

You don't want to be the only one paying full price for tuition! Wouldn't you like Walmart, Speedway & Home Depot to pay your tuition for you? They will—through Manna!

What is Manna? Simple. It's the wonderful program that has local and national retailers paying your tuition for you. How does it work? Really Simply: Businesses sell their own gift cards to the school at a discount. The school then sells them to the school/RE families at face value. The difference (the discount amount) is then split between the school as a fund raiser, and the family as tuition credit. Why do we call it Manna? I don't know—just go with it.

What's the catch? There is none. If you want \$100 for Jewel, write a check for \$100, and receive \$100 in Jewel gift cards, plus you get half of the discount as credit toward your tuition.

Each retailer offers a different discount, and most will be split 50/50 between the school and the families. In some instances, retailers offer small discounts of 2 or 3%; in most cases, the families will receive a 2% discount, and the school will get either 0 or 1%. *In many cases, however, the discount offered is much higher—10, 15, 20% or more, and the families will receive half of the discount as tuition credit!* Over the course of the year, this can easily add up to **hundreds** of dollars. **In past years, families have saved \$400, \$500, \$650 off their tuition!** This could be you!

What kind of store participates? Every kind. Grocery, gas, restaurants, clothing stores, shoe stores, pizza places, book stores, department stores, you name it. Just about every kind of purchase you are already making, you can make through Manna, and save money off your tuition! This is money you are already spending. You can save money for yourself, and raise money for the school without buying anything you aren't buying now. It's a no-brainer.

How can I get in on this wonderful program? It's easy--just buy the certificates! You can do this a few different ways. Our traditional system works by filling out a paper form that will be sent home with your child. Return the form and payment to school by Monday, and you will receive your order on Friday in your child's backpack. New for this year, we are happy to announce online ordering as an option. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com to register as a St. Joe family, & place your order. (See separate hand out for details on online ordering.) The third option for obtaining Manna is through walk-up sales. We carry a limited inventory of the more popular stores, you can just walk up & buy them during specific times. These times include after 10:00 mass on Sundays in the back of the church/AC; Friday mornings from 8:15-9ish in the cafeteria, and Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons/evenings per the RE schedule. Over summer and school holidays, you can purchase Manna by contacting Jennifer Cunnane at 834-9341.

This is a simple, smart and easy way to offset the cost of a fantastic education, as well as raise money for the school, without spending any additional money. You can have your friends, families and neighbors buy certificates in your name, too. They will be supporting St. Joe's and helping you out too.

Still not convinced? Don't think you need the couple of hundred bucks you could easily save? Then think about buying Manna anyway, and have all your credits go directly to the school, the Religious Ed program, or the Needy Family Fund. If you don't need the money, we'll find someone who does. Any questions, please feel free to call me. Thanks for considering Manna, and Welcome to St. Joe's!

Following are policies and miscellaneous information for the Manna Program. Please keep this sheet for future reference.

- For school families, written Manna orders & payment are due Monday morning; online orders will be accepted until 7:00 pm. These will be returned with your oldest child Friday. Orders received after Monday morning will be filled from the box if we are able, or held for the following week.
- For Religious Ed families, or school families that prefer to purchase directly from the box, Manna will be sold Fridays from 8:15 -9ish, after 10:00 mass on Sundays, and during Religious Ed hours (Tuesday & Wednesday, times to be announced.) RE families are encouraged to use the online ordering system; if you order by Monday evening, I will have your order filled by Friday morning. You can pick it up at school Friday, or at your next RE class.
- We do not have the resources to stock all available vendors in the box. Families are strongly encouraged to use the weekly order form/online ordering system! This way we order exactly what you want, and have the money to pay for it.
- Purchases made this school year, through the end of May, will be credited toward the following school year. You will receive a statement before the end of the school year, and can deduct that amount from your next tuition payment due.
- Think outside your own wallet! Your families, friends, neighbors, co-workers, mailmen, etc., can purchase Manna certificates in your name so that you get the credit. Everyone needs groceries, gas, clothing, etc. Encourage them to purchase Manna—it's money they would spend anyway, and you can get the credit.
- Future families are welcome! If you know anyone with young kids (or no kids yet) that may send their kids to St. Joes, they can start buying Manna in their own name at any time, and we'll hold the credits for them until they start school.
- High school families can still take advantage of Manna. Continue buying Manna from us, and we will send a check to that high school in your name, to be used for tuition/books/fees, etc. LTHS included! In fact, high school families are some of our biggest customers. Once you start, Manna is a hard habit to break.
- Any family account that has a total Manna credit for the year of \$5.00 or less, will be considered a donation to the school. It is not worth the time or effort to track such small amounts.
- Manna purchases can also be made in the name of the school, the R/E program, or the Needy Family Fund as a donation. Just put "Needy Family" or whatever under the "name of family to be credited" line on the order form. You can also donate your credits to another family if you're so inclined. This can be done anonymously if you prefer.
- Tuition credits earned through Manna belong to St. Joe's. If for some reason you leave the school, you will be given the option of transferring your credits to another family, the Needy Family Fund, or the school itself, but under no circumstances will payments be made directly to an individual.

New ideas and suggestion are always welcome. Volunteers are always needed. If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or free time, please give me a call. I can be reached at 834-9341. Thanks!

Jennifer Cunnane