

St. Mary's Catholic School
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Bird Island, MN 55310
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Family Commitment Policy for the 2026-2027 School Year

St. Mary's School is a Catholic School that prides itself in maintaining a high standard of quality education. To meet this standard, St. Mary's School relies heavily on each family to contribute to fundraising, to serve on a committee(s), and to pay tuition. These three areas are essential in offsetting the cost to educate a student.

Therefore, it is imperative for all families to meet the following requirements laid out in this policy adopted by St. Mary's School Education Committee and approved by St. Mary's Church Administrative Council and Pastor. **Each family attests to its commitment by signing the final page of this policy.**

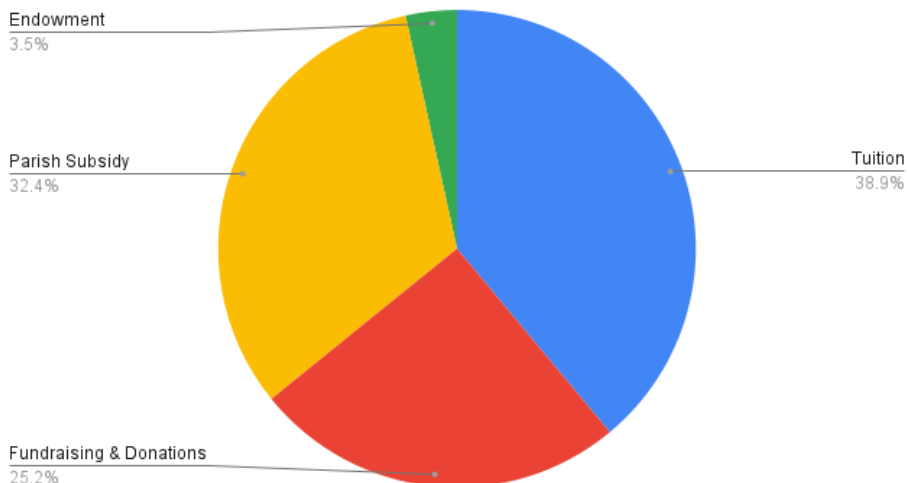
COST TO EDUCATE:

For 2025-2026, the cost to educate was \$9,704/pupil.

School Revenue	2025-2026
Tuition	\$506,450
Fundraising & Donations	\$327,934
Parish Subsidy	\$420,956
Endowment	\$45,000
Total	\$1,300,340

School Expenses	2025-2026
Salaries	\$1,005,209
Plant & Operations	\$136,536
Instructional	\$65,110
Other Administrative	\$93,485
Total	\$1,300,340
Prek - 8 Enrollment	134
Cost to Educate	\$9,704

2025-2026 School Revenue Breakdown



Fundraiser Commitment

One effort to keep tuition affordable is to fundraise. Below is the list of fundraisers families are expected to participate in and how much they are expected to sell.

For Preschool & PreK ($\frac{3}{4}$ year old class & $\frac{1}{2}$ year old class)

Being a part of the St. Mary's School family, fundraisers are an integral part of our life together. Tuition only covers a very small portion of tuition costs. There are two separate fundraisers (popcorn sales & fudge sales) that are required for all preschoolers and prekindergarteners.

For each fundraiser, you have the following options:

- Option 1: Sales
Sell \$200. Play Island will profit 50% (\$100).
- Option 2: Buyout
Write a check to Play Island for \$100. No product sales.
- Option 3: Combination
Sell any amount of product.
If the amount sold is under \$200, pay the remaining balance. Ex: \$50 in sales or (\$25 profit) = \$100-\$25 or \$75 due for buyout.

Any buyout or remaining balance not paid by check at the end of the fundraiser will be assessed to tuition at the end of the fundraisers.

K - 8th grade

- Marathon - Families are expected to raise donations, but there is no set amount of donations to be raised for this fundraiser per family or student. If our goal was spread out over the 75 families, it would be about \$800/family. If it was spread out over the 120 students, it would be about \$500/student.
- Winter Raffle - Families are **required** to sell at least 4 tickets at \$50/ticket. **Tickets not sold will be assessed to tuition.**
- Cash Calendar - Families are required to sell **10** Cash Calendars at \$30.00 each for a total of \$300.00. The money from the sales and any unsold calendars are due by December 1 of that school year. Any unsold calendars will be applied to your tuition account. If more than the required 10 calendars are sold, a \$20.00 per extra calendar sold will be applied to the family's tuition account. Credit will not be issued until after the first of the year and can only be used for tuition.
- Prime Rib Dinner - Families are asked to contribute to their grade level baskets.
- Marion Golf - **Families are required to sell one - \$100 raffle ticket. Tickets not sold will be assessed to tuition.**

Without fundraisers, the cost of tuition would need to increase by at least \$2,400/student.

