

Annual Fund
2011-2012

What is the Annual Fund?

The Annual Fund is a yearly fundraising campaign created to eliminate school-wide fundraising sales, institute a significant means for generating income, and to assist with special projects directly benefiting the school.

What does the Annual Fund support?

The Annual Fund supports our students in ways that impact them every day. STM is a non-profit organization that relies on tuition income, fees, parish subsidy, fundraising events, such as the Spring Auction and Race for Education, and annual contributions to pay for school operations. The Annual Fund helps to bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost to educate each student at our current level.

In the past Annual Fund gifts have been used to purchase Active Boards for classrooms, enhance the school's literacy library, provide professional development for our teachers, improve technology in our computer lab, and to provide scholarships to deserving students.

This year we intend to use your donations to enhance the school's professional, technical, and physical resources. In addition, some of this year's donations will be used to create an endowment to assist in providing for the long-term financial support of our school.

Why not fundraise by selling "stuff"?

People have told us they feel compelled to purchase items that they do not want. We have also heard that while some people want to support the school, they do not because they "do not want to buy stuff." So, rather than selling "stuff," the Annual Fund is a vehicle through which parents and others can make 100% tax deductible contributions to support our school.

Why not just raise tuition rather than solicit donations?

If parochial schools relied solely on tuition income, the tuition would be beyond the means of most families. Annual giving enables the entire community—parishioners, current parents, alumni parents, alumni, faculty, staff, relatives, and friends—to help support Catholic education at a level that they feel comfortable.

Is money the only way that I can help STM's mission?

No. While monetary donations are necessary for STM to achieve its mission, you can also support Catholic education through the gifts of prayer and/or service.

STM Computer Lab

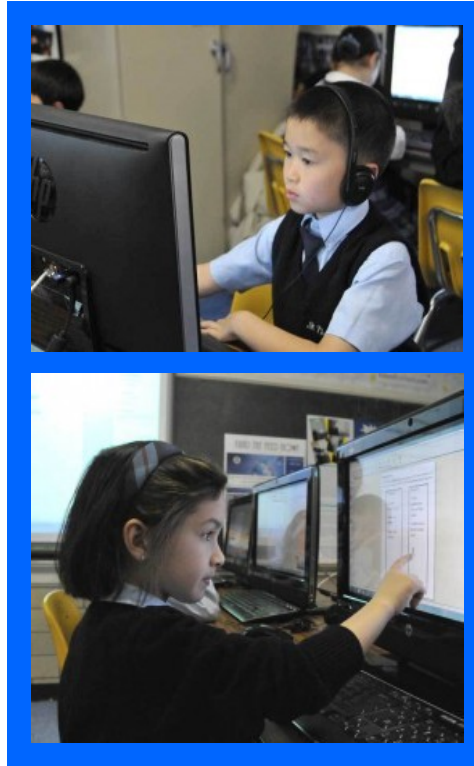
Technology to touch

Thanks to donations from people like you, our students enjoy a high-tech computer lab.

Computer screens are no longer hands-off at STM. In fact, just the opposite with the installation of all-in-one touch screen computers. These new computers include a sleek keypad, wireless mouse, and webcam. The modern design provides students with more desk space and allows for more computer stations in the lab.

What are the benefits to touch screen technology? For younger students, maneuvering a mouse can be tricky. Touch screen computers also allow students to complete more sophisticated projects.

The new hardware is part of a multi-year network overhaul and modernization project. A wireless network and software enhancements all add up to one of the best technological learning experiences for students.



Open House Schedule

October 23rd 11am-1pm

November 16th 9-11am

January 29th 11am-1pm

February 1st 9-11am



Did you know?



