

SAINT LEO THE GREAT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*“Let the little children come to me,
and do not hinder them, for the
kingdom of heaven belongs to
such as these.” - Matthew 19:14*



At Saint Leo the Great Catholic School, we believe every child is a precious gift from God. Our Christ-centered School is a place where children not only learn Reading, Writing and Math - but most importantly, also grow in their love of Jesus and understanding of His teachings.



Learning and Living the Gospel of Christ

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**60th School Anniversary Gala Invitation on Back Page
Join Us!**

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We continue in our two-year celebration of our Parish and School, last year marking the 60th Anniversary of the founding of our Parish, this year marking the 60th Anniversary of our School's opening.

To mark this great anniversary, we are hosting a 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner in our Parish Hall on November 22, 2024, after our 4:30 Saturday evening Mass. I hope that many of you will be able to join us!

I cannot put into words the gratitude I have to God for His Providence as He continues to guide our Parish and School. Now, as I have begun my eighteenth year here as Pastor, I continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity and faith of so many.

Our School provides excellent and personalized instruction for all who desire a Catholic Education, but as all of us know, the costs incurred in such an undertaking continue to rise. For the upcoming School Year of 2025-2026, we have anticipated our Operating Expenses to be approximately 3 Million Dollars.

We anticipate our Total Enrollment in Pre-K through 8 to be approximately 330 students, yielding a per student cost of about \$9,100. Obviously, we could not set Tuition at that amount, since most of our families could not afford it, so, as we have done since my arrival here, we set Tuition individually for each family, guided by the STS Criteria, a nationwide service that seeks to evaluate the need of each family. Each year, our Tuition Revenue is about 65% of Total Operating Costs, which then leaves a "shortfall" of that remaining 35%, this year, of just over 1 Million Dollars.

We meet that "shortfall" each year due to the generosity of so many and our Annual Appeal is critical in that endeavor. So many of our Parishioners have responded through our EITC and SPE, those Pennsylvania Tax Credit Programs available to both businesses and individuals and, we hope to receive just over \$500,000 from these contributions for the upcoming School Year, leaving us with that "shortfall" of just under \$500,000 to be met through this Appeal and our Parish subsidy from our Sunday Collection.

Last year, we introduced our two-year special "Anniversary Appeal", and again, this year, we have already begun our Appeal with two Anonymous Donors who have already approached me and pledged \$150,000, to match all gifts that we are able to secure before November 1st.

So, I humbly ask if you can again contribute to our Annual Appeal!

As we did last year, we are establishing a "Legacy Level" of gifts, humbly asking all, who have that capacity, to contribute at least \$5,000. We will recognize all of these persons in a special way at our Gala.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR (cont.)

And as I did last year, as an expression of my thanks to all of you for your great generosity, I have given this first gift to the Appeal in the amount of \$5,000.

Our School continues to thrive. We are excited about the enhanced educational opportunities that we provide. Our teachers continue to serve our children with great devotion and dedication. Our investment of nearly 10 Million Dollars over the past ten years in the renovations to our School and the building of our Parish Hall/School Auditorium has positioned us well as we look to the future.

I hope to see many of you on November 22nd for our 60th Anniversary School Gala. It will be a grand celebration of God’s blessings to us and an opportunity for us to express our gratitude to so many who have given so much to touch the souls of our children. Thanks again for your support and your prayers.

God bless you.

Monsignor Hahn

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the parishioners of Saint Leo the Great, strive to provide a Christ-centered family, empowered by the Spirit, to live the Catholic tradition of Word and Sacrament, welcoming all within and outside our parish, by drawing all parishioners into a believing, worshipping, celebrating, and serving community.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Leo the Great Catholic School exists to develop disciples of Jesus Christ within a secure Catholic atmosphere. We endeavor to strengthen the covenant between school and family to educate the whole child spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally and socially.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR.....	(IFC)-1
MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL.....	2
THANK YOU	3
ANNUAL APPEAL SUMMARY	4
S.E.E.D. SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM	5
LET’S D.A.N.C.E.....	5
EITC & SPE.....	6
GOLF OUTING	7-8
EXTRA GIVE	9

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Saint Leo the Great Catholic School Community,

As we reflect on another year of faith-filled learning and growth, I am filled with gratitude for the enduring spirit and dedication that define our beloved school. It is both a privilege and a blessing to serve as Principal of a School so deeply rooted in Catholic education and tradition.

