



## CLO NEWS

The traditional Mitten Tree will be up after the Bazaar. Please send new mittens, gloves, scarves, etc. Donations will go to His Kid's Closet.

Tree of Kindness--Anyone is welcome to place an ornament on a tree that will be displayed in the upper grade hallway to recognize those who have been caught in an act of kindness throughout December.

## LIBRARY

Although Mrs. Wilson will still be involved in the organization of our school library, Michelle Thurston has volunteered to supervise Friday library visits for grades K-6.

We welcome Mrs. Thurston and certainly appreciate the donation of her time for our children. Thank you Mrs. Wilson for all that you have done!

## UNIFORM CLOSET

Be sure to check the uniform closet for gently used pants and long sleeve shirts. The closet is stocked!



## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR SPECIAL RAFFLE

THANK YOU to all who sold/bought tickets for the iPad2 raffle. \$3226 was raised and will be put towards technology upgrades for Sacred Heart. Hannah Whaley (Kindergarten) sold the most tickets and was awarded \$25 for her efforts.

Our generous sponsors help to make this raffle a success; many thanks to Strasburger Trucking, Larry Daily and the Sons of the American Legion. We couldn't do this without your kindness!



Market Day delivery dates are on Wednesdays from 5:00pm-6:00pm. The schedule for this school year (and the class responsible for unloading boxes, sorting the product, and packing orders) is Dec. 14-Mrs. Elliott; Jan. 25- Mrs. Budreau; Feb. 22-Miss Klinker; Mar. 14 or 28-Miss Starks; April 25-Mrs. Moore; May 23-Mrs. Vandever & Mr Silver.

The gym doors will be closed until 5pm when pick up begins. **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE GYM EARLY TO PICK UP YOUR ORDERS!** We know people would like to get their orders and be on their way, but there are a number of things that need to be done before orders are ready to be let out the door. Thank you for your patience.

**Paper orders are due in the office no later than noon and online orders by 11pm on the Friday before Market Day pick up.**

**FORUM FOR PARENTS** ~ We have a "Sacred Heart Parents of Fowler" Facebook group where parents can post questions for other parents and share information. It is a closed group to parents and teachers. Send a request to join on Facebook and we'll add you to the group.

## THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS PUBLISHED RECENTLY IN THE CATHOLIC MOMENT

The Sacred Heart Elementary School fund drive is underway for the 2011 - 2012 school year. This fund drive was launched in 2009 to raise funds in the face of rising costs to the school and decreasing income.

"As with many Catholic schools, the challenges of rising costs and decreasing income have required the schools to cut back wherever possible and find ways to increase giving," says school advisory board president and parent Dwight Snethen. "The outpouring of support from parishioners, alumni and friends in the first year was outstanding, but as the challenges are ongoing so is the need to increase giving every year."

Our need for this year is \$60K and our goal is set at \$75K with the difference being used for technology upgrades and maintenance needs. We would like to reach as many parishioners, alumni and friends to spread the giving out and lessen the impact on individuals and families.

Parents interested in sending their children to Sacred Heart, but who have been concerned about tuition costs, should know the state voucher program now allows you to take control of your tax dollars and make choices around how their educational dollars are spent. In addition to the voucher program, there is a scholarship program available for kindergarten.

Contact information:

Principal - Terri Goodman  
607 N. Washington Avenue ; Fowler, IN 47944  
Phone/Fax (765) 884-0710

### Income Eligibility Guidelines For Indiana School Vouchers July 1, 2011—June 30, 2012

	150% of Reduced	Reduced Meals	Free Meals
Household size	Annual Income	Annual Income	Annual Income
1	\$30,221	\$20,147	\$14,157
2	\$40,821	\$27,214	\$19,123
3	\$51,422	\$34,281	\$24,089
4	\$62,022	\$41,348	\$29,055
5	\$72,623	\$48,415	\$34,021
6	\$83,223	\$55,482	\$38,987
7	\$93,824	\$62,549	\$43,953
8	\$104,424	\$69,616	\$48,919

150% Column = Voucher for 50% of cost to educate in LEA not to exceed \$4,500 for elementary students.  
Reduced Column = Voucher for 90% of cost to education in LEA not to exceed \$4,500 for elementary students.

## **Funding Assistance for Sacred Heart School Indiana School Choice Program and CHOICE Charitable Trust**

School Choice State Voucher Program=Available to students in grades 2-12 who have attended a public school for at least 2 semesters. Up to 90% of tuition costs may be covered.

CHOICE Charitable Trust Scholarship Program=Available for students entering Kindergarten or transferring from another school.

Contributors to the CHOICE Charitable Trust are allowed a 50% tax credit.

Families with children enrolled in a private school may claim a \$1000 tax deduction per child.

### **Additional Information:**

Sacred Heart School participates in the statewide voucher program that has been signed into law. Through the School Scholarship Act (HEA 1003), area families may qualify for financial assistance to provide an optional educational opportunity for their child/children (see Income Eligibility Guidelines).

Children in grades 2 –12 who previously attended a public school for the prior two semesters are eligible to apply. Students qualifying for the federal free-and-reduced price lunch program (around \$40,000 for a family of four) can receive a voucher for up to 90 percent of the state tuition amount for the sending school district. Children from families who earn up to 150 percent of the program (around \$60,000 for a family of four) are eligible for a voucher worth up to 50 percent of the tuition amount. Applications are to be submitted to the state no later than September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

In addition to allowing for vouchers, the new law also expanded the existing Indiana Scholarship Tax Credit Program, which provides eligible families with scholarships from certified Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) to attend the school of their choice. Sacred Heart School is collaborating with CHOICE Charitable Trust, as are many of the schools in our diocese, to provide this opportunity to parents. Students entering Kindergarten in the fall and new students moving in from either a public or private school may apply for this assistance. For example, a family of four making less than \$82,696 gross annual income could be eligible. A Kindergarten student who receives the trust scholarship may reapply for the trust scholarship as well as apply for the state voucher from first grade on without the requirement of entering second grade or of attending public school for two semesters prior

Donating to the CHOICE Charitable Trust may also be attractive to individuals and corporations. A 50 percent tax credit is offered for contributions to approved SGOs. The new legislation increased the amount of available tax credits from \$2.5 million to \$5 million.

The new law also allows families with children who are enrolled in a private school to claim a \$1,000 tax deduction per child for approved educational expenses such as tuition or textbooks.

Please contact the school office directly by calling 765-884-0710 with any questions as well as assistance with the application process. You may also visit our school website at [www.sacredheartfowler.org](http://www.sacredheartfowler.org) or email [shs@sacredheartsite.com](mailto:shs@sacredheartsite.com).

Other helpful links:

[www.idoe.in.us.gov/schoolchoice](http://www.idoe.in.us.gov/schoolchoice)

[www.choicetrust.org](http://www.choicetrust.org)

[www.SchoolChoiceIndiana.org](http://www.SchoolChoiceIndiana.org)

[www.WhyNotIndiana.org](http://www.WhyNotIndiana.org)