

SERVING GOD BY HELPING EACH OTHER

March 2018

Dear Catholic School Supporter,

Thirteen years ago The Gene Grawe Fund Inc. was started to help families pay for Catholic Education. Since then over \$1.4 million has been distributed to help families pay for their Catholic Education! This fund was started in memory of my dad, Gene Grawe who died in 2003 living with Parkinson's Disease for 17 years. In Ephesians 2:10 it says "It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others." Dad spent his life helping others and it gives me great pleasure to do the same. When we serve others, we are serving God, and my dad was a great example to me. I am proud and honored to be carrying on his legacy.

This past year was our tenth year that this fund was expanded city wide to help ALL families pay for Catholic Education. This is being offered again for all families that are attending Blessed Sacrament, St.Dominic, St.Francis, St.Peter K-8 or Quincy Notre Dame High School for the school year **2019-2020**. Yes this is for the 2019-20 school year. We need to make the money this year so it will be available to distribute it next year.

Our only fundraiser is selling gift cards to over 700 merchants nationwide. We sell gift cards for groceries, gas, landscaping, prescriptions, catering, restaurants, hotels, airlines, cruises, department stores, home improvements, etc. Obviously gas and groceries are our biggest sellers including County Market, Hy-Vee, Kohl Cash & Carry, Wal-Mart/Sams, BP, Cenex, Shell & Wilco. We sell gift cards for their face value and The Gene Grawe Fund receives a rebate from the merchant. We make anywhere from 1-20%. **The amount that you pay for the card is the amount that you receive. There is no additional cost to you. You get what you pay for!** What other fundraiser does that?

For example, if you purchase a \$100 card from The Gene Grawe Fund to County Market or HyVee, you receive the full \$100 and at 5%, the Gene Grawe Fund makes \$5. You are not out any extra money. This is money you would already be spending, and you are helping families pay for Catholic Education. You just make your check to the Gene Grawe Fund instead of the merchant. We have many merchants available, both local and national. Kohl's Department Store Cards can also be used to pay on your charge accounts at the store. A few cards to keep in mind that we make higher percentages on are Old Navy/Gap (14%), Bath & Body (13%), Village Inn (15%) Red Rood Car Wash (20%). Also, many restaurants we make 8-10%. Make your purchase count! Throughout the year there are many bonuses from merchants. Please take advantage of this because this can really add up and be more money off your tuition!

To view a current merchant list, please go to shopwithscrip.com. You may print the list so you may have it for future reference. All of the merchants listed are available to get through The Gene Grawe Fund. In addition, the local merchants that we have are The Abbey/Kelly's/Gem City/Tower (5%), Animal Med Clinic/Bed & Biscuit Dog Hotel(5%), Baileys Fudge(5%), Bergman Nurseries(10%), Buffalo Prairie Dental (8%), Butcher Block (5%), CA's (7%), Carls Shoes (10%), County Market(5%), Culvers (10%), Designers Edge (5%), Discount Golf World (5%), Doors N More (1%),Farm & Home(5%), GameMasters (5%), Gem City Memorials (5%),Harrison Monuments (5%).

We also have HyVee(5%), Ice Shack (12%), International EyeCare (10%), Jimmy Johns (10%), Keck Heating & Air Conditioning (5%), Kohl Cash & Carry(5%), Krazy Cakes (10%), McDonald's (10%), NuFit(15%), The Pier (10%), Red Roof Car Wash (\$1 tokens)(20%), Running Wild (10%), Sara Terwelp Photography (5%), SaveMore Carpets (5%), Sprouts(10%), St. Vincents (2%), Stella & Dot (Sarah Stegeman 5%), TCBY(10%), Thyme Square (5%), Tiramisu (7%), Village Inn (15%), WaterWorks (5%), Wine On Broadway (5%) & Wilco (2%). Please thank these merchants when you are shopping there!

Something that has been very popular are gift certificates to the Gene Grawe Fund. This is great for those who you don't know what to get. Teachers love them. You buy a gift certificate to the Gene Grawe Fund & they can pick out what gift card they want. These must be ordered through me. You can get them in any increments of \$5.

Many of you have taken advantage of the Scripnow at shopwithscrip.com. If you have not taken advantage of this I would definitely recommend it. It comes in handy when you are shopping & don't have gift cards or you are shopping out of town. You can get gift cards on your phone or you can print them off your computer or reload some instantly. Not all merchants are available for scripnow or reloading. If you are interested please email me for the enrollment code. If you need help with this I can help you get set up. If you are not using this you are missing out on some tuition money. You can get friends & family to do this too! It just comes out of your checking account.

These gift cards are available year round. These cards are only available in St. Peters Catholic Church lobby located at 2600 Maine in Quincy. Just enter the door to the right of the main doors & you will see our office. Hours are 7:30-5:00 Monday through Friday with Thursdays until 7:00. Saturday cards are available 9:00 -1:00. And yes we are open in the summer. **This past school year one family received \$3,060.71 off their tuition with the average family receiving \$522.84 from the Gene Grawe Fund so the possibilities are endless!**

Distributions will be calculated according to the Scrip Agreement. Please make sure you sign the Scrip Program Agreement which explains the distributions along with the Registration form for your family to be eligible for the 2019-20 school year. We have children with same names so make sure you put your youngest **child's first and last name on the memo of your check**. Make sure you tell your family & friends to do the same. Please use your youngest child that you are registering. Checks are preferred method of payment but cash is acceptable. Just make sure you tell whoever is selling the cards to credit your family, using the child's first & last name. **For the 2019-20 school year tracking on amounts purchased will run from April 16, 2018-April 1, 2019. April 1st is a different cutoff time.**

I want to thank all of you who have supported this fund & continue to support it in any way. Many of you have sold to coworkers, families, friends, etc to help make this fund grow. I also want to thank all of you who help by selling the cards. Please thank those helpers when you stop in to buy the cards. All of the workers are volunteers! I also want to thank those of you who continue to support this fund but may not receive any funds in return. May God Bless each of you!

If you will be having children in our Catholic Schools K-12 in the 2019-20 school year, please fill out the registration form & Scrip Program Agreement by May 31, 2018. Even if you decide next spring you may not need or want any funds please register. Only families registered will be eligible for the funds. It is also important to **include your email address** so I can keep you updated on changes, bonuses, new things happening with this fund and deadlines. This is the best way for me to correspond with the Gene Grawe Fund supporters. **If you are not getting emails from me please contact me to let me know so I can get your correct email.** Any questions please email , call, or stop in the GGF office.

You can really make a difference in what you pay for tuition next year! Let's live our lives helping others. Remember, we are called to help each other and when we help others, we are serving God. Thank you for all of your support.

God Bless,

JoAnn M. Witte, President, The Gene Grawe Fund, Inc.

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