



# Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School

*Educating to Lead, Learn and Serve in Christ*

March 2021

Dear Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School Supporter,

God continues to bless Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School with many benefactors. They are essential for Our Lady of the Lake School to continue its mission of nurturing the whole child: spiritually, academically, mentally, and physically. We are grateful to our past generous supporters and hope each will continue to support Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School through their prayers and donations.

Due to the Pandemic, this school year has been exceptionally challenging. Prior to the start of the year there were many hours of planning for health and safety policies for our staff and students. Our teachers learned to create and implement lessons both in person and virtually for each of their classes. This required many extra hours of thought and work. Our school staff also developed ways of involving the students in healthy learning activities while keeping our building safe and sanitized.

The pandemic has affected the enrollment in Our Lady of the Lake School. Approximately one third of the students changed to virtual classes to accommodate their families' needs. Some of our elementary families chose to home-school, and some of our preschool families decided to keep their young ones home for this school year. This reduced our tuition income by \$120,000.

Fortunately, we received some assistance from several Covid-19 grants through the state of Wisconsin. This helped to reduce the shortfall in our budget to between \$60,000 to \$70,000. The school has had to "tighten its belt" and conscientiously consider the impact of all money spent.

The pandemic has also affected mass attendance at Our Lady of the Lake Church because of restrictions on capacity by orders of Bishop James Powers to maintain safe social distancing. With fewer people attending, our reduced collections have lessened the ability of the parish to support the school financially.

With these thoughts in mind, we are hoping that you will consider a larger donation to help support Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School through this difficult school year.

The St. Agnes Foundation is aware of our great need this year and has decided to give its part of the Annual Fund collection to the school. All the donations from this year's Annual Fund will be going directly to Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School to help with our budgetary needs.

It is our hope that you will partner with us through our Annual Giving Fund to achieve our goal of raising \$15,000 this year as we strive to bring the Gospel message to our students and teach them to be tomorrow's virtuous leaders.

We are grateful to you and pray that God will bless you abundantly for your good works and generosity on behalf of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School. Whatever your contribution may be, please know that it is received with our deepest gratitude.

Sincerely in Christ,

Betty Swiston

Principal, Our Lady of the Lake School

Betty Chambers

Chairperson, St. Agnes Education Foundation