



Catholic Tuition Organization

June 9, 2017

My dear friends in Christ,

Our faith community of the Diocese of Des Moines has a tradition of providing for young families through our support of Catholic education. Catholic schools embrace the presence of God in our lives by making faith central to the education and development of young people. The resulting excellence in Catholic education goes far beyond the classroom and includes the significant participation of entire parishes, teachers, students and parents. To those who support our schools through their investment of time and resources thank you for investing in our young people.

Through the Catholic Tuition Organization (CTO), supporters of Catholic education are provided a mechanism for financially contributing to families to underwrite a portion of school tuition. In 2006, the State of Iowa authorized limited tax-credits to be issued to those who make scholarships available for qualifying students. Through these tax credits, the State of Iowa is acknowledging not only the value in allowing parents to be active participants in their child's education, but also the tremendous cost savings Catholic schools provide to the local public schools. As conscientious stewards of your financial resources, you are able to contribute an ever larger gift while lowering your tax liabilities at the same time.

Whether a parent or a donor, the Catholic Tuition Organization provides a WIN-WIN for the Diocese of Des Moines. First WIN – A Catholic education is provided for children who normally could not afford one. Second WIN – Donors receive a 'bottom line' credit – not just a deduction – to their Iowa income tax.

My support of CTO mirrors my commitment to you and the Diocese of Des Moines. Please join me in supporting Catholic education and know that I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates
Bishop of Des Moines