

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ANNUAL FUND

**Q: Why is the Annual Fund so important?**

A: The Annual Fund, along with the Auction, represents the most critical dollars for the school's financial health. It provides unrestricted support so that the school can put these dollars where they are needed most.

Annual giving helps fund essentials within the operating budget, including professional development, curriculum development, technology, field trips, student activities, and even air conditioning and lighting. These unrestricted gifts are applied wherever the need is greatest, and they are essential to the school's excellence and financial strength.

**Q: Doesn't tuition cover those expenses?**

A: Tuition provides about 75 percent of the school's operating budget. The Christ the King Parish helps to make up the difference with an annual subsidy of \$300,000, and school endowment income. CKS relies on annual unrestricted giving to cover the remaining Gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating each student, which in this year's operating budget is about \$1,100. Tuition increases are inevitable, but can be controlled through the budget-relieving support that the Annual Fund provides.

**Q: How much should I give?**

A: Parents are asked to help fill the Gap between what it costs to educate your child(ren) and the tuition you pay. The school depends on parents to give what you can.

**Q: If I can only make a small gift, does it really make an impact on CKS?**

A: Absolutely! Your gift, combined with those from other parents, provides substantial support for the ongoing needs of the school. **Every gift is an expression of support for CKS and every gift matters.**

**Q: Why does my participation matter?**

A: Participation matters because many foundations fund only schools that demonstrate wide support by their own parents. Your gift is a demonstration of your commitment to the school and a sign of Christ the King School's strength of community. We have a goal of 100% participation.

**Q: What period of time does the Annual Fund cover?**

A: The 2011 Annual Fund drive runs from August 2011 to January 31, 2012. The funds are applied to the 2011-2012 operating budget, which runs from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

**Q: If I make a pledge now, when do I have to pay?**

A: We ask that pledges be turned in by September 23, 2011, and fulfilled by January 31, 2012. It is helpful to CKS if you make your commitment early, even if you don't pay until later. It is important for the administration and School Advisory Council to know the approximate total of the projected funds raised when they meet in the fall for the budget planning process for the next school year.