

# From the Development Committee

## *What is the Annual Giving Campaign and why do we need it?*

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.

## *Why doesn't tuition cover the cost of educating our students?*

As in most private school operating budgets, the cost of educating students is considerably more than the cost of tuition. Only 77% of the cost of educating our students is covered by tuition. For this reason, The Annual Giving Campaign is very important to our school. Although GCS 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 families that make up our school. Please note that within the school's operating budget, we fund tuition assistance.

## *What kind of programs does The Annual Giving Campaign specifically support?*

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

## *Who should give to the Annual Giving Campaign?*

EVERYONE who is a part of the Greenwich Catholic School community – including current families, alumnae, grandparents, corporations, the school's 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.

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

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.

## *Can I restrict my gift?*

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.

## *What is the Angel Society?*

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

### ***Why is percentage participation important?***

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 GCS 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 Giving Campaign.

### ***Does it matter what time of the year I make my donation?***

Yes, donations and pledges made early in the Campaign 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 the school in the current school year.

### ***How do Corporate Matching Gifts work?***

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 gift 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. We will take care of the rest and submit for the match. Please send your donation and matching gift form to Betsy Mercede at school.

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

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

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

- check made payable to Greenwich Catholic School
- credit card: Visa, Mastercard and Amex
- appreciated securities: call or e-mail [bmercede@gcsct.org](mailto:bmercede@gcsct.org) for transfer instructions

### ***What about 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. Please contact the principal, Mrs. Kopas, regarding such a donation.

For any further questions, please contact Betsy Mercede at [bmercede@gcsct.org](mailto:bmercede@gcsct.org) or call 203 869-4000 x 139.