

December 22, 2020

Dear Saints Peter and Paul School Families,

Greetings! The purpose of my letter is to inform you of the grade school tuition assistance opportunities that are available to you. These opportunities have specific due dates and require an application to be submitted electronically. I encourage you to apply for tuition assistance even if you are unsure whether you will or will not need assistance for the 2021/2022 school year. Here are the opportunities:

Saints Peter and Paul and Diocese of Joliet Catholic Education Foundation (CEF)

Each school year, the Saints Peter and Paul Tuition Assistance Endowment and Golf Outing, and the Diocese of Joliet Catholic Education Foundation (CEF) offer tuition assistance to families in need of additional financial support. The tuition assistance application process for both is handled via FACTS Grant and Aid. **The application process begins January 2, 2021.** You can start the application process by visiting the FACTS website <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3G6T5>.

Please note to be considered for tuition assistance from the Diocesan CEF, a family is required to submit a completed application on or before March 1, 2021. This can make a significant difference in the amount of assistance you receive so please apply early to be considered for Diocesan CEF tuition assistance. After March 1, you can still be considered for Saints Peter and Paul tuition assistance, however we encourage you to complete and submit your application as soon as practical.

FACTS will charge a one-time \$35 processing fee to all applicants. For additional information regarding the Diocesan CEF tuition assistance, you may reach Ms. Shirley Roberson at either sroberson@dioceseofjoliet.org or call her at (815) 221-6127. For additional information regarding Saints Peter and Paul tuition assistance, please send an email to tuitionassistancehelp@sspeterandpaul.net or call 630-718-2235.

2021/2022 Scholarship – Tax Credit Scholarship

The State of Illinois offers tuition assistance through the Tax Credit Scholarship program. This is administered through Empower Illinois, our primary Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO). The process consists of two steps. **First, there is the reservation process that begins January 13, 2021 between 6:30 pm to 7:00 p.m.** The reservation process allows a family to obtain a higher priority for the general pool of donations when those funds become available. Otherwise, you can begin the application process any time after 7:00 p.m. on January 13, 2021. **You are strongly encouraged to complete your Empower application on or before February 1, 2021.** For the reservation and application process you can visit Empower Illinois at <https://empowerillinois.org/apply/how-do-i-apply/>. Also, on the main page of the Empower Illinois website there is a button for parents/students to apply for assistance. When you click on the apply button you will be directed to family/student/parent page that contains information such as “How do I apply? How does it work? and Do I qualify?” Also, there is Q and A section for further assistance.

A secondary SGO, Big Shoulders Fund, also awards Tax Credit Scholarships. Their application opens January 12, 2021 at 8:00 am. Information can be found on their website at <https://bigshouldersfundsgo.org>. It is recommended that you apply through both SGOs, but note that you may only accept a scholarship from one.

Again, I encourage you to apply for ALL the tuition assistance opportunities that are available as outlined above.

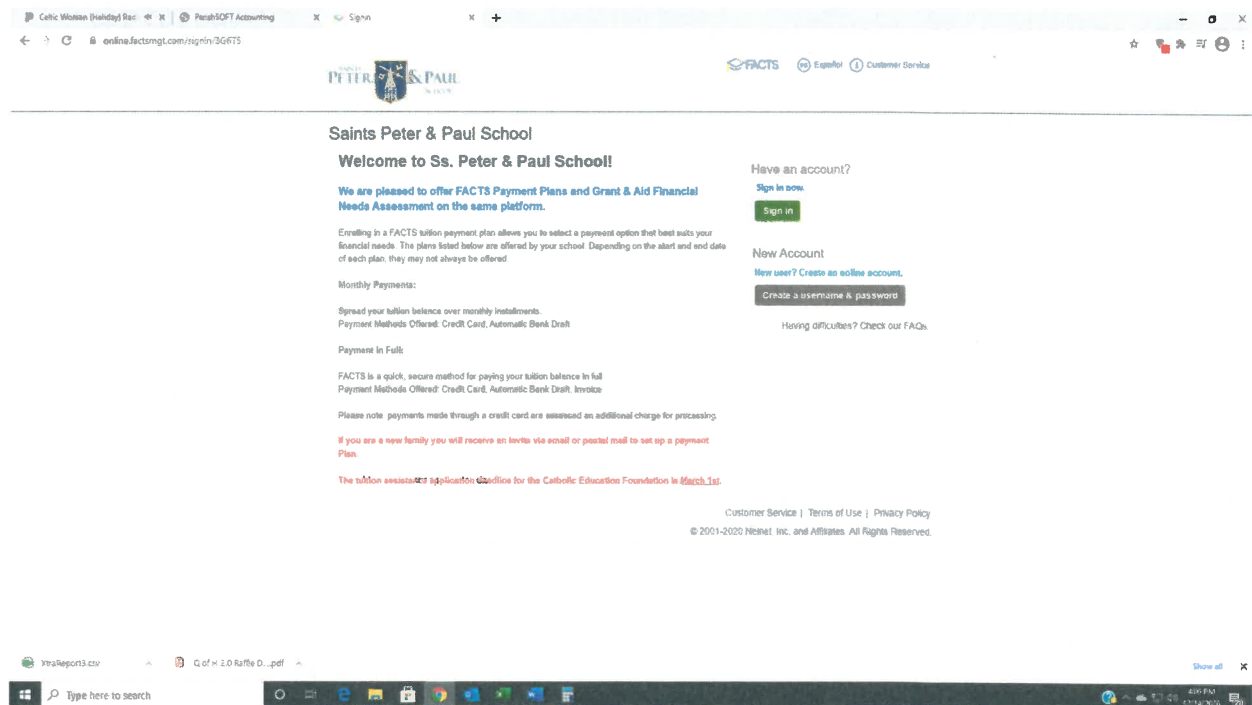
May Almighty God Bless your family throughout the Christmas Season and in the New Year.