This year, we joyfully celebrate **60 years** of Saint Leo the Great Catholic School — six decades of shaping young minds and hearts, grounded in our mission:

“Saint Leo the Great Catholic School exists to develop disciples of Jesus Christ within a secure Catholic atmosphere. We endeavor to strengthen the covenant between school and family to educate the whole child spiritually, intellectually, physically, emotionally and socially.”

Our history is rich with the contributions of many dedicated principals, faculty, and staff who have answered the call to serve, leaving lasting impressions on the generations of students who have walked these halls. It is on their shoulders we stand today, continuing to grow, innovate, and remain steadfast in our commitment to Catholic education.

This year also brings a unique moment of welcome and opportunity. With the closing of Resurrection Catholic School, we have opened our doors and our hearts to many new families. We are honored to give them a new spiritual and educational home where their children can thrive. As we come together, we embrace a beautiful blending of cultures and traditions that enriches our community and strengthens our shared identity as disciples of Christ.

As we look ahead to another promising school year, we do so with faith, hope, and love. With God’s guidance, the unwavering support of our families, and the joyful presence of our students, we are confident in the continued success and flourishing of our school.

May we always remain faithful to our mission, inspired by our past, and united in our purpose.

With gratitude and blessings,

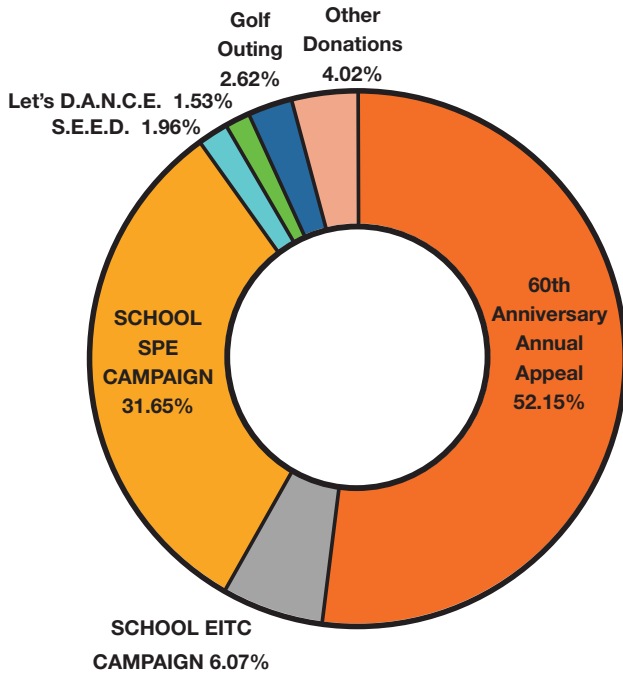
Jennifer L. Miller



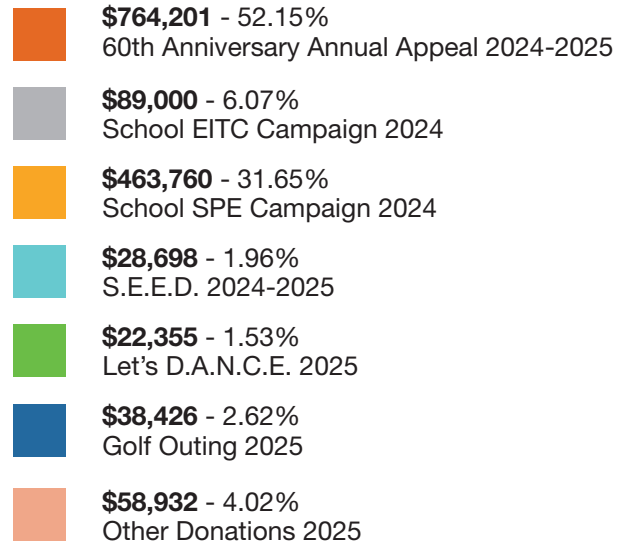
THANK YOU

FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY AND COMMITMENT!

