



Catholic Education Parish Grant

Empowering Families, Strengthening Communities

At Saint Peter Saint Joan of Arc Parish, we believe in nurturing a personal relationship with Christ, fostering a sense of community among families, and ensuring access to quality Catholic education. Our Catholic Education Parish Grant aims to support registered parishioners who seek financial assistance for their children's education, while also encouraging active participation in parish life and stewardship.

This funding is for registered, active parishioners enrolled at a Catholic school (K-12), who are in need of financial support after applying for other modes of financial support and scholarships, including Ohio's EdChoice, The Emmaus Road Scholarships, and other local, parish, and Diocesan scholarships.

Our Mission

- **Foster Spiritual Growth:** We strive to deepen the spiritual connection of our parishioners with Christ through sacramental life and active participation in parish ministries.
- **Support Catholic Education:** We are committed to reducing financial barriers to Catholic education for families in need, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to grow academically and spiritually in a nurturing environment.
- **Stewardship and Accountability:** We manage parishioner donations responsibly, ensuring that funds are allocated efficiently and transparently to support our mission and community.

Funding Guidelines – 2025-2026 Academic Year

In order to qualify for the Saint Peter Saint Joan of Arc Parishioner Catholic Education Parish Grant, applicants must be/have:

- Officially registered in the parish for a minimum of 6 months,
- Recognizable by the pastor as a family participating in the sacramental life of the parish,
 - All families must attend one of the annual meetings with Father Schalk. Meeting dates are:
 - Sunday, February 2, at 1:15 p.m. at Saint Joan of Arc Social Hall (after the 12:00 p.m. Mass) – English Session
 - Saturday, February 8, at 9:30 a.m. at Saint Joan of Arc Social Hall – English Session

- Sunday, February 9, at 2:15 p.m. at Saint Peter Blue Room (after the 1:00 p.m. Spanish Mass) – Spanish Session
 - Monday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Peter Blue Room – English Session
- If families are unable to attend one of the meetings, they will need to notify the Parish Grant Volunteer Coordinator and schedule an alternate individual meeting with Father Schalk before the request deadline (March 15, 2025).
- Contributing time and talent to the ministries of the parish,
 - All families wishing to receive funding must participate in the annual Stewardship Commitment Campaigns for Time and Talent (Fall 2025) by completing and submitting the Commitment Card.
- Regularly contributing a portion of their annual income to the financial support of the parish by a trackable means (online giving, collection envelopes, check, etc.),
 - All families wishing to receive funding must participate in the annual Stewardship of Treasure Offertory Appeal (Winter 2025) by completing and submitting a Pledge Card.
- Completed and submitted the Saint Peter Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Education Parish Grant form, including the Covenant acknowledging adherence to all guidelines, by request deadline (March 15, 2025).
- Completed the Tuition Grant Agreement and returned it to SPSJOA by April 15, 2025.

Additionally, all parishioners requesting the Parish Grant are highly encouraged to

- Apply for Ohio’s EdChoice by the deadline ([see website](#)),
- Apply online through FACTs for tuition assistance and scholarships, including the Emmaus Road Scholarships and Diocesan Annual Tuition Assistance by the deadline ([see website](#)),
- Apply for other outside scholarships, such as the following:
 - The Catholic Foundation Scholarships
 - School endowments, scholarships, and grants
 - Other parish endowments, scholarships, and grants, such as the Luther Orlick Scholarship offered by the SPSJOA Men’s Club

Funding Amount

- Elementary School (K-8) Students: For eligible students, the parish will provide funding up to 50% of the final balance, totaling no more than \$2,500/student annually.
- High School (9-12) Students: For eligible students, the parish will provide \$1,000 per student annually.
- Additional support may be available at the discretion of the Pastor.

Ongoing Monitoring and Annual Review

- The Director of Stewardship or Volunteer Coordinator will regularly monitor attendance and participation of parishioners receiving funding.

- Notification of Non-Adherence:
 - Funding recipients will receive written communication if staff identifies issues with their level of participation.
 - Encouragement for recipients to contact staff if there are discrepancies in parish records or if assistance is needed to comply with guidelines.
- Annual Review Process:
 - Each funding recipient will undergo an annual review.
 - Recipients will receive clear communication regarding their adherence to guidelines.
 - Funding renewal status for the following year may be in jeopardy if non-adherence is identified during the review.
- Appeal Process:
 - See “Appeals Process” under Request Form & Process for more information.

Request Process

All families wishing to receive funding must complete and submit a request form (digital or printed) to the Volunteer Coordinator by the deadline.

Request deadline

- Requests are accepted on a rolling basis.
- **Final deadline: March 15, 2025**
- Additional funds may be available after this date but are not guaranteed.

Request Evaluation:

- Each request will be assessed by the Volunteer Coordinator with secondary review by the Director of Stewardship.
- Evaluation includes adherence to guidelines and qualification for funding.
- All requests will be reviewed by the Pastor for final approval or denial.

Decision Communication:

- Decisions regarding eligibility for Funding will be communicated to families via written communication.
- Notification to be provided on a rolling basis and no later than July 11, 2025, unless otherwise noted.
- Funding amounts will be communicated to families once the parish receives confirmation of the family’s final balance amount.

Appeals Process:

- Applicants can appeal decisions.
 - If parishioners are unable to meet the outlined guidelines during the request, annual review, or request for refunding processes, parishioners are able to appeal the decision or asset of their adherence to the guidelines.
- Appeals require documentation demonstrating compliance with guidelines.

- Appeals will be reviewed by the Pastor and Director of Stewardship, and decisions made on a case-by-case basis.

Have questions?

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Melissa Mitrey, at info@spsjoa.org or (614) 761-0905, or contact our parish office during business hours.

We're here to support you in your journey of faith and education.

Saint Peter Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Education Parish Grant is made possible through the generosity of our parishioners and donors who share our commitment to faith and education.