



***St. Brendan Parish School  
Annual Fund  
Questions and Answers***

***Why is the Annual Fund important?***

A strong financial base is imperative for St. Brendan School to pursue its mission of providing an innovative and comprehensive curriculum second to none. The Annual Fund provides the basis for sound fiscal management, program expansion, and improved facilities and grounds. Annual Fund gifts ensure that each child receives an education worth far more than tuition dollars.

***Will the contributions I make to the boutique, auction, or other parent fundraisers, or to the school through the first Sunday school collection, count towards my Annual Fund gift?***

No, this Annual Fund is something different. The funds the school already receives through the parent fundraisers and the first Sunday collection are used for regular operating expenses. We count on those contributions. The Annual Fund will be used to enhance the educational experience we can offer our students now, and also guarantee the school's future economic stability.

***Does St. Brendan School really need more money, considering how much money the parent clubs already raise?***

Tuition at SBS only covers 68% of the actual cost of educating our students. The funds raised by the parent clubs, the first Sunday collection, and individual gifts to the school (such as through United Way, corporate matching gifts, and Christmas gifts) make up the difference for now, but we need to plan for the future to ensure that we can continue to provide everything our students need.

***Isn't it unusual for a grammar school to have an Annual Fund?***

We are used to seeing annual fund drives at high schools and colleges, but a growing number of grammar schools are also doing this. Our last WASC accreditation report commended our Annual Fund for helping to insure the school's long-term financial health.

***Do we have a choice about how the Annual Fund money is spent?***

Yes, on the remittance envelope you may choose to direct your gift to one of three different areas. Or, you may designate "Where the need is greatest."

***How much do we have to contribute?***

Although we suggest that our families contribute the equivalent of one month's tuition, only you know what your family can afford. You may be able to donate much more, or you may decide that this year your contribution will have to be less. Either way, your participation is very important to us. All donations are most appreciated, and completely tax deductible.

*We are hoping that 100% of our families will contribute at some level. If you cannot contribute monetarily, we would love to have the gift of your prayers!*

***Can I spread my contribution over several months?***

While we are hoping to receive as many contributions as possible by December 31, you may pay your gift over several months if that is easier on your family budget. We will send you payment coupons that you can use each month.

***Will the amount of my contribution be published?***

No, all contributions are completely confidential. We will publish an Annual Fund Report at the end of the year that will list all donors according to broad gift categories, but the exact amount of your donation will not be listed. If you prefer not to have your name listed at all, you can ask that your gift remain anonymous.

***Are Annual Fund gifts eligible for matching funds through my company?***

Absolutely! Any gift you make to SBS can be matched through your employer's matching gift program. If you are not sure if your company has such a matching gift program, please ask at work. Many companies will equal your gift, and some even double it.

***Will I be asked to contribute again next year?***

Yes, the Annual Fund is a yearly event.

***Who is asked to contribute to the Annual Fund?***

We ask our current parents, current grandparents, alumni, alumni parents, and parishioners to join us.