



Ash Wednesday
March 5, 2025

There is a great deal of information in this week's communication, which is our **main tool for sharing information** with families. Therefore, we ask that you take the time to read it, in its entirety, to keep up with what is happening in our school. Thank you in advance for your time and attention!



Please note the following important **calendar dates**:

Sunday, March 9	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Sham Rock 'N Roll- St. Pius Tenth Church Parish Center
Friday, March 14	9:30 AM	School Liturgy
Thursday, March 20	6:00 PM	2 nd Annual SPX Student Talent Show-Gymnasium
Friday, March 28		Teacher In-Service Day No School for Students



Intramurals

Intramurals have begun!

The schedule is as follows:

- Grades 4 & 5 – Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:45 – 8:45
- Grades Kindergarten and 1 – Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:30 PM
- Grades 2 & 3 – Wednesday mornings from 7:45 – 8:45



Registration for the 2025-26 School Year

Registration is now open for the 2025-26 School Year for all families, both current and prospective. Please submit completed registration packets as soon as possible to ensure enrollment, as classes are beginning to fill up. Thank you!

Building a Brighter Future Scholarship

Just a reminder that applications for the Building a Brighter Future Scholarship, through the Diocese of Rochester, must be submitted by March 31, 2025. The information is included in this week's communications.



We're up to \$930.30. Second grade finished at the top of our February leaderboard with 860 box tops. Congratulations to the 2nd Grade, who have earned a dress down day.

Third grade is leading our March leaderboard with 29. Kindergarten is in second place with 19. Have you checked out the March bonuses?

REMINDER

Sunday March 9 from 2-4pm

In the Parish Center

Enjoy a DJ, snacks, and drinks!



ShamRock 'N Roll



St. Pius Tenth School Talent Show

We're ready to showcase our students in the 2nd annual Talent Show. Join us in the gymnasium on Thursday, March 20 at 6:00 PM.

"Be Who God Meant You to Be and You Will Set the World on Fire!"

-St. Catherine of Siena



MARCH 2025 EDITION

BOX TOPICS

March into spring with this month's bonus offers!



Catholic School



BONUS OFFERS

Offers are valid in a single transaction between 3/1/2025-3/31/2025



Buy 2, Earn 10
on participating cereals*



Buy 3, Earn 8
on participating Totino's products*



Buy 3, Earn 8
on participating fruit snacks and DunkAroos*



Buy 2, Earn 6
on participating Nature Valley products*



Buy 2, Earn 6
on participating Pillsbury Crescent products*

*Must submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Limit 5 claims per receipt.



Starting in March, **Monthly Challenges** will be **personalized** so they're easier for participants to complete. Each person will have to make a different number of qualifying purchases to complete the Challenge and they'll earn a different amount of Bonus Box Tops based on those purchases. Spread the word!

Visit the app to join today



Limited-edition Lucky Charms will turn your cereal milk green, just in time for St. Patrick's Day. Another holiday treat? When you buy any two participating cereals next month, you'll earn 10 Bonus Box Tops for your school.

Now that's some magically delicious news!

See participating products at btfe.com/products



EARNINGS GOAL

Goal: **\$1,500.00**
to help fund classroom supplies.

\$930.30



Scan the QR code or use code **OOGA5MOB** to join and earn **25** Bonus Box Tops in the Box Tops app.

3 EASY WAYS TO EARN FOR OUR SCHOOL



SCAN
Qualifying receipts in the app



SUBMIT
Qualifying digital receipts in the app



CONNECT
Your Walmart and Box Tops accounts

LEARN MORE AT [BTFE.COM](https://btfe.com)



Eligibility

The **Building A Brighter Future Scholarship** provides a tuition assistance scholarship opportunity for eligible students, **K-6th** grade, across our Diocesan schools for the 2025-2026 academic year. The scholarship supports the Department of Catholic Schools' mission to educate, inspire, and develop children into future leaders of the Church and community.

An online application process will assist in determining eligibility based on the National Standards for Free and Reduced-Priced Lunch. The Department of Catholic Schools will assist **new** families with selecting and enrolling in a school location throughout the application process.

