



**FALLS CITY SACRED HEART SCHOOL**  
1820 Fulton Street Falls City, NE 68355

Dear Parents and Guardians,

May the grace and peace of the Risen Christ be with you and your families!

Please accept this letter as notification of two important items:

1. **Tuition adjustment:** Effective for the 2017-18 school term. For many years Sacred Heart has worked hard to bring your children an excellent Catholic education at a very reasonable price. The necessity of a tuition increase was discussed at our parent meetings in January and February. This increase was based on the budget shortfall of over \$400,000.00 from which we had been borrowing from savings in our Shamrock Fund. This increase will take care of about 12% of our budget shortfall. With continued prayers, parental commitment and stewardship, we will be able to provide quality Catholic education in Falls City for years to come.

Our cost of educating each child at Sacred Heart: **Approximately \$7,000.00**

2016-2017 Tuition per child	\$900.00
2016-17 Fees per child:	\$175.00-\$300.00 depending on grade level
<b>2017-18 Tuition per child:</b>	<b>\$1,200.00</b>
<b>2017-18 Fees per child:</b>	<b>\$ 200.00</b>

I want you to be aware of a statement from the Diocese of Lincoln: “It is the policy of the Diocese of Lincoln (and Sacred Heart School) that no Catholic child shall be deprived of a Catholic education because of a family’s lack of funds. This does not mean that a Catholic education is free. It does mean that after a family has done its very best, financial help can and should be given. This presupposes communication and dialogue between the family and the school and/or pastor.”

Having said this, sometimes I hear people mention that they will no longer be able to afford a Catholic education for their child. Know that we are doing all we can to keep this education affordable while at the same time being fair to our teachers and staff in their salaries and benefits.

The Godparent Scholarship is tuition assistance that is granted on the basis of financial need, number of children in school and record of volunteerism and donation of services to the school and parish. If you feel your family will struggle with the increase listed above, while you reflect upon your parish and school stewardship, please contact the school office for a Godparent Scholarship application.

2. **New registration process:** We are asking each family to register their child/children for the upcoming school year. Mrs. O’Grady will be in the office Tuesday, May 30-June 2 from 10 am to 5 pm and June 5-9 from 10 am to 5 pm. For the convenience of working parents, Mrs. O’Grady will be in the office until 7 pm on Thursday, June 1 and Wednesday, June 7.

**A note on our financial situation:** We have been working with donors to pay down our old debt of approximately \$160,000.00 from the mechanical system and windows. In the past two months we have collected \$83,000.00. One donor has donated \$50,000.00 and challenged us to get the amount matched to help with operational costs. If you are able to donate toward this goal with any amount please consider doing so through the registration process or contact Fr. Dunavan.

We look forward to having your children at Sacred Heart and working with you to ensure they have a strong foundation in their education, faith and character. If you have any questions, please call me at 402-245-4151.

Fr. Thomas Dunavan, CAO