



ST. ANTHONY
—DE PADUA—
CATHOLIC PARISH

May 3, 2019

Dear St. Anthony de Padua Families,

As we near the end of the 2018-2019 school year, we know there are many questions circulating concerning the 2019-2020 school year. This school year has been a season of graces being spread upon our community. Most importantly is the sacramental life of the students, as well as a solid and faith based education of the whole self, with an emphasis on Catholic virtues and preparation for high school and life beyond. Some highlights include the Light of the World program, the 4 Star School recognition from the Indiana Department of Education, a grant for much needed school improvements from the Mary Cross Tippmann Foundation (including new carpet in every classroom, new Viewsonic interactive boards, and new dry-erase white boards), and an updated website and logo.

As we prepare for the 2019-2020 school year a number of areas had to be examined. Over the last eight years, the school has had a decline in enrollment, however there are marketing and strategic plans in motion to stabilize our enrollment thanks to the hard work and leadership of our School Board. Additionally, with enrollment ever in flux, it is necessary to address our needs in a responsible, prudent, and effective way. Unfortunately, this includes a reduction in staffing. Working with the Diocesan Catholic School Office and following diocesan policy, we have had to make some very difficult decisions regarding personnel for next school year. Should enrollment increase to necessitate additional staffing for 2019-2020 school year, we will be able to invite back those impacted. While we cannot discuss the specific individuals impacted, please know it was a challenging decision, done with utmost prayer, consideration, and help from the Catholic Schools Office and the Holy Spirit. Also know that the diocese has policies in place to assist those individuals who have been impacted due to the reduction in staff to attain employment in other local Catholic schools.

This reduction is difficult, but necessary. Meanwhile, we are preparing for an excellent 2019-2020 school year. We remain committed to spiritual formation, strong community, and academic excellence. Our teachers are working on collaborative and dynamic planning for next year with plans to include Art, PE, Spanish, Music, and Computer Science. We look forward to enhancements to our *Light of the World* program as well.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our parish and school. May St. Anthony de Padua continue to pray for us.

Fr. Robert Garrow
Pastor

Mrs. Karen Bogol
Principal