

From the Development Committee

Q. What is Annual Giving and why do we need it?

A. Annual Giving is an important and vital part of Greenwich Catholic School's operating budget. It helps to ensure the financial viability of the school. Funds raised through the Campaign help us close the gap between tuition revenues and the actual cost of educating a student. The Annual Giving Campaign supports Greenwich Catholic School's commitment to providing the highest quality education possible for our students. ***GCS will accept credit card payment for donations. Please contact Mary Flume, the business manager, for processing.***

Q. Why doesn't tuition cover the cost of educating our students?

A. As in most private school operating budgets, the cost of educating students is considerably more than the cost of tuition. Only 73% of the cost of educating our students is covered by tuition. Although our parishes through the Diocese of Bridgeport contribute an annual flat amount to our operating budget, it is not sufficient to significantly impact the tuition revenue "gap". For these reasons, the Annual Giving Campaign is very important to our school. Although Greenwich Catholic School has raised tuition over the last few years, we are committed to making our school accessible to those who wish their children to be educated in the Roman Catholic tradition. Annual Giving helps us to ensure that we have the financial ability to maintain this commitment and helps keep our tuition manageable for all of the wonderful families that make up our school. Please note that within the school's operating budget, we fund tuition assistance.

Q. What kind of programs does the Annual Giving Campaign specifically support?

A. Each year, money donated to the Annual Giving Campaign enables GCS to retain a highly skilled faculty; maintain and enhance our campus facilities; support the significant athletic, music and art programs; and provides supports for any special projects outside the normal operating budget.

Q. Who should give to the Annual Fund?

A. EVERYONE who is a part of the Greenwich Catholic School community including current families, alumnae, grandparents, corporations, the school's Board of Directors, Board of Education and friends. GCS seeks to ensure that 100% of families participate in the Annual Giving Campaign. It is absolutely vital that everyone contributes and provides support for the economic vitality of the school. Remember, an Annual Giving donation is tax deductible while tuition is not.

Q. How important is the size of my gift? If I cannot contribute a large sum, does it matter?

A. All gifts, whether big or small, help us to provide the programs, curriculum and administration required to keep our school superior and to ensure its future strength. We need and value every family's support in every way. Your gift, regardless of the amount, will provide additional resources and will often serve to encourage others to make a gift. Corporate matching gifts are also a wonderful way to increase the size of your gift. We encourage everyone to give generously in proportion to his or her ability to give.

Q. Can I restrict my gift?

A. Yes, gifts may be restricted for scholarships and specific purposes. However, it is preferred that restricted gifts should not take the place of an Annual Giving donation.

Q. What is the Angel Society?

A. The Angel Society recognizes donors who support the mission of Greenwich Catholic School and value Catholic education. Members of the Angel Society include family and friends of GCS who make a contribution in honor of or in memory of a current or past student, faculty member or friend.

Q. Why is percentage participation important?

A. High participation in the Annual Giving Campaign is an important way for us to demonstrate the commitment and dedication of our parents, alumni and friends of Greenwich Catholic School to others in our community and to prospective families. Also, foundations and corporations awarding grants to educational institutions often look at the level of parent, alumni and community participation in the School's Annual Fund.

Q. Does it matter what time of year that I make my donation?

A. Yes, donations and pledges made early in the year help us with strategic planning and setting budgetary guidelines for the next school year. Early donations and pledges also help us to better determine whether we will meet campaign goals set from the previous year's budget for technology improvements, scholarships and other expenditures that will benefit to the school in the current school year.

Q. How do Corporate Matching Gifts work?

A. Please leverage your gift to Greenwich Catholic School through your company's Corporate Matching Gift Program. Many corporations will match your gift up to 100% to the school. Corporate matching gifts forms differ per each company and are usually available through your benefits department or online---fill out the employee portion of the form and submit it with your gift to the school---the Development Office will take care of the rest and submit for the match. Corporate Matching Gifts truly maximize your donation to the school.

Q. How do I contribute to the Annual Giving Campaign and whom do I contact for more information?

A. Make your tax-deductible donation in any of these ways:

*** Check made payable to Greenwich Catholic School**

*** Credit Card-Visa, MasterCard**

*** Appreciated Securities-call or e-mail the Development Office for transfer**

Instructions

Gifts in Kind- Gifts of tangible personal property such as art, antiques, musical instruments, or other items that can be used by Greenwich Catholic School for educational purposes are welcomed. You will receive an income tax deduction for the market value of the property based on an independent appraisal.

Be sure to check with your employer to find out whether you can double or triple your gift through a matching gift program.

Please email the Greenwich Catholic School Development Office at development@greenwichcatholicschool.org or call the office at 203-869-4000 ext. 139
