



February 5, 2010

Dear Parents,

In the short time I have been pastor of St. Pat's I have become acutely aware of the multi-dimensions of the community. Not only are we a large parish but we have a school with the responsibility of educating over 550 students in kindergarten through eighth grade and employing over 40 teachers and administration personnel.

Because of its vitality and success I believe it an important charge of the school administration and Parish leadership to make certain St. Patrick of Heatherdowns School meets all needs of our Parish families and students. Each year the financial assistance eligibility and requirements increase for our school community. This year in particular our community is facing difficult economic times which may affect our enrollment if we are not able to offer further assistance and opportunities to reduce tuition payments.

For the past five years the school administration has worked with a few dedicated parishioners to offer tuition assistance through a fundraising event: Annual Golf Outing. The Annual Golf Outing offers our parents the opportunity to earn money off tuition for the upcoming school year. This is a self-driven opportunity and parishioners and other parents are out collecting corporate donations to increase the payout for all those who reach the goal of \$216. **The outcome being tuition assistance for any child who met their goal with one important bonus being 90% participation allows us access to government grants that will match a portion of the money raised.**

As a school and parish community we can only offer this to our parents but the ultimate success of the fundraiser is in the hands of those who see the benefit and want to either help themselves or others. I am asking you to seriously consider becoming involved even if you are not in a position to need the assistance toward tuition. Every dollar raised helps those who participate for the assistance, many of whom cannot continue at St. Pat's without this extra help with tuition. We are a community and need to work together helping others as well as ourselves and ensuring the success and vitality of St. Pat's School now and for the future.

Please give prayerful consideration to this event either by helping yourself or stepping up to help others here at St. Pat's.

In Christ,

Rev. Dennis Walsh
Pastor