

the **One** FAITH HOPE LOVE bulletin

Catholic Community Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

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Tuition assistance plan takes shape

Details for the plan to distribute more than \$2 million in Catholic school tuition assistance next year will be finalized in early 2017, according to a schedule set by the Catholic Education Foundation for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Amounts of scholarships per eligible household will be tailored to such factors as the total number of applicants and the extent of their financial needs. The foundation oversees tuition assistance from the One Faith, One Hope, One Love capital campaign.

Of particular concern are families of modest means who don't qualify for programs benefiting the poor. These families "aren't below the federal poverty line, but do struggle to make Catholic education affordable," said Wayne Morse, the archdiocese's director of school strategic planning.

The foundation's board will determine amounts of individual scholarships after the application process has ended, when the scope of the need and demand will be clearer. The application period has yet to open.

Other considerations behind the delay include

the uncertain status of Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program expansion.

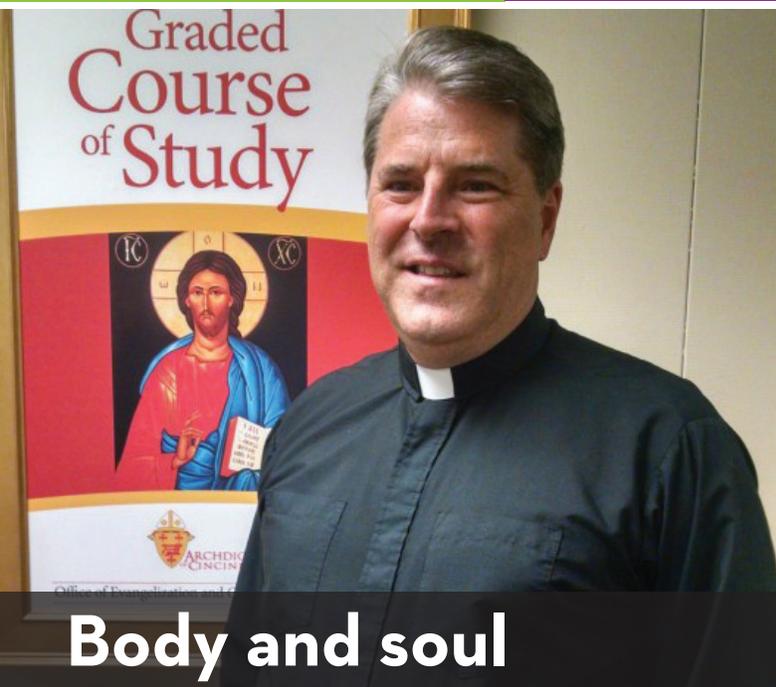
One Faith, One Hope, One Love's needs-based tuition fund will be used in concert with other available assistance and proportionate sacrifices by families.

Many schools operate with parish tuition aid, and some benefit from regional efforts such as the Catholic Inner-city Schools Education Fund (CISE). EdChoice, the Jon Peterson Scholarship, and other publicly funded programs also have helped many to afford Catholic education.

A comprehensive study of archdiocesan schools culminated in the 2012 release of *Lighting the Way*, a plan detailing dozens of initiatives directed toward sustaining high-quality and authentically Catholic schools. *Lighting the Way* has set a goal of assuring Catholic school education that is accessible, available, and affordable for any family who wishes its children to attend.

The generosity of One Faith, One Hope, One Love benefactors will help achieve that.

Watch 1faith1hope1love.org for updates on the tuition assistance program.



Body and soul

A popular misunderstanding holds that “Theology of the Body” programs in Catholic schools represent little more than sex education with a religious gloss.

Father Thomas Wray, director of the archdiocesan Office of Evangelization and Discipleship, is happy to dispel that notion. “Theology of the Body is a view of the person as a human being,” he said. “It’s about God’s purpose for us. It asks the basic questions: Who am I? Why am I here? How should I live? Why are we bodied, why do we have bodies? Why am I male, or why am I female?”

“It’s way more than sex ed. It’s a narrative of God’s story.”

For that reason, the concept is being developed into age-appropriate presentations for even the earliest classroom grades. Adapting “Theology of the Body” education for the youngest students in the Cincinnati archdiocese is a pilot project at present. It’s also a pioneer project.

“We think it’s eventually going to be picked up nationally,” Father Wray said. “There are lots of folks who are watching what we’re doing.”

What they’ve done so far, at the direction of Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr, is to develop content and instructional methods to integrate Theology of the Body into curriculum for younger children, an initiative made possible by donations to One Faith, One Hope Love.

