



July 16, 2025

Dear Parish Family,

We come to you today with both a challenge and an opportunity to strengthen Catholic education in our community.

A Critical Need. This month we learned that our Title IIA federal funding has been frozen by the Department of Education. We have relied on this funding to provide high-quality professional development for our teachers. This year we had planned to partner with the **University of Notre Dame** for specialized training focused on supporting **language and literacy instruction**. Without this federal support, we must raise the full \$4,000 ourselves to preserve this valuable opportunity.

An Investment in Excellence. The professional development we've designed is a 4-part, live, virtual training with Notre Dame that will equip our teachers to strengthen student writing across content areas, use the Science of Reading to support English learners, promote active listening and academic discussion, and debunk myths about English learner instruction. This training is designed for all teachers, and the learning will directly impact every student in our school.

Why This Matters to Our Mission. From preschool through 8th grade, all of our students are developing the language skills they need to thrive in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Research confirms that even native English speakers need ongoing, explicit instruction in academic language. This professional development serves every child in our care.

How You Can Help. We are asking you to consider making a contribution to this vital cause. Every dollar raised will go directly to this training opportunity, scheduled for September 29, 2025.

Our Goal: \$4,000

Our Timeline: We have three weeks to raise the funds – **August 6**

Ways to Give: Write "Title IIA Fund" in memo or <https://membership.faithdirect.net/VA401>.



Together, we can turn this funding challenge into a mission-driven investment in our students and teachers. Your generosity will ensure that our educators have the tools they need to help every child discover and develop their God-given gifts.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education.

Abounding in Hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Aránzazu Ascunce". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Dr. Aránzazu Ascunce
Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rev. Andrew Fisher". The signature is more stylized and cursive than the one of the principal.

Very Rev. Andrew Fisher
Pastor