

PARISH-WIDE APPEAL
ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH
STM School 2018 Annual Fund



Dear St. Thomas More Family,

As your pastor, it is my responsibility to ensure that our church and school are financially sound. As you know, many Catholic Schools are closing in the surrounding areas. We are blessed with an amazing school, administration, teachers, staff and a “Community of Christ,” here at St. Thomas More who, like you, believe in the value of a Catholic School education. In order to maintain this level of accomplishment, we need to fundraise. Fundraising is integral to our future success. Without fundraising, we simply cannot offer the quality education we are known for at STM. Whether your child currently attends our school, graduated many years ago, attended CCD classes, participated in CYO sports at STM, or were part of our choir or rosary group, we all have a vested interest in our school. I am writing to you today to ask for your help.

We are beginning an Annual STM School Fundraising Campaign on February 15, 2018, which will run until April 30, 2018. *We are asking that each and every family in our parish contribute to our School Fundraising Campaign.* Ways to support the appeal are included. *A minimum donation of \$100 per household* is what I am asking from you. Our school families, as well as those who are able, are strongly encouraged to donate at a higher level. A pledge card with multiple levels of giving is enclosed. Please read details on how your payments can be made and return your donation in the enclosed envelope. Our children are our future leaders. An STM Christ-centered education and the Christian teachings your children received during their years in our CCD program enable these future leaders to live a life of Christian values and compassion, something our world could use a lot more of these days.

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Our school has had many fundraisers over the years. We have been very successful in those efforts but times are changing. Most families have two working parents and working on a Gala, which is extremely time consuming and very labor intensive, has become difficult. There will not be a Gala at our school this year. School families are always encouraged to participate in the many smaller fundraisers going on at the school.

On Saturday, April 21, we will hold a Spring Fling for the entire parish. This will be a community event with a low ticket price, great food, and lively music. People have been asking for this type of event for some time. The Spring Fling will celebrate the many blessings we enjoy at St. Thomas More Parish. Each member of our parish will receive an invitation to this event. Exciting things are on the horizon here at STM. Our potential for growth and expansion are abundant. To achieve these goals, we need to come together as a community and support our children to be the best they can be.

I am asking from the bottom of my heart for you to fill out the enclosed card and for each of you to support this much needed fund. Our school is our life! Our children are God's gift! Our new bishop said, "Feed the sheep." We need to feed the minds and the spirits of our children. Please take time to reflect on how critical it is to support the academic and spiritual programs here at STM. We can't do this without your support. As I said earlier, **we are seeking 100% participation from our entire STM community.** I thank you for the gift of you and your families. You are in my prayers always!

Yours in Christ,



Monsignor John P. Murphy
Pastor

