



December, 2011

Dear Friends of Sacred Heart of Jesus,

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Academy Endowment board is working to help reduce the financial challenges of providing Catholic education to our families. There are two methods for doing this: the Endowment Fund and the Guardian Angel Fund.

The **Endowment Fund** is made up of donations from Parish and Academy families and friends. Donations are tax deductible to the donors; and the gifts are invested in mutual funds, bonds and CDs. The Endowment Fund, created in 2001, is governed by a legally-binding document; and only the income from the Endowment is used for student financial aid purposes.

The Endowment is currently valued at approximately \$350,000. In recent years the Fund has provided \$10,000 annually from its income to apply to the Parish student aid budget.

The **Guardian Angel Fund** is newer than the Endowment and works differently. It was established in 2009 to provide direct aid to families who need additional financial assistance to pay their tuition costs due to unexpected financial hardship. The Guardian Angel Fund offers a channel for donors to help Academy families immediately and confidentially. Last year, donations to the Guardian Angel Fund exceeded \$20,000, and this was dispersed entirely to families in need.

Because educational costs (including salaries, insurance, facility maintenance and technology) continue to grow, our goal is to grow our Endowment principal to at least \$1 million, while also generating at least \$50,000 per year for distribution through the Guardian Angel Fund. These resources will be very helpful in holding down future tuition increases and helping families who cannot afford the full tuition amount.

How to Help

An envelope for the Guardian Angel Fund is included with each month's packet of offering envelopes. Your donation, placed in the collection basket, can go to work immediately. To make a contribution to the Endowment Fund, please write a check to "Sacred Heart of Jesus Academy Endowment" and place it in the collection basket, or drop it off at the Academy office or the Parish office.

Contributions to either of these Funds qualify as tax-deductible gifts to a charitable organization and also may be eligible for matching funds from your employer. Employer forms for matching funds should be forwarded to the Parish office for verification.

If you are in a financial position to consider making a substantial contribution, a commitment of funds over several years or a contribution based on appreciated assets, one of our members would be happy to talk with you and assist you with making the appropriate arrangements. Please tear off the slip on the back and place it in the collection basket or send a note to the Endowment board in care of the Academy office.

Thank you so very much for your generosity and your prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Members of the Endowment Board

Mark DiNovo, Dick Geier, Shelly LaSalvia, Amy Statler, Brad Urbon

**MEETING A MISSION:
HOW YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS BUILD THE FOUNDATION OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN
SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH**

The mission of our Academy is to provide young people with a strong Catholic education. Importantly, it is during the K - 8 formative years that children establish their foundation of faith and Catholic tradition. Perhaps that was your experience if you attended Catholic grade school.

Our students have an abundance of energy – the joy of our Academy is found daily in their smiles and enthusiasm: from the exuberance of classroom discussions to the art projects adorning our walls; from the excited voices on the playground to the voices raised in song in concerts and at Mass. We rejoice in God’s work every day!

We are grateful for the support from the Parish but are always looking for ways to secure additional funding. Financially, the Academy operates in a situation like most families: we strive to do more with less. Our teachers earn, on average, significantly less than their public Academy counterparts. They teach at our Academy because they feel the Catholic mission; they live it, every single day, by giving of their time and talents to our children. Maintaining our facilities and providing for technology are expenses that we have, just like you do at home.

We also continue to pray for our families who struggle financially. Some families are having difficulty paying their tuition because of reduced or lost income, single-parent situations, medical burdens or other issues. Unfortunately, we have lost some families from our Academy due to their inability to pay and our inability to help them as much as we would like.

That’s why your help is so important. The Endowment Fund and the Guardian Angel Fund are two important ways that parish members can help keep tuition costs down while helping us strengthen the Catholic school foundation for the children of our parish.

	Guardian Angel Fund	Endowment Fund
Purpose	<i>Assist Academy families in financial need with tuition costs</i>	
Fund Availability	<i>Immediate - Monies are used as needed for unexpected family need</i>	<i>Long-term - Principal investment income is used for financial aid for families</i>
Tax-deductible?	Yes	Yes
How to give	<i>Monthly envelopes included with mailed envelope pack, place in collection basket</i>	<i>Contact a member of the Endowment board or send a check to the Academy Office</i>

PLEASE TELL ME MORE ABOUT HOW I CAN HELP!

I would like to know more about:

- The Endowment Fund
- The Guardian Angel Fund

Please contact me:

- By Phone _____
- By E-mail _____

Name: _____

Maiden name if alumna: _____

Graduation year: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____