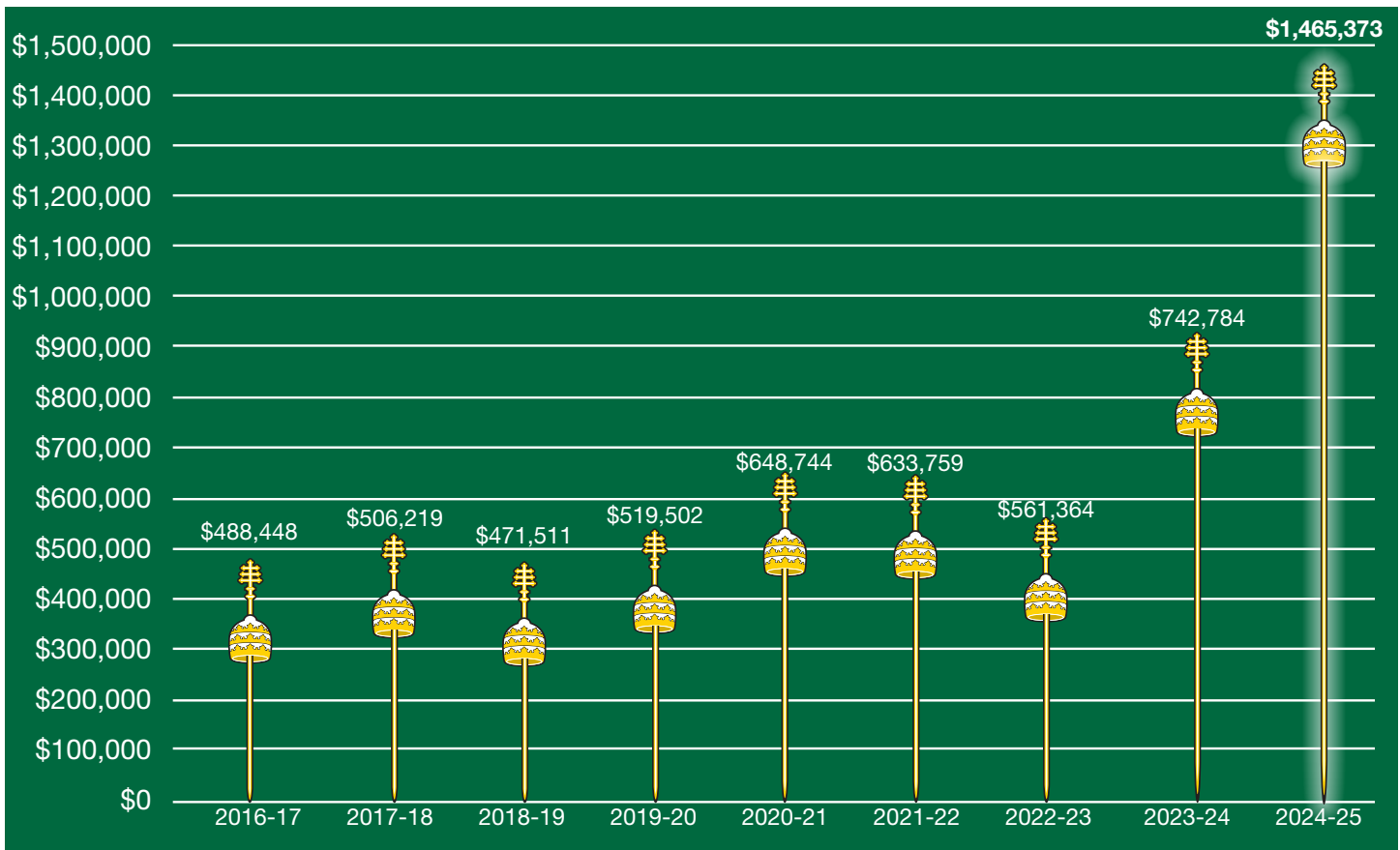
2024-2025 WAS A RECORD YEAR FOR TOTAL ANNUAL DONATIONS!



