

# Important and Pressing Needs...



## INCREASING TEACHER SALARIES

We are very blessed to have dedicated and talented teachers. Our dual mission of both “Faith and Reason” is important to our teachers and their decision to be here. We want to retain them!

We are striving to provide more equitable salaries for our teachers. It is our goal for teacher salaries to be at 85% of the Local Public Schools. Currently we are at about 70%. Achieving our goal of 85% would increase our average teacher salary to approximately \$45,000.

The graph below show how we compare with neighboring schools.

	Starting Teacher Salary	Average Teacher Salary	Student Teacher Ratio
Negaunee	\$38,095	\$54,777	23
Marquette	\$37,723	\$50,698	20
Nice	\$36,358	58,835	19
Ishpeming	\$35,875	\$50,754	23
Gwinn	\$34,836	\$53,247	20
Father Marquette	\$27,315	\$36,164	12

(\*Above figures are from the Michigan Board of Education)

## AFFORDABLE TUITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

As a private, Catholic school, FMCA has the incredible opportunity to offer Catholic education to every family who wishes for their children to attend. This is possible through our scholarship opportunity that provides tuition assistance to families in need. All families pay tuition, but we can make it affordable for families who request assistance. Currently, we have two generous yearly funds that provide us with scholarship monies. Student numbers are growing and so is the need for scholarships. We need to maintain the ability to offer affordable tuition for all families, for years to come!

## EXPANDING CLASSICAL MUSIC AND ART PROGRAMS

At FMCA we have the unique opportunity to offer tailored music and art curriculums. Both provide our students with numerous opportunities for growth and development. Our music teacher is currently part-time. A full-time position would allow us to develop this outstanding music and choir program to the full potential. We also have a tremendous art program with a full-time art teacher. We need to enhance our Classical Art program through teacher professional development and new classical arts materials and books for both the teacher and students. These enhancements would elevate our music and art programs to truly outstanding.

## MEETING MAINTENANCE AND FACILITY EXPENSES

Father Marquette Catholic Academy has a well maintained and safe facility, but much remains to be accomplished.

### RECENT IMPROVEMENTS:

- Entrance renovations and electronic door locks installed to achieve a “Best in Class” level of security and safety.
- Rebuilding of boilers and improvement of heating system.
- Improvements to grounds and playground area.
- Installation of hospital grade Hepa Air Purifiers in each classroom.
- Use of U.V.C. light along with expanded daily cleaning procedures to maintain a healthy and safe environment.

### PRIORITY NEEDS TO ADDRESS:

- Replacement of 18 classroom doors.
- Renovation of bathrooms.
- Replacement of floor coverings.

Our school is growing in the number of students and programs offered. Looking to the future, we will be studying the need for structural expansion of the physical facility.

# Ways to Give!

Gifts of any amount are most welcome and appreciated! There are a variety of ways you can give to the *Guardian Angels* Appeal, including:

**Direct Giving** may be made by cash, check, electronic transfer or Visa/Mastercard. Donations may be made online at [www.fathermarquette.org](http://www.fathermarquette.org).

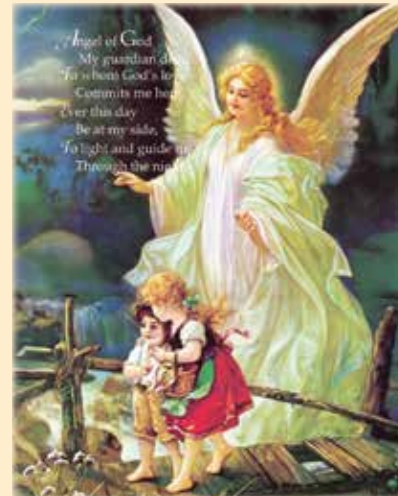
**Donation of Securities** are welcome and often offer additional tax benefits for donors.

