***Questions & Answers about the Annual Fund***

**Why does tuition not cover the cost to educate a student at Holy Redeemer?**

We continually strive to keep costs low and tuition affordable. Because tuition covers a percentage of the operating budget, Holy Redeemer depends on the unrestricted Annual Fund gifts to help close the gap between tuition revenue and the true cost of educating a Holy Redeemer student. Safety protocols and technology needs related to COVID-19 have had a significant impact on our budget. These costs were not passed on to families as part of the 2020-2021 tuition. Holy Redeemer strives to make our tuition affordable to any family who desires a Catholic education for their children. While tuition is not tax deductible, the Annual Fund may be deducted from your taxes because no goods or services were rendered.

**What do I get for my Annual Fund contribution?**

Annual Fund contributions allow Holy Redeemer the programs and facilities that help sustain the high level of academic excellence we strive for. It allows us to:

* Offer professional development opportunities for our staff
* Enhance the curriculum through technology and enrichment
* Maintain the school building and grounds
* Provide financial assistance to those families in need

**Why should every Holy Redeemer family make a contribution to the Annual Fund?**

* Contributions help to bridge the gap per student between tuition income and the full cost to educate each student for the 2020-2021 school year.
* 100% participation from parents and faculty/staff in the Annual Fund continues to be a standard criterion when applying to foundations for grants.
* Gifts made to the Annual Fund are **tax-deductible**, unlike our tuition dollars.

**How much should I give to the Annual Fund? How does a contribution make a difference?**

At the beginning of each school year, the Principal, Business Office and Finance committee analyze the operating costs and the goals of our Annual Fund to determine a recommended contribution for families. This year, we remain at **$675** per student in each family. If your family can contribute more than the recommended amount, thank you!

We have made it easy for you to pay your Annual Fund pledge with several payment options: one-time FACTS billing, online donations through VANCO, credit card or checking/savings accounts (monthly option available) or checks paid in full to Holy Redeemer Catholic School. For example… a family with one student that contributes $675 and chooses to pay monthly until the last payment (May 15, 2021) would have $75 a month withdrawn from their savings or checking account or payments on credit card from September through May.

**How does the Annual Fund differ from other fundraising efforts such as the Gala (Car Raffle & Auction?)**

Annual Fund contributions are "unrestricted.” These tax deductions are attractive to many donors and, at times, contributions to the Annual Fund may qualify for Matching Gift contributions from major corporations.

In a typical year, event fundraising such as the Gala/Auction help to build school community while raising money for technology, financial aid and school enhancements. With the uncertainty of the pandemic, it is unclear how we will move forward with events, making the success of the Annual Fund more important than ever.

**How do I find out if my employer matches donations to Holy Redeemer Catholic School?**

The best way to find out is to contact your Human Resources Department or visit the company website for detailed information. These gifts help increase a donor’s gifts to the school. A list of Matching Gift companies is enclosed.

**Will Holy Redeemer accept stock donations?**

**Yes**! Many times the gift of appreciated stock offers tax benefits to the donor. The donor can take a charitable tax deduction for the current fair market value of the stock and avoid the capital gain tax on the appreciation.

***Holy Redeemer Fundraising at a Glance***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| WHAT | FREQUENCY | WHAT IS DOES | WHAT IT FUNDS |
|  |  |  |  |
| Annual Fund | Every Year | The Annual Fund allows Holy Redeemer to close the gap between the tuition charged and the cost to educate each child. | Contributes toward a variety of school operating expenses |
| Planned Giving | Once | Helps to insure the financial future of Holy Redeemer. | Donor’s intentions |
| Gala/Car Raffle | Every Year | Event fundraising such as the Gala/Auction, help to build school community. | It raises additional money for technology, financial aid and school enhancements. |
|  |  |  |  |

***Other ways to give at no cost to you!***

* **Kroger** – Visit Kroger.com and register your Kroger Plus card. Log into your Account Summary and on the left hand side select Community Rewards where you can add Holy Redeemer as your organization. The Kroger number for Holy Redeemer is HW310. This must be done annually.
* **AmazonSmile** – Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5 % of the purchase price to Holy Redeemer. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, select Holy Redeemer to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection and every purchase you make will result in a donation.

***Donate to Holy Redeemer:***

* Online at hrcatholicschool.org/Ways to Give
* Check paid in full
* VANCO –one-time or monthly payments from checking/ savings account (form enclosed)
* Through FACTS
* Matching Gifts

For questions about the Annual Fund or anything else in the Advancement office, please contact Jennifer Leonard, Director of Advancement [jleonard@hrcatholicschool.org](mailto:jleonard@hrcatholicschool.org). Thank you for your support of Holy Redeemer Catholic School.