



Celebrating in Support of Catholic Education



For more than 150 years, Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Nashville – from Lawrenceburg and Loretto to Murfreesboro and Madison and across the mid-State – have made a difference in the lives of young men and women. These schools' commitment to quality education, taught with the timeless truths of our Catholic faith and offered to all who wish it- regardless of financial status-has produced leaders across all fields, from business to the arts, from medicine to the alter, from athletics to education.

Making that exceptional educational experience accessible as tuition has risen across all of education was the reason the Advancement of Catholic Education (formally the Endowment for the Advancement of Catholic Schools) was created in 1992. ACE is committed to supporting the mission of Catholic education by helping to meet the growing financial needs of parochial schools.

The Catholic Education Difference

Numerous national studies point to the difference a Catholic education makes:

- Students in Catholic schools demonstrate higher academic achievement than their public school peers from similar backgrounds.
- Catholic school graduates enjoy higher earning potential than public school graduates.
- The Catholic school climate, mission and purpose positively impact student achievement and attendance.

The ACE Impact

ACE funds are designated for Catholic education within the Diocese of Nashville, primarily for tuition assistance. ACE has provided support through the parochial schools that has benefitted more than 300 families, making approximately 15 awards each year. The fund was created to supplement other fundraising events at school such as Galas, annual funds, and capital campaigns.

- Today, the endowment is valued at more than \$3.8 million
- Over the past 10 years ACE has awarded \$850k in grants primarily for tuition assistance
- There are 28 separate funds in ACE, with at least one for every one of the 19 schools in the Diocese.
- Applications are presented to ACE from individual schools each year and awards are presented, with a focus on those with the greatest need.
- In addition to the original endowment, ACE has created this year a second fund for immediate distribution.
- All contributions to ACE are tax-deductible.
- In 2017's inaugural event, it raised over \$70,000 in support of tuition assistance.
- In 2018, the event raised more than \$130,000, and ensured another \$50,000 from an anonymous donor.

