



Date: November 6, 2019

To: Pastors

From: Mike Bava

Subject: New School Assessment

A recent communication to you from Bishop Conlon (which is attached for your reference), provided an overview of the new parish assessment for schools and why it is necessary. The new school assessment has generated many questions from pastors including how it will impact my parish. The purpose of this memo is to answer some of these questions which I hope you find helpful. First, I will share how the new school assessment will impact parishes along with how it will be computed and administered. Secondly, I will discuss how the funds collected will be distributed back to the schools.

**Which parishes will be impacted by the new assessment?**

We anticipate that approximately 57 out of the 124 parishes in the diocese will be impacted by the new school assessment. These 57 parishes currently provide minimal or no support for catholic school education or have the capacity to provide additional support. Parishes with schools (37), parishes without schools that currently provide meaningful support to individual or regional schools (17) and parishes in Ford and Iroquios counties (13) will not be subject to the new assessment.

**How will the new assessment be computed?**

The new assessment will be based on total annual collections of the parish (Sunday, Christmas, Easter and holy days). The total collections will be applied to the chart below to compute the assessment. The chart is graduated so parishes with greater financial strength will be asked to contribute at a higher rate. We anticipate that approximately \$560,000 will be collected from the new assessment. Parishes who pay the new school assessment will receive a deduction against their existing parish assessment.

**NEW SCHOOL ASSESSMENT CHART**

<u>Total Annual Collections</u>	<u>School Assessment %</u>
\$0-\$349K	1%
\$350K-\$499K	2%
\$500K-\$749K	3%
\$750K-\$999K	4%
\$1.0M+	5%

Example: Total annual parish collections - \$400,000. School assessment is \$8,000 (\$400,000 x 2%).