- Enrollment for the 2011-12 school year continued to grow with our current enrollment exceeding 360 students.
- Even with expanded enrollment, our classroom size is still small, averaging only 22 students per classroom.
- We now have 2 pre-kindergarten, 3 kindergarten, and 3 first grade classes.
- Our students begin computer classes in pre-kindergarten.
- STM teachers were featured in several *Catholic Herald* articles last year.
- One of our teachers gave a 4-day workshop to diocesan teachers on the word study program used at STM.
- Students attend Mass every Friday; and through our active prayer partner program, older students mentor younger ones.
- The STM choir performed at the wedding of our kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Stocker.
- Mrs. Lee continues to direct our school choir, which begins in third grade.
- We have active scouting programs for boys and girls.



know?

- Tuition alone does not cover the full cost of a student's education.
- Our computer lab has 32 new touch screen computers and new furniture at each student's station.
- Alumni can re-connect with STM via the school's Facebook page or through the Alumni Database on the STM website at www.stmschool.org.
- STM expanded its hot lunch program to 4 days a week.
- Mr. Ward continues to direct our award-winning band, which begins in fourth grade.
- Father Rippy regularly rides along with the Arlington Police.
- We have a track team for third through eighth grade students.
- Our principal dressed as Lady Liberty to support last year's Race for Education.
- New after-school enrichment programs include guitar lessons, robotics, pottery and more.
- STM published it's first ever Annual Report to thank the numerous donors to STM and to share more great happenings at school. www.stmschool.org/annualreport.pdf



Traditions of Service

Still strong at STM



Each year the entire STM student body and faculty, as well as a happy band of parents and siblings take part in the annual Walk for the Homeless to the Lubber Run amphitheatre for a prayer service and reflection.



Kindergartners host a shower for baby Jesus. During Advent, wrapped baby gifts were donated to Hope of Northern Virginia, supporting mothers in need.

The STM community remains true to the mission of the church and school, donating countless hours of service every year. Some of last year's projects included a toy drive for needy children, canned goods for the Arlington Food Bank, The Giving Tree to help families in need at Christmastime, and an eyeglass collection benefiting the Lion's Club of Northern Virginia.



STM Cub Scout Pack 194 participated in the annual Potomac Watershed cleanup. For the 4th year, the boys picked up trash along Lubber Run Creek near the amphitheatre. They found an assortment of trash, a decomposing 10-dollar bill and 2 snakes. The snakes were left untouched.

Methods of Tax-Deductible Giving



CHECK

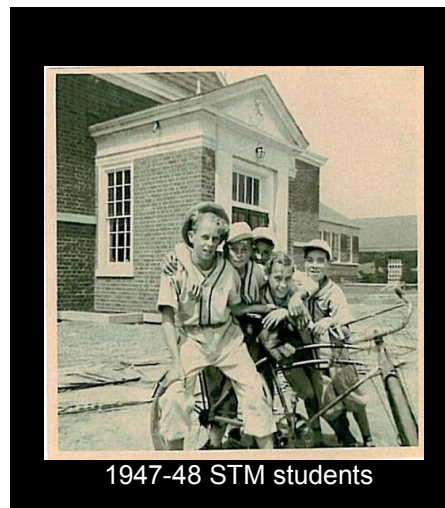
Please make checks payable to:
St. Thomas More Cathedral School
Annual Fund
105 North Thomas Street
Arlington, VA 22203

CREDIT CARD- ONLINE

STM accepts major credit cards.
For our secure online VeriSign site
go to: www.stmschool.org. Click
on **Giving**, and then **Online Donation**.

UNITED WAY/COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

Give to STM using our designated
United Way number: 8976 or the
Combined Federal Campaign
number: 58640.



MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers will match your gift
to St. Thomas More Cathedral
School. Please check with your
employer's human resources
office for more details on how to
increase the value of your gift.

OTHER GIVING METHODS

To name STM as a beneficiary of life
insurance proceeds, to designate
policy dividends as gifts, or to make
other donations through planned
giving, please contact the Diocese of
Arlington Planned Giving Office at
(703) 841-2545.

STOCKS, BONDS AND MUTUAL FUNDS

Please contact the school office at
(703) 528-6781 or email
stmoffice@stmschool.org

105 North Thomas Street
Arlington, VA 22203
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