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Dear St. Joseph School Families,

School staff members will be available after Masses this May 7th and 8th (4:30p, 8:00a, 10:00a) to enlist signatures for the LET MI KIDS LEARN petition. In addition, **registered voters** can come to the school office and sign the petition during business hours: 7:30a-3:30p, May 5th, 6th, 9th, and 10th.

The Michigan Catholic Conference and Catholic bishops of Michigan are encouraging all Catholic parishes and schools to support this petition.

The Michigan legislature passed two bills last Fall which would have provided “student opportunity scholarships” to low income families for their out-of-pocket educational expenses. Donors who contributed to the scholarships would receive a state tax credit. The scholarships would then be distributed to qualifying **public and nonpublic school students** for tutoring, school supplies, computer, and **tuition** expenses. One bill created the scholarship system, and the other created the tax credit. Unfortunately, Governor Whitmer vetoed the two measures.

If this petition drive is successful, it will be placed before the legislature, which if passed via this process, would not require the governor’s signature to become law.

There are two petition forms (one for each bill passed) that will require a **registered voter’s** signature. **Each person may only sign each petition once.**

Hopefully passage of this initiative strengthens the role of parents in the education of their children in our state and furthers our Christian call to achieve economic justice for all families.

Disciples of Christ,

**Mrs. Patricia O’Mara
Principal**

MISSION STATEMENT

“St. Joseph School, staff, parents, and parish family are committed to teaching quality, Christ-centered Catholic beliefs and values. Our uniqueness is displayed in our staff dedication, parental involvement, and community pride, which make St. Joseph a leader in academic excellence, social integration and appreciation.”