



Where Christ
illuminates learning and life

**Catholic
SCHOOLS**

CatholicSchools4U.org

October 28, 2016

Dear Parents,

Today marks the end of the first quarter of the school year, and what a privilege it has been for us in the Office of Catholic Schools to observe the **good work being accomplished by our schools' students** as they seek excellence in all their pursuits. It is gratifying for us to know you have chosen to partner with a Catholic school where Christ illuminates learning and life. Research tells us that as a result of your choice they will be more likely to practice their faith, do better in school, and make and give more money in their lifetime.

Your family is experiencing the Catholic school difference, and **it is our desire to make Catholic schools affordable and accessible** to all parents who desire to enroll their children. Therefore, we are already beginning the enrollment process for the 2017-18 school year.

PSAS (Private School Aid Service) has provided our third-party needs assessment for the purpose of financial scholarships for more than 20 years. They were recently purchased and are unable to deliver the PSAS product for the 2017-18 school year. As a result, we have decided to **transition to SMART Aid**, a division of SMART Tuition Management which all our schools use to manage tuition payments. This move allows for greater integration of the SMART Tuition and SMART Aid products, allowing our schools to operate these business functions more efficiently.

All Catholic schools within the diocese are making this transition for the 2017-18 school year, which means **current families wishing to apply for scholarships** for the 2017-18 school year will need to complete the SMART Aid application. Applications and complete instructions are available beginning November 1 through your local school or by visiting [our scholarship page](#) at CatholicSchools4U.org. Bishop's Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible families. The **deadline for the first round of applications is December 21**, and initial awards will be allocated in mid-January.

Thank you so much for partnering with our alliance of Catholic schools.

God bless you,

David A. Faber
Superintendent of Catholic Schools