“We’re delivering these materials courtesy of the campaign,” Father Wray said. “It’s essential that we thank the campaign’s benefactors and donors.”

Father Wray’s office has worked with Ruah Woods over the past year to create a map, the revised “Graded Course of Study: Pre-Kindergarten through 4th Grade Catechetical Programs,” which adds Theology of the Body to the other components:

knowledge of the faith, knowledge of sacraments, moral formation, praying with Christ, living in the community of the church, and living as a Christian in society.

“We’re weaving in this new note in the symphony,” Father Wray said. “The archbishop sees it as part of his mission to create a culture of vocations. We live amid a metallic, corrosive structure of the culture, and this is a tangible tool for opposing it.”

To date, about 60 parishes and more than 55 schools have signed up to pilot the materials in one or more grades.

Orientation sessions for the revised Graded Course of Study drew 132 catechetical leaders. About 185 elementary school teachers have attended in-services regarding the revised GCS.

The Theology of the Body concept originated in 129 Wednesday audiences by Pope St. John Paul II between 1979 and 1984, in which the Holy Father presented a unified vision of personhood as spirit and body. Archbishop Schnurr has directed that the theology be part of religion studies for all schools in the archdiocese.

Ruah Woods, based in Cincinnati, is an independent, nonprofit Theology of the Body education and counseling center. “We’re so blessed to have Ruah Woods here,” Father Wray said. “It’s like having a national think tank in your backyard.” After the pilot project begins this fall, Ruah Woods staff will evaluate it for refinements and revisions ahead of introduction to all schools beginning in fall 2017.

Father Wray sees the theology as starkly opposed to the reigning messages of the surrounding culture.

“The acoustics in the room are to where you say ‘I’m Christian, I’m Catholic,’ you’re bigoted, you’re anti-science,” he said. “We’re just proposing a vision of the human person. The culture says you’re a commodity; people are there to be used. We tell them ‘You have dignity.’ It’s teaching children what the Catholic Church means when it talks about the principle by which we live in faith.”

The program initially developed teaching materials for high school, but the need for an earlier start became evident.

“So many high school students are already claimed by the culture,” Father Wray said. “We want to begin projecting this material younger. John Paul II said that when you de-Christianize society, you dehumanize society.

“Parents say ‘where was this when I was young, in the 70s or 80s?’ The culture was much more sympathetic to us then. When you said you were Christian, it didn’t make you stand out. Today, secularism and relativism is much more aggressive.”

That’s among the main reasons why the introduction will start earlier.

Using age-calibrated materials, the program will help teach young students what the dominant culture doesn’t.

“It tells them that they’re not just matter and material and molecules,” Father Wray said.



Parish rebates at work

Brigid's Path is making progress along its challenging road.

The trailblazing recovery center for drug-exposed newborns is on pace to open early next year as the second facility of its kind in the nation.

Renovation of the agency's donated building, a former laboratory in Kettering, began this spring and is more than half complete.

Two Dayton-area parishes, St. Henry and Our Lady of Good Hope, are contributing to Brigid's Path through their rebates from One Faith, One Hope, One Love.

"We've had awesome support from parishioners and from Bishop Leibold School," said Brigid's Path executive director Jill Kingston (pictured at left in photo with co-founder Deanna Murphy). In addition to contributing funds, parishioners and students have helped with publicity, monitoring contributions, and soliciting donations of basic supplies such as diapers. Mothers won't be permitted to bring their own supplies, mainly due to the risk of bedbugs.

Modeled after the "Lily's Place" treatment center in Huntington, West

Virginia, Brigid's Path will offer short-term inpatient care for infants suffering from prenatal drug exposure.

The building, just shy of 12,000 square feet, is designed to accommodate 24 babies at a time. Each of four "pods" will provide six nurseries, bathing area, a nurses' station, sitting area, and storage space. The idea is to minimize movement in and out of the pods. Mothers and babies "don't have to leave the pod area to have their needs met," Deanna said.

A number of needs remain. "We can't apply for our license until everything's done and we're ready to accept a baby as if the baby were coming today," Deanna said.

The women estimate that \$3.3 million is still needed before then: \$1.2 million to open, and \$2.1 million for the first year of operations.

"The biggest need is getting our funding because it has to all be in place before we can open our doors," Jill said.

Volunteers are still being sought as well. The center will rely heavily on their help, including use of an all-volunteer laundry and cleaning crew.

More information can be found at the agency's website, brigidspath.org.

Tell us your story!