In the Peace of Christ,

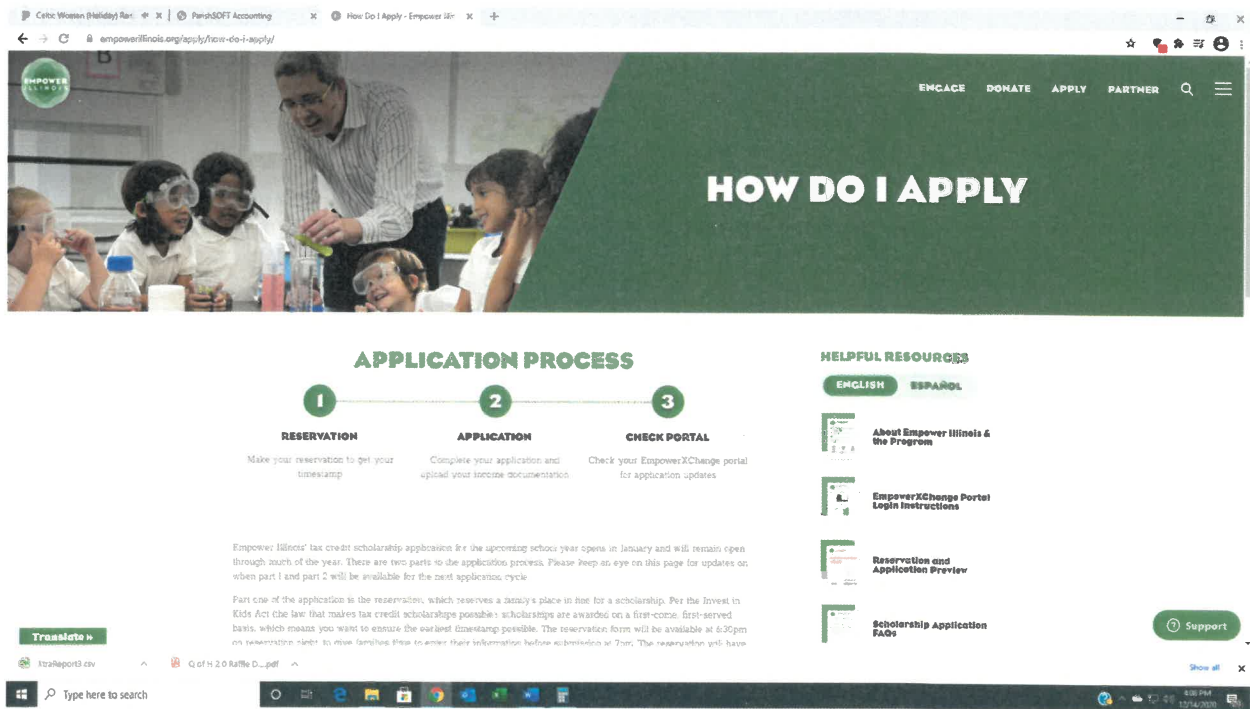


Fr. Brad Baker
Pastor

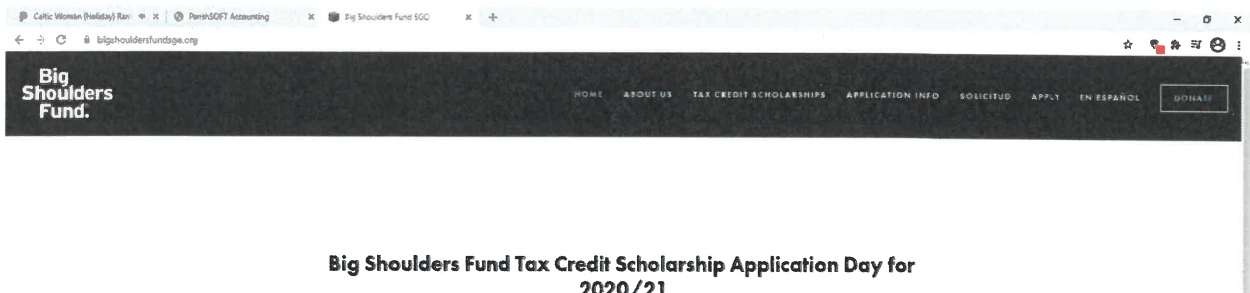
FACTS website - <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3G6T5>



Empower Illinois website - <https://empowerillinois.org/apply/how-do-i-apply/>



Big Shoulders Fund Website - <https://bigshouldersfundsgo.org>



Information Update

Big Shoulders Fund is happy to announce that our application for the Tax Credit Scholarship Program made possible by the Illinois Invest in Kids Act for the 2020/21 school year, will open at 8:00 am on January 12, 2021.

Tax Credit Tuesday Information Sessions Via Zoom:

December 1st 7pm - English Link [Here](#) & Español Link [Aquí](#)

December 6th 7pm - English Link [Here](#) & Español Link [Aquí](#)

December 15th Noon - English Link [Here](#) & Español Link [Aquí](#)

December 29th Noon - English Link [Here](#) & Español Link [Aquí](#)