**Matching Gifts** can double your donation. Ask your employer if they offer a matching gifts program.

**Pledge Commitments** are encouraged and can be made any time during the calendar year.

**Please return the Annual Appeal envelope at your convenience. For questions or more specific details on any of these giving methods, contact Father Marquette Catholic Academy at (906) 225-1129 or [FMCA@fathermarquette.org](mailto:FMCA@fathermarquette.org).**

**Thank you for your Generosity and Kindness!**



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# FATHER MARQUETTE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*Preparing Scholars, Leaders, and Saints*



## Guardian Angels Annual Appeal

2020/2021

# Why FMCA is so *Special...*

## INSPIRING CURRICULUM

### *The Good, The True, and The Beautiful...*

The implementation of the Classical Curriculum at FMCA has allowed us to focus our teachings and to really discover what lens we should be viewing our teaching and learning through. Classical Curriculum takes great time and care. Our teachers have mastered the Classical approach, and our students greatly benefit from it. Because of the classical curriculum, our students are inquisitive; they want to ask questions and to dig deeply into what they are learning. We teach our students to be critical. Learning is not rushed, but rather, focused. Learning is more than just getting through the materials. It is about covering the subjects well and allowing students the opportunity to wonder about the *good, the true and the beautiful*.

## BUILDING COMMUNITY

FMCA is welcoming and Christ-centered, allowing for a wholesome family environment. Parents desire the consistency between home, church, and school, and our school strives to accomplish this. There is a recognizable balance between high standards, grace, and care. The FMCA community works as a team and in continual partnership with parents, which creates a strong foundation of trust. When our students arrive each and every morning, we welcome them and care for them like the family they are. We will both love and challenge our students, and parents never have to worry about their child getting left out or lost in the crowd.

## LEARNING VIRTUES

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines virtues as “a habitual and firm disposition to do the good”. As our mission statement says, we are dedicated to the complete formation of our students. At FMCA, our students, teachers, and staff work hard to always be examples of the virtues of our Catholic faith and to always do the good. Moreover, our students continually engage in a virtue program, which teaches them about all of the virtues of faith. The program allows them the opportunity to practice and use each virtue in their lives. Our dedication to the forming of our students is far-reaching. We focus on creating disciples who are better people and better citizens.



At Father Marquette Catholic Academy, **we are creating disciples**, who will go out and make a difference in our community and our world. Our students have a special opportunity to be in a strong **relationship with Christ**, and this relationship will impact the decisions that they make as they move forward into their education and lives.



While we have many distinct traits that define Father Marquette Catholic Academy, our ability to provide our students with **individual and tailored instruction** is unparalleled. Our teachers know, deeply understand, and care about each and every one of our students. At FMCA, **we are a family**.

## OUR MISSION:

Centered in the person of **Jesus Christ** and grounded in the **teachings of the Catholic Church**, Father Marquette Catholic Academy is a mission of four Marquette parishes. **Partnering with parents**, we work to form students into **disciples** who will go forth to improve the world around them. We accomplish this by uniting the pursuits of **faith** and **reason**. Through **rigorous academics** grounded in the perennial **Classical Curriculum** and a commitment to **personal attention** of each student and their growth in **virtue**, we are dedicated to the complete **formation** of our students, remembering that in the end,

*only one thing is necessary.*



Our **Classical Curriculum** emphasizes history, language and arts. It allows us to instill **critical thinking** and develop leaders who understand and **embrace virtues**. Additionally, it allows our students to learn, grow, explore, and recognize God's beauty that surrounds them. At Father Marquette Catholic Academy, we **foster the beauty of wonder**, and we provide our students with the precious time that is necessary to **confidently question the world** that surrounds them. If we allow our students to embrace this beauty at a young age, they can practice and carry this gift throughout their lives.



Our Prekindergarten programs provide us with the opportunity to **partner with parents** at the start of their child's educational journey. We believe that parents are the primary educators of their children, which allows us to form **trusting relationships** with our families. We all work together to form our students into disciples and scholars.



At FMCA, despite being here part-time, Mr. Caballero runs a fabulous band and music program. He has the special ability to instill a **passion for music and the arts** into his students. Band and choir have been challenging to teach because of the pandemic, but Mr. Caballero still finds ways to allow his students to play their instruments, to sing, and to embrace the beauty of music. Likewise, Mrs. Hobbins, our talented art teacher provides our students with the daily opportunity to **create** and **embrace lovely art**. She inspires our students to explore and understand art through a classical approach. Despite the pandemic, Mrs. Hobbins brings her art class and her energy to each and every classroom at FMCA.



**Join us in our mission** to foster strong, **faithful leaders!** They will inspire our communities. They are the **future of our church**. It is a blessing to share in the forming of young disciples. We know the life journey they embark on, though their feet are small, and the road may not always be smooth, will be lit with the **light of Christ**.