



ST. JOSEPH'S EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION

Dear fellow parishioners,

As I am sure you all know, the St. Joseph's Educational Foundation has always worked closely with the St. Joseph Parish in order to honor Monsignor Caulfield's true legacy of promoting Catholic Education in our community. Therefore, the Foundation feels that the St. Joseph's parishioners deserve an apology and an explanation for the recent decline in presence within the St. Joseph Parish community. Although it is not of our doing, we nevertheless extend our most sincere apologies to all the parishioners. Because of the surprising lack of support and cooperation the Foundation has received from the Orlando Diocese, the St. Joseph Parish, and the St. Joseph Academy since Father Ramon's departure, we have been forced to suspend all fundraising and educational events for the 2020 year.

The St. Joseph's Education Foundation is aware of various rumors circulating throughout our community regarding our status and charitable activities. Please be advised that, although our relationship with the Orlando Diocese, the Parish, and the Academy has become strained, we are keeping Father John's legacy alive by actively supporting Catholic Education for our parish families more than ever.

In 2018, due to the changing circumstances beyond our control, the Foundation expanded its purpose by actively developing and promoting a scholarship to benefit all St. Joseph children who want to go to Catholic school. By doing this, we remain true to our original mission to provide Catholic education to our parishioners, primarily through scholarship and maintaining our status as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization.

At this time, the Foundation provides direct scholarship opportunities to any active parish family who wishes to have their children attend any of our four Catholic schools within Lakeland, Florida. The St. Joseph's Educational Foundation currently funds up to 40% of the tuition for each student attending St. Joseph Academy in Lakeland, and Santa Fe Catholic High School. The Foundation also offers a 20% tuition scholarship for St. Joseph Parish families that choose to send their children to Resurrection Catholic School or St. Anthony's Catholic School. This approach has allowed the Foundation to assist a much larger number of the Parish families wishing to seek a quality Catholic Education for their children while catering to their school preference and geographical location within our Community. The difference in scholarship funding is due to restrictions placed upon those schools by the Diocese of Orlando.

In addition, in order to better serve our Catholic community, we have also approached and offered to assist in funding educational enhancement programs at both St. Joseph Academy and Santa Fe Catholic High School.

However, as you know, the Foundation, as a 501(c)(3) organization, has continuously depended on the amazing generosity of our parishioners, sponsors, and donors throughout the years in order to aid all Parish families seeking a Catholic Education in our community. In order to fund our scholarship program, we depend on annual fundraisers such as our beloved Chip for Education Golf Tournament, which has been a staple in our community for the last twenty-eight years, and our newest fundraiser, Clays for Kids. Last year alone, the Foundation was able to grant a total of over \$580,000.00 in tuition scholarships for Catholic Education.

We are also aware that without the St Joseph's Educational Foundation tuition assistance scholarship program, many of these students would not have been able to receive or continue their Catholic Education in the years to come. The St. Joseph's Educational Foundation has unfortunately been prohibited from advertising in the St. Joseph Parish's bulletin. However, we will continue to advertise via social media to ensure that our parishioners and supporters are fully informed of our progress. We urge you to follow us on Facebook and/or visit our website for news on upcoming events. The St. Joseph's Educational Foundation would not exist if it were not for the generosity of parishioners like you and the various men and women of our Polk County community that donate their time and resources for the success of our Foundation. We Thank You!

The St. Joseph's Educational Foundation remains STRONG and we will continue to work for our parishioners and their families. We hope to come to a resolution with the Orlando Diocese in the near future, so we can continue our mission with the Parish's full support. The St. Joseph's Educational Foundation and all the businessmen and women committed to our Foundation will continue supporting Catholic Education with the blessing and guidance from Heavens above from our beloved Monsignor Caulfield. Let's not forget this is his TRUE Legacy.

If you wish to continue supporting our children, you could do so by visiting our website <https://www.sjedfoundation.com/> and clicking on the Donation page or contact our Marketing Director Maittee Grana at (863) 535-5225 or mgranasjed@gmail.com.

May God continue blessing our success and blessing to all our families!

In Christ;



Daniel Pilka

Chair of St. Joseph's Educational Foundation