

Saint Theresa Catholic School

5001 East Thomas Road - Phoenix, Arizona 85018

2009-10 Application for Parishioner Tuition Discount

Completed Application/Verification must be submitted to School Office by March 31, 2009

Each family is asked to meet the standard (full) tuition rate for each student if possible.

For those families who are registered, active and participating members of their parishes, St. Theresa Catholic School allows a discounted tuition rate. **The reduced rate will become effective when the tuition agreement form, signed by the pastor or his authorized representative, is received at the school.** Criteria used in determining "active and participating" membership may vary from parish to parish. Such criteria would include:

- At least one parent/guardian must be Roman Catholic and registered as parishioner(s) in parish records.
- The parent(s)/guardian and child(ren) must regularly attend Sunday and Holy Day Masses at the parish.
- The parent(s)/guardian must support the parish financially.
- Consistent involvement of parent(s)/guardian and/or child(ren) in a parish ministry will also be given favorable consideration.*

I understand and accept the provisions of this policy, and I apply for the parishioner tuition discount offered by St. Theresa Catholic School to me as a member of

_____ (Name of Parish) _____ (Print Family Name)

_____ (Parent/Legal Guardian signature) _____ (Date)

* Are you active in a parish ministry? _____ If so, which one(s)? _____

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Parish Verification

I verify that the above named parent/guardian is a registered, active and participating member of this parish and is eligible for the corresponding tuition discount.

NAME (please print) _____ Position _____ *affix*
Signature _____ Date _____ *parish*
Parish _____ Phone _____ *seal here*

St. Theresa Parish
Parish Verification Guidelines
for purposes of Catholic School Tuition discount

Registration

- One must be officially registered as a parishioner of St. Theresa, as recorded in our parish database. Registration and welcoming gatherings are scheduled periodically throughout the year; call the parish office (602.840.0850) for further information.
- If recently registered at St. Theresa (within past 6 months), a statement from former parish of “active, registered and participating” status at that parish will be accepted to qualify for tuition discount until regular parishioner status can be established at St. Theresa.
- Registration requirement applies to the custodial parent/guardian of child.

Regular Attendance

- Catholics are obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. This standard is an ancient one in our tradition, provided to help the Catholic maintain regular contact with the Word of God, the Eucharist and one’s faith community. Parents of Catholic students should be particularly aware of this teaching of the Church.
- Evidence of attendance at parish Masses is largely subjective (e.g. being known to one of the priests and seen regularly at Mass or being regularly involved in a liturgical ministry).
- Regular receipt in the Sunday collection basket (at least once per month) of a contribution envelope [or, if participating in *ParishPay*, our electronic giving option, a parishioner donation slip] provides an objective measure of regularity of attendance at St. Theresa Parish.

Financial Support

- Level of financial support would vary from family to family depending on the family’s income. The biblical tradition of a tithe is 10% of one’s income – Catholic guidelines generally recommend an ideal of 5% given to support one’s parish, 5% given to support other charities. In a community such as ours, it would generally not be unreasonable to expect a minimum of \$10 per week.
- Genuine financial need of a family is always considered when assessing a family’s level of financial support. If annual support is less than the reasonable minimum, a letter of explanation could be addressed to the Pastor for his consideration. Frequency of Mass attendance, as demonstrated by the regular use of the parish contribution envelope system (see above) as well as a copy of the school’s Financial Aid application would be required and taken into consideration in such cases.

Involvement of parent or child in a parish ministry

- Verified, regular participation of the student or a parent in one of the ministries of St. Theresa Parish [excluding required school volunteer opportunities] will also be considered as a criterion to establish verification as an “active, registered and participating” parishioner of St. Theresa.