



Catholic
Education
Foundation

2 0 1 7 A N N U A L R E P O R T



Our Message To You

And What A Year It's Been!

Who would have ever thought that in one year the number of Catholic elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville would grow from 37 to 40, or that both Catholic elementary and high school enrollments would rise from the previous year? Or that our general revenues would rocket to nearly \$1.2 million – a 50% increase over last year's record – or that the net proceeds from our two signature events would cross the \$1 million mark for the first time in our history.

Or even more importantly, who would have known how dramatically we could all expand the mission of the Catholic Education Foundation in such a short time? Last fall, together with our funding partners, we awarded an astonishing \$5.8 million in tuition assistance to 2,700 elementary students and their families, roaring past last year's record of \$5.2 million that was granted to 2,400 students. In fact, we now support **double** the number of students we helped just three years ago. **WOW!!!** How blessed we are because of all of you!

As we reflect on such a God-blessed year here at the Foundation and the ever-growing momentum behind Catholic education in central Kentucky, I keep coming back to a particular prospective donor meeting in which I was asked, "Why would anyone send their child to a Catholic school? Can't kids learn to read, write and do arithmetic in a public school?"

And I said to him, "Well, that's easy. It's the Gospel message! No matter the subject, our Catholic school kids learn that service to others is the best definition of their own worth, that sacrifice is in fact its own reward, that giving back is an obligation – not an option. And when they hear this message every day, in the classroom and at Mass, they become greater in life, career, family and community than they ever thought possible. I should know. I'm a Catholic school kid."

He smiled, nodded his head, and simply remarked, "Now that makes so much sense."

More than anything else, that meeting has served as an inspiration to me to reach out even further across the community and invite anyone who yearns for a Catholic education to come forward and seek our help in providing this great gift that they cannot afford for their children.

What began as a slogan – "**THE ANSWER IS YES!**" – has become a mandate for us. And as the fall school term approaches, we already know that we will provide more tuition assistance to more students and more families **than ever before**.

And for all of this, we thank God and each of you for your deep love and devotion to our treasured Catholic education tradition. Indeed, because of you, **THE ANSWER IS YES!**

With all of God's blessings, we are gratefully yours,



Richard A. Lechleiter
President



Thomas A. Wimsett
Chair



Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.
Archbishop of Louisville &
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Because of You, the Answer is Yes!

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Thank You!

About The Foundation

Who We Are

The Catholic Education Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to the growth and vitality of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Louisville. Quite simply, we believe that every family should have access to a Catholic education.

What We Do

The Foundation raises money to support four key components of Catholic education:

- Tuition assistance (primarily elementary schools)
- Technology enhancements
- Religious education
- Professional development of teachers



Grant Summary

Elementary tuition assistance awards to families:	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Catholic Education Foundation	\$2,516,000	\$2,190,000
Funding partners:		
Elementary schools	1,813,000	1,536,000
Archdiocese of Louisville through its 110 parishes	1,214,000	1,173,000
Other partners	271,000	266,000
<i>Total tuition assistance</i>	\$5,814,000	\$5,165,000

Number of elementary school students supported	2,700	2,400
Average tuition assistance award	\$2,153	\$2,152

Other grants:

Technology	\$170,000	\$158,000
Religious education	\$108,000	\$110,000
Professional development	\$45,000	\$45,000



**At The Catholic Education Foundation,
"The Answer is Yes!"**

Help Us Answer The Call

Ways to Participate and Donate

At the Catholic Education Foundation, there are many ways to spread our important message - ***“The Answer is Yes!”***

Annual Fund

Each year, our Annual Fund answers the call for the immediate and growing tuition assistance needed to make Catholic education a reality for the families who cannot afford its full cost. For the third consecutive year, ***every family*** that qualified for tuition assistance earned an award.

Salute to Catholic School Alumni Dinner

For the past 27 years, the Catholic Education Foundation has hosted the annual Salute to Catholic School Alumni dinner, recognizing Catholic school alumni who have made a significant impact in their communities. You can support this event by purchasing a sponsorship or event tickets. This hallmark fundraising event generated an all-time record **\$829,000** in Catholic school tuition assistance funds in 2017. The 28th Salute to Catholic School Alumni dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at the Galt House Hotel in downtown Louisville.

Salute to **THE GAME** Luncheon

In celebration of the nationally recognized rivalry and thrill of the annual Saint Xavier - Trinity high school football game, the Catholic Education Foundation hosts the annual Salute to **THE GAME** luncheon. In only its ninth year, this unique fundraising event netted a record **\$337,000** in 2016. The 2017 Salute to **THE GAME** luncheon will take place on Thursday, September 28 at the Galt House Hotel.

Named Endowment Program

The Foundation has established the Named Endowment Program, enabling donors to provide tuition assistance gifts to Catholic school families in perpetuity. These gifts, often named for a loved one or family member, will be directed to the permanent endowment and will ensure generations of future students the opportunity to attend a Catholic school.

Planned Giving

A planned gift to Foundation is a great way to make a lasting impact and ensure that families in the community are afforded the opportunity to attend a Catholic school. Gifts planned for the future can be structured in a number of forms: bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, or life insurance.



Photography by Patrick Pfister