

**St. John-Holy Angels Parish
82 Possum Park Road
Newark, Delaware 19711**

February, 2012

Dear Parents,

As we begin preparations for the 2012-2013 school year and registration of your child for our next academic year, I would like to thank you for choosing Holy Angels School for your child's education. We offer a quality Catholic education for the greater Newark area and are committed to doing so for years to come. In partnership with our families, we strive for excellence in our educational services.

Because you are a registered family of St. John-Holy Angels Parish you qualify for a parishioner-rate tuition which is less than standard rate tuition and far below the real cost of per pupil costs for our educational program. You qualify for this reduced rate because you also contribute a stewardship offering to the parish through your weekly Offertory envelope. This contribution is distributed \$15 per week for the calendar year.

Being a *parishioner* not only means a reduction in tuition and a weekly contribution to the support of the parish; but more so it means that you are committed to the teachings and doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church, especially through regular participation in the sacramental and worship life of the church in weekly Mass attendance.

Many school families do not attend mass regularly either at St. John the Baptist or Holy Angels churches. Their weekly offertory contribution is usually dropped off or sent by mail to the Parish Office. Some families simply join the parish to save money on tuition and have no intention of participating in the spiritual life of the parish. They are parishioners only because they completed a parish census card. Still others ignore their parish commitment of stewardship altogether.

These financial arrangements are awkward. Parish membership primarily is a way of creating a community of faith for believers in Jesus Christ and a place where they celebrate that faith through worship, sacraments and fellowship. Because the religious formation of our children is important, Holy Angels School participates in the mission of the parish.

For all parishioners who choose St. John-Holy Angels Parish as their faith community, stewardship is not optional; it is a responsibility to support the mission of the Church including the formation and education of our children. These requirements are clear in your yearly Financial Agreement with Holy Angels School.

I look forward to joining you in our many school activities in the coming year as well as at the table of the Eucharist at St. John the Baptist or Holy Angels Church.

May God bless you and your children,

Father Arthur Fiore

Pastor