Our Lady of Lourdes
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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April 2, 2026

Dear Our Lady of Lourdes Families,

As we continue our work together as a Partners in the Gospel parish family, we want to share an update on the important planning underway for our schools. This initiative calls us to align our ministries, strengthen our mission, and ensure long-term sustainability for both Our Lady of Lourdes School and St. Joseph School.

During Holy Week, a time when we walk together in faith and trust in God's guidance, we want to continue to speak openly about where we are and how we are moving forward.

**First, we want to clarify three important points**.

- Our Lady of Lourdes School remains open.
- The tuition increase for 2026-27 was significant. Tuition increases for the 2027-28 and 2028-29 school years will be more in line with what our families have experienced in the past.
- Becoming one parish family school system is a transparent, thoughtful, and community-informed process with no predetermined conclusion.

**We continue with gratitude.**

Our recent auction was a joyful reflection of the spirit of Our Lady of Lourdes School. Thank you to every family who attended, volunteered, and contributed. Your generosity speaks powerfully to the love this community has for its school.

**We also want to share encouraging signs of strength.**

- Re-enrollment for the 2026-27 school year is on par with our current enrollment.
- 95% of our teachers have indicated they intend to return next year.
- Our donor community has stepped forward in remarkable ways.

**Remarkable donors have come forward.**

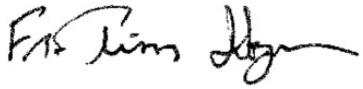
In recent weeks, several generous donors have expressed a strong desire to support Our Lady of Lourdes School. This demonstrates a profound commitment to keeping our schools vibrant and mission-focused.

To steward this support, our School Strategic Planning Task Force is conducting a deeper financial review of both schools. This is an important step to ensure clarity, unity, and good planning. As part of this process, our Task Force will be engaging an external consulting firm experienced in Catholic school sustainability to help us gather input, assess our needs, and develop a long-term plan.

We know our Partners in the Gospel journey brings questions and uncertainty. Holy Week reminds us that in moments like these, we walk together, trust in God's faithfulness, and continue moving forward with hope.

We will continue to keep you updated as our work progresses. Thank you for your trust, your partnership, and your faith in the future of Our Lady of Lourdes School.

With gratitude and in Christ,



Fr. Tim Ilgen, Pastor
Parish Family 45

Members of School Strategic Planning Task Force:

Mary Ticknor, Principal
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School

Thuong ChuChe, Pastoral Assistant for Administration and Business Manager
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