



Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School

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Office of the Principal

March 19, 2021

My dear Parents,

During this past year especially, you and I have engaged in every possible means of communication: phone, zoom, robo-call, email, postal mail, in-person and via YouTube. We have spoken, planned and prayed together and the result is self-evident: ***we are here...open....thriving and hopeful for the future!***

Looking ahead with optimism is propelling us to make plans now for the faculty, students and families who will be in our building on September 8 of this year. Like any business or family unit, the budget considerations are enormous. Providing adequate instruction within a safe and attractive setting requires financial planning and realistic expectation of payment for those services. Over the past four years, there was only one tuition increase (in 2019) due first to the slowing of the economy, and secondly with the pandemic. We tried very hard to limit the increase in deference to family priorities. This coming year, however, we will need to increase the tuition rate by \$400 for the first child in the family. (The complete chart is at the end of this letter.)

We ask you to realize that OLH students (in normal times) have the use of a full gymnasium, auditorium, library, 2 Science labs, rooms designated for art, music, dance, special education, a full computer lab (with no additional fees for library or computer) and a new, functional playground. Additionally, we provide each child with a Chromebook or an iPad for class without any additional expense to you.

As a balance to these considerations, please share our concern over the rising costs of health benefits for our teachers, normal utility increases and the enormous increase in our building and property liability and risk insurance. Teachers' salaries will go up again as well (although the increases do not really compensate the teachers adequately for their service.)

When we weigh the facts, we also pass along the good news that the ***Tomorrow's Hope Foundation*** is readily available to assist families who are in need of financial assistance to continue Catholic elementary education. The amount of funding will be increased this year...but....families must apply online and supply the necessary documentation. That is not something we can do for you, but we urge you to make contact NOW if you seek some help. The Foundation has been very generous to many OLH families over the years and I know they will continue to find ways to help. (Suggestion: do it NOW before funding runs out. Access is on the website)

There are three things that seem to be related here and we share these with you:

- The ***base tuition*** is now set, and there is still the question of the five hundred dollar increment for those who are not supportive Catholic parishioners. That additional amount is actually covered by the monthly subsidies of the three supporting parishes. ***Effective immediately:*** In order to be charged the base rate as a parishioner, you MUST visit your pastor to verify your family registration in that parish. (That does include your ***financial and social support*** of that parish). When the 2021-22 tuition bills are mailed out in

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Chartered by the New York State Department of Education
Accredited by Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
Accredited by Cognia (AdvancEd)*

July, your family bill will reflect that approval. Even those who have been at OLH for years will need a new card. (Cards will be given to the pastor for his use at the rectory or parish office.)

- It is our goal to keep our school family intact, so PLEASE.....if this tuition increase will keep your child from returning to school, please come and talk about it. We can then direct you to Tomorrow's Hope or help you find ways to make this difference.
- While there is no formal in-school tuition assistance program, we do, occasionally, get gifts or donations that specify that funds should be used to assist families in need. We have been able to help more than a few times for specific critical needs especially with things that evolved once the pandemic set in. If there is anyone who is financially able to offer to **sponsor another student** or to make a tax-deductible contribution to a **"tuition needs" fund**, we would be grateful. (All will be acknowledged by the school for tax purposes and applied anonymously as specific needs arise.)

Today is the feast of St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, husband of Mary and patron of my congregation, the Sisters of St. Joseph. Joseph was a carpenter, a just and patient man, a role model and good provider. Our sisters live his spirit and seek every opportunity to be aware of the needs of others, to embrace diversity and create a community of loving, caring and aware people. In this spirit, I ask that you please continue to in this spirit TOGETHER. Trust in OLH...in our God as Joseph did!

Sincerely in Christ,

Sister Kathy

GENERAL BASE TUITION - GRADES K-8

2021-2022

REGISTERED, SUPPORTING (with pastor approval card) PARISHIONER
Our Lady of Poland, Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, St. Rosalie, Most Holy Trinity,
Our Lady of the Isle, St. Andrew, St. Therese,
Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

1st child \$6400 2nd child \$4800 Each additional child \$3200

******VERIFICATION OF PARISH SUPPORT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO AUGUST 15 IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR THE IN-PARISH TUITION**

NON-REGISTERED CATHOLICS and NON-CATHOLICS

1st child \$6900 2nd child \$5200 Each additional child \$3500
4 year old 3 days \$4000
4 year old 5 full days \$5000

GENERAL FEES (Each Child K-8) \$350

INCLUDES RELIGION TEXT, TESTING FEES, ART FEE, TECHNOLOGY FEE (including Chromebook use), LAB FEES, LIBRARY, PLANNER, PREP GYM BAG GENERAL INSURANCE FEE, Tech device insurance fee (pk-8)

ADDITIONAL 8th grade GRADUATION (*) FEE \$300

(includes all graduation expenses, caps and gowns, medals, Regents Biology lab work