To qualify, you must meet the income standards for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch below:

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Scholarship Program

Household Size	Annual Gross Income
2	\$37,814
3	\$47,767
4	\$57,720
5	\$67,673
6	\$77,626
7	\$87,579
8	\$97,532

**For each additional family member, add \$9,953*

Applications will be submitted online through the **FACTS Tuition Management** website. Please download the **"How to Apply" application instructions guide** at dorschools.org/scholarship

All materials will be reviewed by the Department of Catholic Schools in the order they are received. Additional documentation may be requested. After review, the superintendent will notify the principals of the selected Catholic schools and inform the families of awards.

Scholarship recipients are required to be in good academic standing, maintain enrollment and appropriate attendance, and are expected to follow the rules and procedures outlined in the school's Code of Conduct. They should contribute to a positive learning environment and show respect to other people and to property. Students who do not meet these requirements will not be eligible for a scholarship regardless of their financial needs.

This scholarship is for one full school year. Families who have received this scholarship in the past must reapply each year. **Applications for the 2025-2026 school year open on January 1, 2025. The application deadline is March 31, 2025.**



Application Instructions

1. Go to online.factsmgt.com/aid.
2. If **new parent** to the Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools network, create an account by setting up a username and password with your information. If **existing parent** at one of our Diocesan schools, use your current FACTS credentials.
3. Select the **2025-2026 term**.
4. Review the FACTS platform information. **As with all financial aid applications, there is a \$40 fee to apply. This is not covered by the Diocese of Rochester Department of Catholic Schools. All applicants must pay this fee in order to apply for the scholarship.**
5. Select **Begin Application**.
6. Click **Add School / Organization**.
7. Type in the search box **Building a Brighter Future Scholarship**. Select the checkbox and click **Add**.
8. Click **Save & Continue** to proceed with completing the application.

Under the STUDENT section of the application:

- Enter students grade level for 2025/2026 School Year
 - Enter \$1 in the box for: Tuition
 - Enter \$1 in the box for: How much of this child's tuition can you and/or the co-applicant pay?
 - Enter \$1 in the box for: Annual tuition support required from this child's non-custodial parent as a result of legal separation, etc.
9. Continue completing all application sections.
 10. Finalize the application by uploading your tax documents and reviewing your submission.
 11. A Department of Catholic Schools representative will be in contact with you regarding your Building A Brighter Future Scholarship application and next steps with the school at which your current student(s) is enrolled at, or new student(s) may be enrolled.

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Educational Choice for Children Act

Proposed in the U.S. Congress

Generates privately funded scholarships for children in K-12 education

The *Educational Choice for Children Act* ([ECCA](#)), would generate private charitable donations to fund scholarships for use in K-12 education. As many as two million students across all 50 states would benefit. ***The ECCA will be reintroduced in the House of Representatives and Senate with new bill numbers in early 2025.***

During the previous session of Congress, the House ECCA bill was passed by the Committee on Ways and Means in September 2024, which amended the original ECCA that had more than 150 House [co-sponsors](#) and more than 30 Senate [co-sponsors](#). This is the most congressional support ever for a bill to enact parental choice in education, including from the Republican congressional leadership. President-elect Donald Trump also has [voiced](#) his support. Specific features of the ECCA include the following:

- **Tax provision.** A non-refundable 100 percent federal income tax credit would generate up to as much as \$10 billion in annual donations to not-for-profit scholarship granting organizations (SGOs), which would financially enable parents to pay tuition to enroll their children in the best, most suitable school available or pay expenses to access education services for their children, akin to a 529 plan. There is no role for the U.S. Department of Education and no new federal spending or government mandates on states, school districts, private schools (including faith-based), or families.
- **Eligible students.** Students in grades K through 12 from both low-income and middle-class households in every state are eligible for a scholarship for every school setting, including homeschool; i.e., children in households with incomes up to 300 percent of the median gross income level by region as [determined](#) by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.
- **Protects religious liberty and school autonomy.** Prohibits governmental control or encroachment over SGOs that receive tax-credited contributions, schools that enroll scholarship recipients, or parents who instruct their children at home. The ECCA use of private donations, not public funds, further protects against government infringement of religious liberty or operational autonomy, pursuant to U.S. Supreme Court [case law](#).
- **Coalition Support.** There are more than 150 national and state-based organizations and influencers that have endorsed the ECCA, listed [here](#).

For more information about the *Educational Choice for Children Act* and how your organization can help make this a reality, please contact Peter Murphy at pmurphy@investineducation.org.