The Answer is Yes!
A MESSAGE FROM THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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SPRING 2022

SALUTE DINNER EVENT HITS NEW ALL-TIME HIGH

Astounding $1.4 Million Net from the Event Rockets Past Last Year’s Record $1.3 Million

First-Ever Presenting Sponsor ISCO Industries Leads the Way with $75,000 Investment

STUDENTS TO BENEFIT FROM FOUNDATION’S FIRST-EVER BOURBON RAFFLE

Online Raffle Could Raise $250,000 in New Tuition Assistance Funds for Fall Term

Foundation President Rich Lechleiter with ISCO’s Mark and Jimmy Kirchdorfer and Foundation Vice President Julie Baum

And what a night it was!!

After three years, everyone finally came back together in person to celebrate one of the greatest assets this community has ever known – Catholic Education!

Held on the evening of March 15 in the Grand Ballroom of downtown Louisville’s Galt House Hotel, the Salute to Catholic School Alumni Dinner Event hosted a sell-out crowd of nearly 1,200 guests, continuing its tradition as a hallmark community event in the Commonwealth.

This year’s event soared to a historic record of $1.4 million in net proceeds, rocketing past the previous year record of $1.3 million. Foundation President Richard A. Lechleiter remarked, “From our humble beginnings in 1990, this incredible event is now lifting the hopes and dreams of thousands of young Catholic school students and their families through the life-changing gift of a Catholic education. We are truly humbled by this amazing result and thank God for its unprecedented success.”

All of the funds from the Salute will be used to provide tuition assistance to families who cannot afford the full cost of a Catholic elementary education for their children. Last fall, the Foundation and its partners supported an all-time high 3,400 elementary

The online raffle can be found on the Foundation’s website, www.ceflou.org, from May 23 through July 14, with

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**Our Message To You**

**Who Would Have Ever Figured…..**

As our community warmly welcomes our new Archbishop, Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, it’s also time to give thanks to our Archbishop Emeritus, Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.

To set the record straight, no one has done more to advance the great mission of the Catholic Education Foundation over the past 15 years than Archbishop Kurtz. Repeat: **No One.**

Shortly after Archbishop’s arrival in Louisville in 2007, David Heintzman and I (both serving on the Foundation Board at the time) visited with him and Dr. Brian Reynolds to talk about how we could all do more to advance Catholic education in central Kentucky.

And then he went about his work. In November 2014, Archbishop Kurtz and all his brother priests made history by announcing that every parish in the Archdiocese of Louisville – whether they operated a school or not – would contribute 1% of their annual revenues to support Catholic school families in need. That single decision added **$1.3 million annually** to our mission and doubled our tuition assistance funding overnight. **Game Changer!!**

But he wasn’t done yet. In June 2021, Archbishop Kurtz and the Priest Council announced that the Archdiocese of Louisville would fund **$10 million** in support of our mission over the next five years – the largest gift of its kind in the organization’s 25-year history.

Are you kidding me? **Game Changer #2!!**

In addition to tirelessly serving as the Vice Chair of the Foundation Board, Archbishop Kurtz has taught me and so many others to aim higher, to do more, and to act with courage and conviction in reaching out to families who need us the most.

In 2007, this Foundation awarded tuition assistance to 717 Catholic school students in need. Last fall, that result improved to an all-time high 3,400. For each of them and their families, **Game Changer Forever!!**

You see, Archbishop Kurtz is the one who gave us all the courage to proclaim to every family in need – “**The Answer is YES!**”

Thank God for his legendary impact on Catholic education across central Kentucky.

**May God bless you and your family abundantly and often,**

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**Our Vision:**
Every family has access to a Catholic education.

**Our Mission:**
To promote the growth and vitality of Catholic education in the Archdiocese of Louisville.
Father John H. Morgan Scholarship Winners

The Catholic Education Foundation is proud to present the 2022 Father John Morgan Scholarship recipients. Father John H. Morgan, an archdiocesan priest, established a charitable trust now run by the Foundation to provide a college scholarship to one senior in each of the nine Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Scholarship recipients have each selected a course of study in college leading to a profession in law, medicine, religion, science or education and were chosen based on their academic achievement, extracurricular activities, leadership roles and service to others. These distinguished students will each receive $9,000 in college scholarships.

Here are the 2022 Father John Morgan Scholarship recipients:

Daniel Carter Ballard
Bethlehem High School

Isabella Maria Cristobal
Sacred Heart Academy

Sydny Reese Hendrick
Assumption High School

Andrea Martinez Hernandez
Presentation Academy

Michael Keith Massey
Trinity High School

Anna Catherine Mayrose
Mercy Academy

McKenzie Su Turner
Holy Cross High School

Mauricio Antonio Uribe
DeSales High School

Alex Marion Young
Saint Xavier High School
Salute to Catholic School Alumni Event Hits New All-Time High

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students throughout the Archdiocese of Louisville’s 39 Catholic schools with a record $7 million in tuition assistance.