TOTAL DONATIONS 2024-2025



TOTAL ANNUAL DONATIONS



60th ANNUAL APPEAL

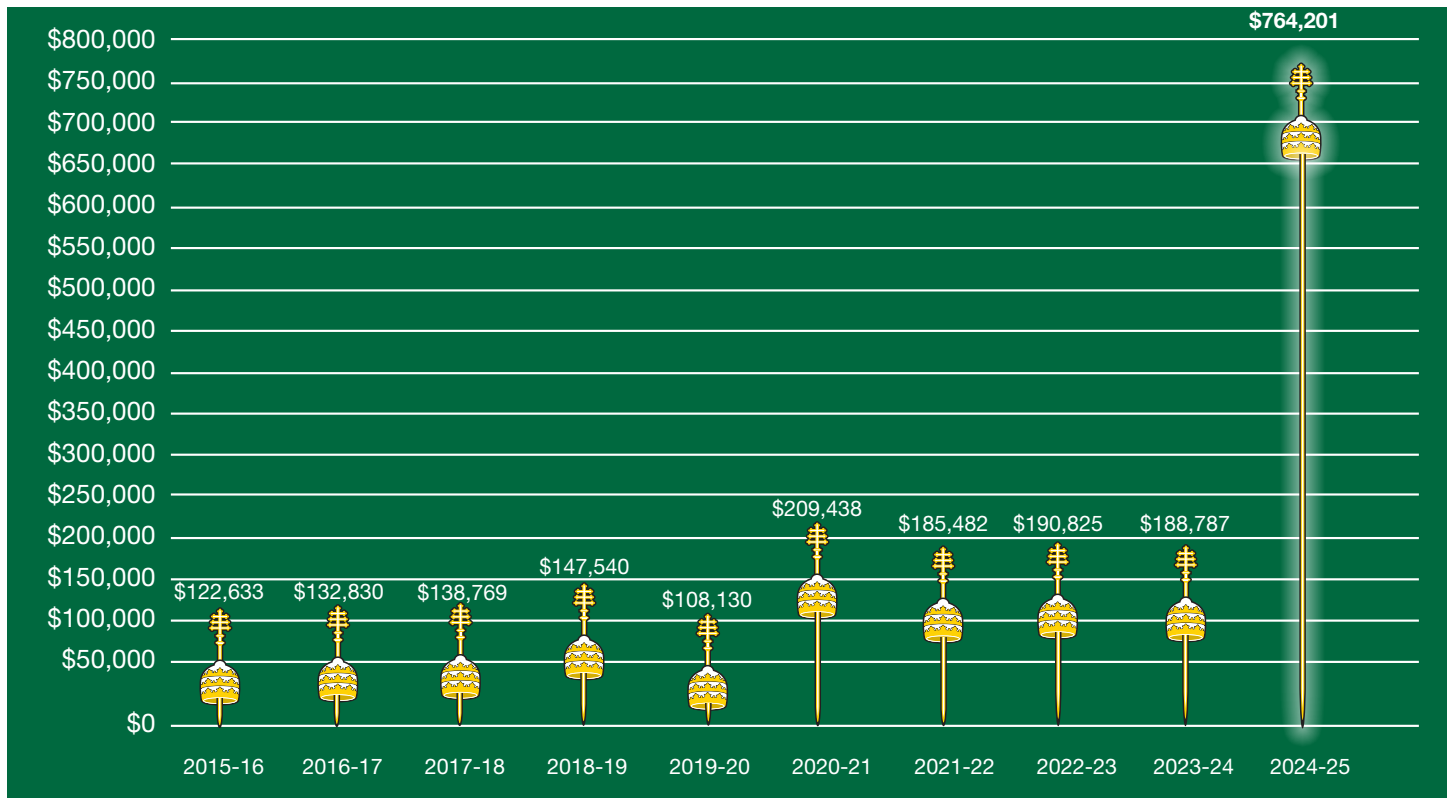
Last year marked the 60th Anniversary of our Parish and this year marks the 60th Anniversary of our School. It's a two year celebration culminating with our 60th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, November 22, 2025 in our Parish Hall.

