



January 26, 2023

Dear St. Mary School Families:

Thank you for choosing St. Mary School and entrusting us with your child's education. We welcome you to our community and look forward to partnering to maintain the bright future of our school. First and foremost, St. Mary is committed to providing a strong faith-based education that will ensure our students are successful beyond the doors of St. Mary.

Our education program:

- * Invests in the hiring and training of highly qualified faculty and staff
- * Is enriched with STEAM principles in all areas of the curriculum
- * Incorporates fine arts, physical education, and technology programs
- * Provides twenty-first century technology for our students
- * Is designed with good stewardship in mind to ensure sustained financial viability

The St. Mary School Advisory Board and Parish Finance Committees have approved the 2023-2024 tuition rates applicable for the school year beginning August 2023.

Tuition alone does not fully cover that cost. The gap is bridged through the strong commitment of St. Paul VI Parish and annual fund-raising efforts. Fundraisers and events which directly support this effort include Walkathon, the Spring Party, and the Annual Fund. Our fundraising goal for the 2023-2024 school year is \$105,000. Each family has a \$500 fundraising goal and every St. Mary School family is strongly encouraged to contribute financially to the best of their ability.

We are proud of our students' achievements and believe they truly testify to the value of a St. Mary education.

Our K-8 tuition rates for the school year beginning August 2023 will increase an average of 5.5%, which is approximately an additional \$40 per month per student. The school does not charge separate per child book fees. Tuition rates do not cover extracurricular activities including clubs, band, chess club, sports, etc.

2023-2024 St. Mary Tuition Rates:

<u>Program</u>	
K – 8, one child rate	\$7,060
PreK – 5 full days	\$7,800
PreK – 5 half days	\$4,915
PreK – 3 half days	\$3,560

The 5.5% increase in tuition was carefully arrived at based on the following factors and analysis of expense projections for the 2023-24 school year:

- Archdiocese directed increases to teachers' salaries by a minimum of 5%. (Though they will not be providing the salary increase prior to tuition setting, an assumption of at least 5% is reasonable based on prior years.)
- Archdiocese directed increase in healthcare costs for faculty and staff. (An assumption of a 5% increase is necessary at a minimum.)
- Increases in operating costs driven by the inflationary economic environment (e.g. energy costs, insurance costs, etc.)
- Continued investment in our 1:1 technology program, curriculum development, and textbook updates.

Discounted tuition rates are available for families with multiple, full-time enrolled children at St. Mary. At least one child must be registered in grades 1 – 8 for the multi-child rates to apply.

<u>Multi-child Tuition</u>	
Two children	\$12,055
Three children	\$15,880
Four children	\$18,270

New for 2023-2024:

Technology Fee A technology fee of \$250 per student for grades K-8 will be included in your FACTS tuition account for the coming school year. Depending on which payment plan you choose, the fee will be added accordingly. We believe the benefit of the 1:1 device program is paying dividends for our children in their ability to complete their assignments, engage with content, and build their math and reading I-ready skills. The technology fee defrays the cost of infrastructure upgrades and maintenance, software, and support/updates to the devices. Parents are still responsible for repair and replacement costs in addition per the technology agreement if your child damages their device. The technology fee will be assessed each school year.

2023-2024 Fees:

Registration Fee:	\$100 per current family due by February 9, 2023 \$150 after February 9, 2023 \$125 New family registration fee
New Student Fee:	\$25 per new student
FACTS Fees:	Credit Card fee (if used) is 2.95% per transaction amount \$30 NSF Fee \$30 Late Fee
Technology Fee:	\$250 per student grades K-8 only

There is a separate Sacramental Preparation Fee per student to St. Paul VI Parish for grades 2, 7, 8. This fee only applies to students who will be participating in the sacramental preparation program with the intent of receiving their sacrament at St. Paul VI.

The non-refundable registration fee should be submitted with your completed registration information. We encourage you to register as soon as possible, especially those enrolling in Prekindergarten and Kindergarten. Current school families are given first preference for the limited PreK spots available. School personnel will be following up with families that have not returned their registration form.

All families are required to maintain a FACTS account. The FACTS system is in place to alleviate the time and costs incurred by the school to collect and process tuition payments. All families are required to pay their tuition through automatic withdrawal (ACH) from their bank account or by credit card. Families that elect to pay their tuition using a credit card will be charged 2.95% per transaction, which is the amount charged to the school. All families are responsible for any late payment charges incurred on their accounts by FACTS Management.

St. Mary is committed to making an outstanding Catholic education accessible to all who wish to attend by providing tuition assistance. Applications are made through the FACTS system. Forms must be submitted online, through the FACTS system, by April 24, 2023. Late forms are accepted but ample time may not apply for financial aid consideration.

We hope that our efforts to keep next year's tuition increase manageable for our school families reinforces our continued commitment to you and your choice of St. Mary School for your children's elementary education. To that end, we ask that you please make every effort to register as soon as possible. We will continue to work hard to keep the school spiritual, viable, vibrant, and academically excellent.

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful families, children, faculty and staff and we look forward to our continued relationship with you. We will continue to pray for all of our families as we move forward into the future.

God bless all of you,

Fr. Tom May

Father Tom May
Pastor

Mrs. Nicole Nolzco

Mrs. Nicole Nolzco
Principal

Mrs. Lisa Garza

Mrs. Lisa Garza
Assistant Principal