Mr. Lechleiter noted that the organization’s home-grown slogan - “The Answer is YES!” – has become a mandate to assist every family who reaches out to the Foundation. “Thanks to our unrelenting donors, in each of the last seven years, every student who reached out to us - and qualified for tuition assistance - in fact earned an award. Every single one! What could be better for our young families and our community!”

The Salute also was highlighted by its recognition of six distinguished honorees whose success in life was nurtured by their Catholic education. The Salute Class of 2022 included:

Claudia M. Coffey (Assumption High School) – Co-Host, Great Day Live, WHAS-11
Joseph “Jody” F. Demling, Jr. (Trinity High School) – Sports Media Professional
Deborah Akers Ford (Mercy Academy) – Chancellor, University of Wisconsin - Parkside
Stephen T. Hamilton, Sr. (St. Joseph School, Bardstown, KY) – Secretary and Treasurer, Nally & Hamilton Enterprises, Inc.
D. Hank Robinson (Saint Xavier High School) – Senior Vice President, Tax, Humana Inc.
John A. Zoeller (Bishop David High School) – CEO & President, Zoeller Company

The Foundation also honored All Catholic School Teachers and Staff with its distinguished Community Service Award for their heroic dedication and service to their students during the health pandemic. The award was accepted by Dr. Mary Beth Bowling, Superintendent of Schools, on behalf of all teachers and staff in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Lisa A. Lauder, a teacher at St. Gabriel School in Louisville, received the 2022 Father Joseph McGee Award as the outstanding Catholic school educator in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

2022 Salute Honorees: First row, left to right: Stephen T. Hamilton, Sr., Dr. Mary Beth Bowling, Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Lisa A. Lauder and Charles J. Dahlem
Second row, left to right: D. Hank Robinson, Joseph “Jody” F. Demling, Jr., Deborah Akers Ford, Joseph W. Dougherty, Claudia M. Coffey, John A. Zoeller and Richard A. Lechleiter

The St. Gabriel team

Rich, Andrew and John Lechleiter
2022 Salute to Catholic School Alumni Dinner Event

Lisa Lauder and Archbishop Kurtz

Norton Healthcare’s Gladys Lopez

Joe Dougherty, Rich Lechleiter, Archbishop Kurtz and Charlie Dahlem

Eleanor and Bruce Lunsford

The Wehr Constructors team

Jennie and David Heintzman
The St. Raphael team

Saint Xavier students serve as ushers at the event

Lynnie Meyer with Ken and Anne Selvaggi

Julie Baum, Cesar, Irma, Grecia, Kayla, Jonathan Gordillo and Rich Lechleiter

Amanda and Jeremy Gettelfinger

Mike and Ann Pollio

Archbishop Kurtz, Steve Hamilton and Joe Dougherty

Foundation President Rich Lechleiter with Foundation Board Chair Charlie Dahlem

Eric Williams and Deacon James Turner
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Presenting Sponsor

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Saint Bernadette/ Saint Mary Academy
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THANK YOU!
Foundation’s First-Ever Bourbon Raffle  
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a live drawing to be held on Friday, July 15. Raffle tickets will sell for $100 each, with a limit of 2,500 tickets to be sold. Tickets can also be purchased by accessing the QR code below.

A full inventory of rare bourbons included in the raffle will be available on the website as well. Foundation President Rich Lechleiter exclaims, “The news just keeps getting better for our young students! All of the bottles to be raffled have been so generously donated to the Foundation, creating an enormous opportunity to help even more students next year. We are so indebted to Matt and Sherry for their great leadership in making this fun event a reality!”

In addition to the Ott family, the Foundation also extends its deep thanks to those who have helped build this exciting raffle prize, including Republic National Distributing Company and Chatham Imports. Mr. Lechleiter remarked, “What great partners we have who want to help families in need get ahead in their lives! We can’t wait until the big drawing!!”

Catholic Schools Week Contest Winners Celebrated

During Catholic Schools Week, the Foundation annually sponsors two contests for students throughout the Archdiocese of Louisville to highlight the theme of the national celebration. This year’s theme was entitled, “Be Intentional – Be Invitational – Be Inspirational.”

For grades K through 8, students were invited to create posters depicting their school’s role in achieving the theme. Each winner received their poster neatly framed and a cash prize of $250 from the Foundation.

Winners of the poster contest were:
Sadie Didio, 2nd grade, St. Michael School
Garrett Rust, 5th grade, St. Michael School
Hallie Williams, 7th grade, John Paul II Academy

The Foundation also sponsored an essay contest for Catholic high school students in which they described their school’s relevance to the celebration theme. The winner was William Patrick, a senior at Bethlehem High School. His essay was reprinted in the February 3rd issue of THE RECORD and he earned a cash prize of $1,000.

All the contest winners were publicly recognized for their achievement at the Catholic Schools Week Mass held on February 1st at St. Patrick Church.

Congratulations To Our Winners!
15th Annual Salute to THE GAME Luncheon
Noon, Thursday, September 22, 2022
For more information, call (502) 585-2747 or visit us at ceflou.org

Proceeds to benefit the Catholic Education Foundation, an organization dedicated to the growth and vitality of Catholic education.