital Campaign to provide an additional revenue source to strengthen its Catholic Schools and renew their commitment to all members of the community. These funds were raised as part of the diocesan-wide capital campaign and include \$10 million allotted to generate annual income for tuition assistance grants aimed at low and middle-income families. The diocesan office of Catholic Schools will add these funds to the \$1.25 million they

already give in tuition assistance each year. Currently, that assistance goes to 700 families in need including minority families. Minority students make up 29% of the Catholic student population.

### How Many Benefit?

In 2007, 1,922 students applied for tuition assistance. 1,329 were from diocesan schools in the immediate Washington metropolitan area. Of the 1,922 students who applied for aid, the Diocese awarded 725 students with scholarships. 513 of these went to students from the metropolitan area schools.

### Current Statistics and Need

The Tuition Assistance Endowment now provides approximately \$400,000 annually to help children attend Catholic Schools.

The average elementary school tuition is \$4,500 per year. The average grant for elementary tuition is \$2,500 per year. Families must demonstrate a \$1,250 minimum need to be considered for an elementary tuition grant. At this time the diocese does not give grants to families who demonstrate a lesser need.



The average high school tuition is \$8,000 per year. The average grant for high school tuition is \$3,700 per year. Families must demonstrate a \$2,000 minimum need to be considered for a high school tuition grant. At this time the diocese does not give grants to families who demonstrate a lesser need.

For the 2007-2008 school year, of those who applied for assistance, families demonstrated over \$4 million in tuition assistance need, over \$3 million of that was for families in the metro area. During this time, the diocese was only able to award \$1,651,419 in tuition assistance to these families. Of that amount, \$1,174,339 went to students in the metropolitan area schools.

Almost 1,200 families who demonstrated financial need were unable to receive tuition assistance. This amounts to over \$2 million of unmet need in the Diocese. Over 800 of the 1,200 families who did not receive aid are families in the metropolitan area.

### **Future Planning and Need**

His Excellency Paul S. Loverde is committed to meeting the entire need of our Catholic Schools population now and in the future. The diocese's goal is to increase the Catholic Schools tuition endowment to at least \$5 million to better serve the entire need of those who wish to attend Catholic school but who financially are unable to attend. The diocese is currently working to raise the long term funds needed to do just that and better meet the needs of our current and future Catholic population.