



To be completed by school families who are members of St. Mary Parish

TUITION AND FEES POLICY - *Please note that this important information is excerpted from the complete St. Mary School handbook (starting on page 3) which can be found on the website www.stmary-wooster.cld.pvt.k12.oh.us*

RELATIONSHIP OF PARISHIONER SCHOOL FAMILIES TO THE LIFE OF THE PARISH

This portion of the handbook pertains to the relationship between those families with children in St. Mary School who identify themselves as parishioners and the expectations in place that the pastor uses to confirm that a family is not just technically registered on paper as a parishioner but is truly committed to the life of the parish community as an engaged Catholic family. Being registered on paper does *not* guarantee being granted the “parishioner rate” of tuition.

The St. Mary Parish Finance Council has contributed to the policy for tuition rates. Since our actual costs of educating a child far exceed the tuition paid, the parish-at-large contributes considerably to the operations costs of sponsoring a school, principally through the Sunday Offering. It only makes sense that school families who expect to pay a “parishioner rate” of tuition are registered as members of St. Mary’s Parish and regularly participate in the life of the Parish, including regular attendance at mass as evidenced by the use of offertory envelopes. Please be clear that the amount of the contribution is not per se a factor, but rather demonstrating a regular pattern of attendance at weekend Mass and a level of stewardship of treasure as well as time and talent.

There is an organic connection between the mission of St. Mary School and the nourishment of the Catholic faith of the family outside of school. The commandment, “Keep holy the Sabbath,” includes, for a Catholic, participating in weekend Mass.

Some families do considerable traveling, and may be attending Mass elsewhere other than at St. Mary. Nevertheless, the pastor reserves the prerogative, sensitively to approach our families about how they are demonstrating their commitment as parishioners. It ought never be presumed that once a parishioner rate has been granted, it is automatic every semester. It is the pastor’s standard practice, semi-annually to review the history of envelope usage and, if necessary, initiate a conversation with a family that may in fact lead to adjusting to the non-parishioner rate. If there are mitigating circumstances (a change of employment status, traveling to relatives on weekends, and so on), this calls for an appointment with the pastor and/or principal, and this will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

We have read and agree to the tuition and fees policy as outlined above (excerpted from the complete St. Mary School handbook found on the website - www.stmary-wooster.cld.pvt.k12.oh.us).

FAMILY NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____