Service Commitment

SMART Committees

Another way to keep costs down is to have families serve as volunteers for a variety of events and ways that lessen staffing needs. St. Mary's also believes that we do that better together and when leading by example. Your parent service commitment is an opportunity to help build a culture of service and provides a great opportunity to meet other families and see our mission in action. It is the expectation at St Mary's School that each family contributes a minimum of 10 hours of volunteering by committing to serve on one large assignment or choose 2 smaller assignments, as listed below. If family members are unable to fulfill their time commitments for that event, they are obligated to find replacements to work for them. **Please see the attached form to complete your choice.**

Option A - 1 Service Event Commitment	Option B - 2 Service Events Commitment
Chair a Committee Prime Rib Dinner Marion Open Cash Calendars Room Parents	Back to School Blast STREAM Night CSW Staff Appreciation Luncheon Book Fair Play Island Fundraisers Winter / CUF Raffle

Tuition Commitment

For PreSchool (3/4 & 4/5 year olds)

Cost of Tuition

3-Year-Old Half Days	\$1,400/year - 3 - ½ days (\$155.56 / 9-month payments) \$1,850/year - 4 - ½ days (\$205.56 / 9-month payments) \$2,300/year - 5 - ½ days (\$255.56 / 9-month payments)
3-Year-Old Full Days	\$2,700/year - 3 full days (\$300.00 / 9-month payments) \$3,600/year - 4 full days (\$400.00 / 9-month payments) \$4,500/year - 5 full days (\$500.00 / 9-month payments)
4/5-Year-Old Full Days	\$4,500/year (\$500.00/ 9-month payments)

Other schedules may be possible based on enrollment with cost TBD. Payments starting in June is an option if registered before June 1, 2026

K - 8 Tuition \$4,200/year (\$456.67/ 9-month payments)

Multi-Student Discount

First Child	\$ 0.00	Three Children	\$ 350.00
Two Children	\$ 100.00	Four Children	\$ 850.00

Multi-student discounts are only applicable to full-time students.

Tuition Payment Plan Procedures

1. The person(s) registering students is/are responsible for setting up and paying tuition.
2. St. Mary's School utilizes the FACTS management program to manage tuition accounts.
 - a. NEW FAMILIES must enroll in FACTS on registering or prior to the Back to School Blast, whichever is later.
 - i. To enroll in FACTS, you will need to do one of the following:
 1. Go to the webpage: <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3D5RG>
 2. Go to the "New User" or create an account.
 3. Fill in all questions, bank information and select your payment option.
 - b. RETURNING FAMILIES will automatically be rolled over from the previous year to the new school year in the middle of May of the current school year. If you want to change your payment plan in any way (number of payments, credit card information, bank information, etc.) it would all have to be changed within 30 days after the rollover in May.
 - c. There are links on the St. Mary's website (www.stmarysschoolbirdisland.com) to assist you with this process if needed, or you may call the school office for assistance.
 - d. Once you have completed the steps above, you may view your information by going to www.online.factsmgt.com. **Do not view your information by going back to the steps listed above – by doing this, you will create another account for your family.**
3. All families will be assessed an enrollment fee by FACTS based on the payment plan the family selects.
 - a. **Payment Plan Options**
 - i. One-Payment Plan – Pay full tuition balance on/prior to the first day of school.
 - ii. Two-Payment Plan - Payments are made in August and March.
 - iii. Four-Month Payment Plan - Payments are in July, October, January and April.
 - iv. 12, 11 or 10-Month Payment Plan - Payments will begin in either June (12 month), July (11 month), or August (10 month)
 - b. **Enrollment Fee and Incidental Billing Fee**
 - i. One-Payment Plan: \$5.00
 - ii. Two-Payment Plan: \$15.00
 - iii. Three or More-Payment Plan: \$50.00

4. Tuition payments can be made one of two ways:
 - a. Electronic Payments (ACH or Credit Card Payments) are the preferred options in paying tuition and are processed by FACTS:
 - i. ACH payments are withdrawn from your designated bank account on the 5th, the 15th, or the last day of each month.
 - ii. Payments made using a credit card, MasterCard, Discover, or Visa are acceptable. Those paying with a card will be charged a fee. Charges to your credit would be on the 5th, the 15th, or the last day of each month.
 - b. Payments made by check need to be sent or dropped off at the school and should be made payable to St. Mary's School.
5. Each family is allowed to move a due date for a payment three times during the school year. Requests for a change in payment date must be in writing and given to the office at school at least two weeks prior to the original due date. Payment dates for a given month may only be changed once unless approved by administration.
6. Tuition accounts must be current in order for students to participate in any type of class field trip and for an eighth grade student to participate in the graduation ceremony.
7. Late fee and past due tuition must be paid to FACTS before a student can register for the new school year.
8. Limited tuition assistance is available under the following conditions and restrictions:
 - a. Applications may occur at any time throughout the year, and more than once, if a change in your personal financial conditions necessitates the need for tuition assistance.
 - b. Pertinent financial information must accompany the application. All information remains confidential.
 - c. Financial assistance will be distributed based on need and availability.
9. If you are applying for tuition assistance, the following steps must be taken:
 - a. Obtain a Tuition Assistance Form from the office at the school or on the website.
 - b. Return completed forms in a sealed envelope to the school office. All applications will be processed in a timely manner.
 - c. You will receive notification from the principal regarding your tuition assistance status.
 - d. If a tuition assistance dollar amount has been awarded and applied to a family's account within a designated school year and the family chooses to leave St. Mary's School, the family will be held responsible for reimbursing St. Mary's School for the financial amount awarded.
10. Early Withdrawal: If a family chooses to withdraw a student prior to the end of the school year, the family will be responsible for all tuition due to the end of the current quarter when the student is withdrawn.