Two generous donors would like to challenge us to raise \$150,000 by November 1st, and those donors will match up to \$150,000.



Now more than ever we are called to make a difference!

ANNUAL APPEAL



S.E.E.D.

Seeking Excellent Educational Development

S.E.E.D.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2015-2016	\$24,607
2016-2017	\$33,250
2017-2018	\$39,277
2018-2019	\$41,427
2019-2020	\$39,032
2020-2021	\$17,480
2021-2022	\$26,500
2022-2023	\$24,100
2023-2024	\$32,689
2024-2025	\$28,698

For more than 20 years, our S.E.E.D sponsors have enabled our students to deepen their learning through life-changing experiences.

When a S.E.E.D. sponsor contributes to a classroom or activity, that donation is used for an experience that may not be otherwise available to our students.



LET'S D.A.N.C.E.

Let's D.A.N.C.E. and LFL

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2016-2017	\$31,872
2017-2018	\$18,983
2018-2019	\$37,460
2019-2020	\$42,600
2020-2021	\$62,803
2021-2022	\$31,530
2022-2023	\$20,876
2023-2024	\$33,622
2024-2025	\$22,355



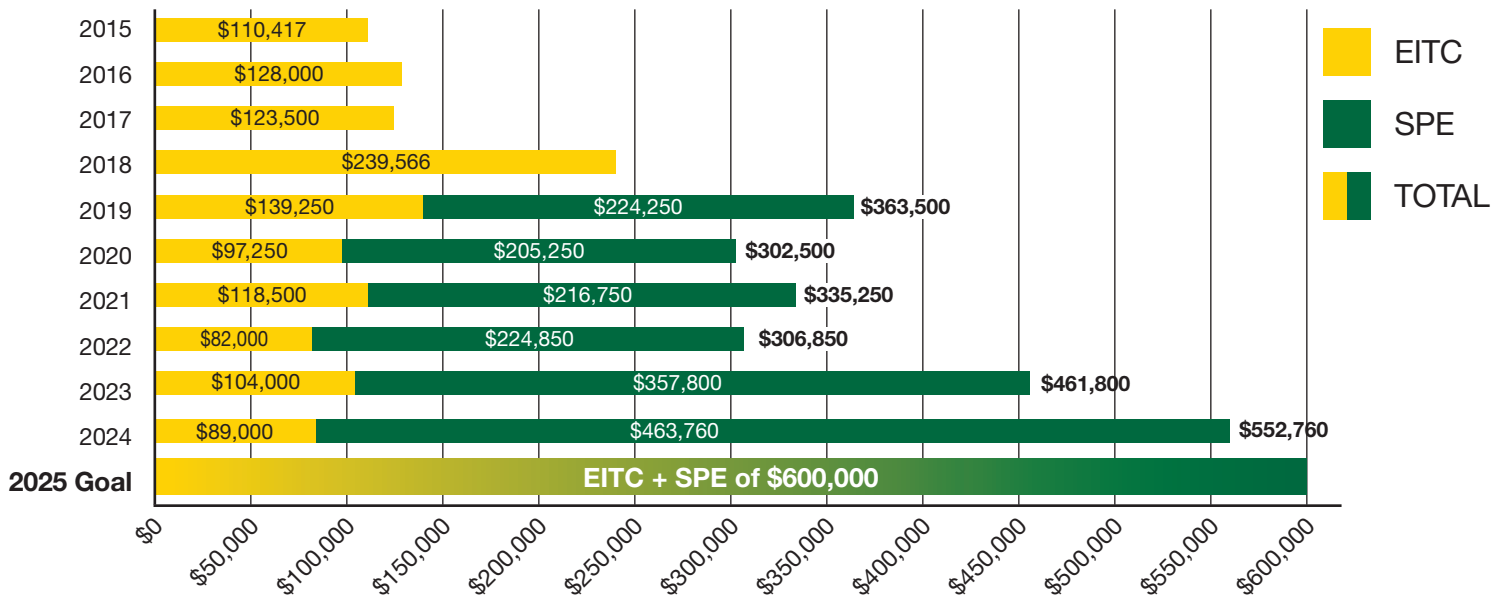
EITC & SPE



EITC and SPE programs provide financial aid to families who qualify under State Guidelines. During 2024-2025, over 40% of our students qualified for more than \$700,000 in financial assistance, and EITC and SPE provided \$104,000 and \$357,800 respectively, in assistance while the remaining need was met from other sources.

As our costs continue to increase, our need for aid is rising at rapid rates as well. Thanks to more than 60 participants, the 2024 EITC program generated \$89,000, while SPE increased to \$463,760 and will be distributed as financial aid to families during the 2025-2026 school year

