



## **St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Catholic School**

6040 W. Ardmore Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60646  
773.763.7080 • StElizabethTrinitySchool.org

February, 2024

Dear Parents, Parishioners and Friends of St. Elizabeth,

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity officially opened its doors, amid a pandemic, to students in the fall of 2020, after merging with St. Thecla and Pope Francis Global Academy - North Campus. Since then, we have remained open, offering in-person education for all our students, when other schools did not. We are very fortunate that new families joined St. Elizabeth during these past few years, because we remained open - and provided a Catholic education to all students.

In 2017, Illinois created the Invest in Kids Act, which allowed students to attend a private school with partial or full tuition covered, if they reside in a failing public school district as well as showed financial need. This program, also known as the Tax Credit Scholarship Program, awarded about 14% of our student population the funds to attend St Elizabeth, in the amount of around \$125K. Unfortunately, the Illinois legislature did not renew this program which leaves many families unsure of how they will afford private education. Schools are working tirelessly to work out a budget that will allow their students to remain in school.

I write to all of you today to ask for your financial support to help keep these students at St. Elizabeth. The boards of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity created the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund, to help cover the costs of tuition for families in need. The tuition for one child per year is \$6840. I am asking for you to give what you can, whether it be \$500 or \$5000! Every little bit helps to ensure these 25 students remain at St. Elizabeth of the Trinity for years to come. And, I hope to continue to grow our Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund, so that anyone who wants to be a part of St. Elizabeth in the future, is able, no matter their financial situation.

If you would like to donate to the Trinity Tuition Assistance Fund (TTAF) you can send a check to my attention at school or donate online through GiveSmart <http://e.givesmart.com/events/AJX> or Faith Direct <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/IL795/54688>. Again, any amount is appreciated as we get this fund started at St Elizabeth. Please know that no matter the amount in the TTAF, Father Mike and I will work with families to ensure that any student who wants to attend St. Elizabeth is able through school and parish support.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at the above number or at [k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org](mailto:k.hillmann@stelizabethtrinityschool.org). I thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Yours in Christ,  
Kristine Hillmann, Ed.D.  
Principal

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