

URGENT PRAYER FOR SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

In last week's bulletin, I included a financial report for the parish and school. Several members of the Parish Council said I needed to be more blunt about **how fragile our school situation really is**. I mentioned a shortfall of \$80,000, but this assumes we fill up our school with 50 additional students and that a new diocesan low-income scholarship program is implemented fully. However, if our biggest private donor also stops providing funds (which could happen in 2019), our **deficit would rise to \$230,000 next year**, and we would need to close the school and direct our students to other Catholic schools in Lincoln. The Parish Council suggested that I speak about this at the weekend Masses, but there is not much else to say at this time. We await the decisions of the major donor and the Bishop by the end of December.

However, we can **possibly buy three more years for our truly unique and outstanding school**: If the major donor stays with us, AND we can get pledges in the next month totaling \$100,000 per year for three years (on top of current giving—not “robbing Peter to pay Paul”), we could go forward. Please contact me if you have any ideas or leads, or if you want to discuss this further.

One thing to clarify: Sacred Heart *Parish* is viable in any case. The decision is whether we continue our mission of Catholic Education on site, or in partnership with Catholic schools at other sites, as Cristo Rey and Immaculate Heart of Mary parishes now do.

Above all, we need to pray that God's will be done: that we will be able to find the financial help we need, and that we will be able to cooperate with whatever steps are necessary for our students and the other Catholic School students of Lincoln. **Please pray the Novena on the opposite side of this sheet, starting this Sunday, Nov. 11, through Monday, Nov. 19. Thank you!**

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus – For Sacred Heart Catholic School:

I. O my Jesus, you said, "Truly, I say to you, ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you," behold, I knock, I seek and I ask for the grace of (*state your intentions*).

Pray 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and 1 Glory be.

“Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in thee.”

II. O my Jesus, you said, "Truly, I say to you, whatsoever you shall ask the Father in My Name He will give it to you," behold, in your name I ask the Father for the grace of (*state your intentions*).

Pray 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and 1 Glory be.

“Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in thee.”

III. O my Jesus, you said, “Truly, I say to you, heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away," behold, encouraged by your infallible words, I now ask for the grace of (*state your intentions*).

Pray 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary, and 1 Glory be.

“Sacred Heart of Jesus, I put all my trust in thee.”

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to whom one thing alone is impossible, namely, not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender Mother.

Pray the Hail Holy Queen, and add:

“St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, pray for us.”