PA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS



EITC - EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT (BUSINESS)

As a business, if you owe PA taxes, these taxes can be directed towards Saint Leo, instead of PA Department of Revenue. This may seem too good to be true, but it is that simple. Through an application process that a member of our development team can help you navigate, your business diverts its tax obligation from the Commonwealth to the Neumann Scholarship Foundation on behalf of Saint Leo The Great School. And, you, the taxpayer, get a 90% tax credit in return.

If you are a business that pays PA taxes, you can be a part of this program.



SPE - SPECIAL PURPOSE ENTITY (FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL)

This program is grouped with EITC, but ANYONE can participate. In the 2024 year, we received \$357,800 in funding through families who made contributions to SPEs. Participation in SPE requires an easy, 1-page application. A contribution can be as little as \$1,000, and 95-100% of the funds that you invest through SPE come directly to Saint Leo the Great School.

ANYONE who pays PA taxes may participate in the SPE program.

31st ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



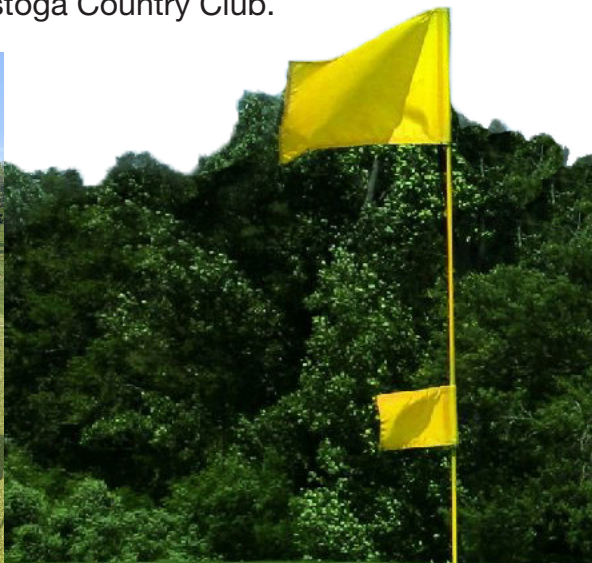
Our 31st Annual Golf Outing, was held at the Conestoga Country Club on Monday, June 2, 2025. This year's event was a resounding success, raising \$38,426 to help defray tuition costs for students.