Do you have a success story to share from your local effort - about a particular blessing, a great volunteer, or how funds from one Faith One Hope One Love are helping your parish? Please share it! Contact Paul Clark at (800) 686-2724 (ext. 2231) or paul.clark@1faith1hope1love.org.

And for the latest news, photos, features, and each parish's updated gift numbers, visit our website at 1faith1hope1love.org.

Check your parish's progress!

Regularly updated information about each parish's pledges and payments can be found at our website, 1faithhope1love.org. Click on "Parish Progress Reports" in the upper right corner.



One Faith, One Hope, One Love is a call to devote ourselves more fully to the mission of our Church. Through our shared sense

of stewardship, this effort seeks to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and meet the needs of our community. The effort represents the largest capital campaign for our archdiocese in over 60 years.

Every gift counts!

Every sacrifice matters in God's eyes, and all gifts help our common effort. Thank you for your generosity, for your love of the Catholic Church, and for being faithful to your pledges.



Food for all

Hundreds of people in sparsely populated areas of our archdiocese encounter great difficulties in getting to where the food is.

Thanks to your generosity toward One Faith, One Hope, One Love, the food is coming to them.

Using funds from the capital campaign, Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio has instituted the Food for All Pantry, a mobile service bringing nutritious meals to clients in five eastern counties. "One of our goals is to feed more people," said Scott D. Stephens, Catholic Charities director of parish outreach.

The program has steadily expanded since it began in February. Service targets include Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, and Highland counties. Some drop-off sites are more than an hour-and-a-half's drive from Cincinnati.

Plans began after Catholic Charities staff met with pastors in the eastern counties to discuss needs there. "The pastors

told us their problems were poverty, a lot of hunger, food deserts, and that some people can't even get to the pantries," Mr. Stephens said. "That's how this came about."

"For example, in Brown County, a huge county [about 490 square miles], we met with about 10 pastors and asked when to go and where," Mr. Stephens said. "We needed to draw from Ripley, Aberdeen, Higginport, little towns along the river. At conventional pantries there can be a long travel time for people."

Catholic Charities worked with local community service providers and volunteers to assess needs and choose locations. In February, the first mobile pantry stopped at Greater Life Assembly of God Church in Hillsboro, Highland County, providing food for clients representing 119 households, a total of 332 people served. About 30 volunteers assisted.

Nearly a quarter of the 28,000 people in rural

Adams County live in poverty. Brown County, with a population of about 43,800, has a rate of some 15%. Clermont (202,000) is at 11%, Clinton (42,000) at 14%, and Highland (43,000) at 19%. (Figures rounded from U.S. Census Bureau estimates.)

Catholic Charities buys the food from Freestore Foodbank in Cincinnati, which also supplies the delivery truck at no charge. Selection of foods depends on Freestore's inventory at the time, but includes fresh meat and produce as well as canned goods.

The idea is to provide large numbers of people with meals enough for at least three days, which many overburdened local pantries can't always do.

"At some of the pantries people get a bag and canned food," Mr. Stephens said. "One of our goals was to give a good amount of food and make it healthy food."

"A question has been how much food to bring," he said. "We may have 100 people registered, but 200 show up. So it's kind of been a guessing game. The good news is that we've never run out of food."

"At the last drop we gave 42 items," Mr. Stephens added. "The food lasts several days."

Groceries are distributed inside the drop-off site, usually a church.

"Clients can wait in the church, inside if the weather's bad, and we give them a number that's called, so they don't have to stand in line," Mr. Stephens said.

When there are leftovers, the surplus is given to local pantries.

Supplemental initiatives by volunteers and other agencies have helped make the service "grow organically," Mr. Stephens said. One church, for example, partnered with the meal effort to hand out items such as detergent and hand soap. One man provided a pork roast for clients at a distribution site. "This gentleman bought a pig and grilled it all night," Mr. Stephens said. Volunteers made coleslaw and other side dishes, "so the people who came got a hot meal too."

"We get young families, the middle-aged, the retired. One gentleman, a World War II vet, came on his 90th birthday. He's on a walker, and his son brought him there. We got him a cake and sang 'Happy Birthday.'"

"It's great to see the growth," Mr. Stephens said. "It's not just us. The community has joined, and people don't just get food, they get the love and support of volunteers. One woman was crying. She said she was overwhelmed, first by the amount of food, but also by how everybody treated her. She said 'They're happy, smiling. You people are different.' It's a great group."

And, of course, the prayers have been many, Mr. Stephens said.

"One of the pastors said he prays for all of us, people who have given to the campaign."