



St. Margaret Mary
Catholic School

January 2024

Dear Parents,

The first half of the 2023-2024 school year has been a time of great accomplishment and growth in faith and learning for the students of St. Margaret Mary Catholic School. The year has been filled with engaging and fun learning, as well as special community events. The true sense of a Catholic community is alive and well at St. Margaret Mary Catholic School.

While we are just more than half way through the school year, planning is underway for the 2024-2025 school year. The school and parish Administration have worked in consultation with the parish Finance Committee and the Board of Education to develop the budget and tuition rates for the coming school year.

The Diocese of Orlando strives to keep Catholic school salaries and benefits competitive in order to attract and retain talented educators. They provide a scale for teacher salaries, allowing schools to pay within a given range of the scale. For the coming school year, St. Margaret Mary Catholic School will pay 105% of the scale. Expenses, including salaries and related costs, at St. Margaret Mary are primarily paid through tuition and fees, and the parish also provides financial support. Additionally, we have a Teacher Endowment which provides funding for teacher salaries, while off-setting costs for families.

St. Margaret Mary Catholic School accepts the Florida Empowerment Scholarships—both the FES-EO and FES-UA scholarships. Approximately 95% of current SMMCS families with students in grades K-8 are comprised of students who have been awarded these scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to the individual students. For this reason, the structure of the St. Margaret Mary Catholic School tuition schedule has been modified to also reflect a per student cost. The increase for 2024-2025 for registered, contributing parishioners at St. Margaret Mary Church is approximately 4% for grades K-8. The increase in tuition for Pre-K is approximately 3%.

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. The tuition and fee rate schedule for 2024-2025 is attached to this letter. When re-enrolling you will be asked to confirm your parishioner status, to ensure correct tuition rates. Families indicating "Yes, registered at SMM" should be registered at St. Margaret Mary Parish and attend Mass regularly, contributing to the church Stewardship through the parish envelope system or on-line system, and be active participants in parish life. Mass attendance and support is verified on a regular basis.

After seventy years of serving the St. Margaret Mary parish community, St. Margaret Mary Catholic School remains a strong parish school, steeped in gospel values and committed to academic excellence while nurturing the development of the whole child. Thank you for your continued support of St. Margaret Mary Catholic School and for choosing Catholic education, a gift that will last a lifetime, providing a solid foundation of faith and knowledge for students.

In Christ's love,
Mrs. Katie Walsh