



ST. ANN SCHOOL BOARD

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Dear St. Ann Family & Friends,

Catholic schools and parishes everywhere have been facing declining enrollment, escalating expenses, and mounting debt, and St. Ann is no exception. COVID-19 presented us with a new set of challenges this year, and our recovery has not yet stabilized. In July, the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools notified us that if we do not aggressively bring down our sizeable deficit with some new sources of revenue, the future of our school, and indeed our parish, will be in imminent jeopardy. Strategic changes to our business plan convinced the OCS to give us another chance, but coming back next year will be dependent on the successes of our efforts to reduce the deficit.

Add to this the further complication that we are currently undergoing the Renew My Church process with seven other local parishes that will ultimately result in one or several new combined regional parishes next year. St. Ann has much to offer, not the least of which are the school and one of the largest worship sites among the parishes in our grouping. However, in order for us to make the most convincing case of our vibrancy amidst the plans to consolidate these eight parishes, we must demonstrate the ability to raise funds and enroll solid numbers of students in our School and in our Religious Education programs. Combined, our advantages and goals should place St. Ann in a more favorable position to demonstrate our strength and vitality.

In order to raise additional funds that have been depleted during this time of COVID, the Parish is embarking on several means of fundraising, including:

- St. Ann School alumni outreach
A soon to be launched weekly Queen of Hearts raffle drawing
The St. Ann Angel pledge program, designed to raise at least \$50,000 in the immediate future

The Angel Program is the reason we are writing today. We are seeking donors to participate at any level they find comfortable. If we can sign up at least 50 initial donors who will agree to pledge and contribute \$1,000, we will be able to invest this much-needed revenue in the school, reduce our operating deficit, and demonstrate to the Archdiocese that the people of St. Ann are vibrant in spirituality and devoted to supporting quality Catholic education as a means of instilling that spirituality in future generations. What a great way to celebrate 70 years of St. Ann School!

Our greatest treasure is the relationships we have built here over the years. We are a family, with roots that run very deep. Please take a moment to pray for us and consider how you may join us in our efforts to keep the St. Ann family—parish and school—strong and vital for the future. Thank you!



The St. Ann School Board

Become a St. Ann Angel!

You may make your pledge by returning the form below, by texting ANGEL to 847-201-4236, via PayPal to sasangel@stannschoollansing.org, or at https://www.givecentral.org/location/100

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

- I/We would like to be a St. Ann Angel, pledging \$1,000
I/We would like to be a St. Ann Angel, pledging \$ _____ (a different amount)
Full amount enclosed or paid by credit card below (please make checks payable to St. Ann)
Down payment of \$ _____ enclosed or paid by credit card below
Please bill me in 10 monthly installments (balance divided by 10)

Charge My: MasterCard - Visa - Discover - American Express (circle one)

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Print Cardholder Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____