Thank you to our golfers and sponsors whose generous contributions made this possible! Your support plays a crucial role in helping us provide valuable educational opportunities for our students.

We introduced a new feature this year, a raffle offering the chance to win FREE TUITION FOR ONE YEAR FOR ONE STUDENT OR \$5,000 in CASH. We are thrilled to announce that Joseph Lundy, one of our golfers and a parishioner, won the cash prize!

Thank you to our Chair, Joe McMahon, and our dedicated golf committee, for their many hours of hard work in organizing this event.

We look forward to seeing you at next year's outing on Monday, June 1, 2026 at the Conestoga Country Club.



Golf Outing Proceeds	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2016-2017	\$19,675
2017-2018	\$22,425
2018-2019	\$23,100
2019-2020	Cancelled due to Covid
2020-2021	\$35,620
2021-2022	\$28,187
2022-2023	\$25,063
2023-2024	\$33,386
2024-2025	\$38,426

THANK YOU TO OUR GOLF SPONSORS



Tom & Carla Carson
\$25,000 Hole in One



The Dvorchak Family

Rich & Sue
Juliano Foundation

LANDS' END



The Tomlinson
Family

Dr. Paul & Tracy
Carroll



The Cardinal
Group at
Morgan Stanley

Joseph & Deborah
Overbaugh

Rev. Msgr.
Peter I. Hahn



Knights of Columbus
Council 6810

Mark &
Donna Matuzak

Hank & Edna Christ



Weaver Associates, Inc.

Anonymous
St. Jude Hole

Gabriel Bertini



EXTRA GIVE



Please join us as we participate in the ExtraGive event again this year!
www.ExtraGive.org (search for Saint Leo the Great)

WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL!





2427 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601



CATHOLIC. EXCELLENT. AFFORDABLE.



60th Anniversary Gala

Saint Leo the Great School

Saturday, November 22, 2025

Learning and Living the Gospel of Christ

For 60 years, our Saint Leo the Great School has answered that call - nurturing young hearts and minds in the light of the Gospel.



Celebrating 60 Years

Sponsorships Opportunities:

Please prayerfully consider a Sponsorship for our School Gala

Exclusive Event Sponsor - \$15,000

- Ten (10) Tickets to the Gala
- Verbal Recognition and Signage
- Full Page Ad in the Program

Food Station Sponsor - \$3,500 (4) Sponsors Needed

- Four (4) Tickets to the Gala
- Receive Verbal Recognition and Signage at the Food Station

Open Bar Sponsor - \$5,000

- Six (6) Tickets to the Gala
- Verbal Recognition
- Half Page Ad in the Program

Dessert Station Sponsor - \$2,500

- Two (2) Tickets to the Gala
- Receive Verbal Recognition and Signage at the Dessert Station

Deadline for Sponsorships Opportunities is Friday, October 31, 2025

Advertisement Opportunities:

Full Page Ad (5"W x 8"H) - \$500 Half Page Ad (5"W x 4"H) - \$250

Formats accepted: jpg, pdf, four color; no bleed

All ad copy must be received by November 7, 2025 to mdiffendall@stleos.org

Your contribution of items, service or sponsorship directly supports Saint Leo the Great School.

All contributions are 100% tax-deductible and will be recognized in our Program.

If you would like to donate, we accept in-kind gifts in the form of silent and live auction items.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jo Diffendall at 717-394-1742 ext. 323.

We are looking forward to hosting this Gala to celebrate 60 years of God's blessings upon our Parish School.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025

AFTER THE 4:30 MASS

IN OUR PARISH HALL

\$75.00 PER TICKET (Adult only Event)

Table of 10 \$700 (please supply us with a list of your table guests)

Hors d'oeuvres and Open Bar

Dinner and Dessert Stations

Dancing and Entertainment

LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS - PLEASE SEE ENCLOSED RSVP CARD

Cocktail Attire