

# Get to Know PTE



The Parent Teacher Exchange (PTE) organization, would like to welcome you to St. Gabriel School! Whether you are joining us this year or have been around for a while, it's a great time to be part of our faith, family and fun! PTE's goals are simple ... to work toward the betterment of our school while enhancing our children spiritually and educationally, to create a greater appreciation of Catholic education, to encourage and support family togetherness and to raise funds to support the needs and requests of our school. Each of us plays an important role in meeting these goals and each of us has unique qualities and abilities to help achieve them. We welcome and encourage everyone to join in. Our meetings are held three times a year, beginning in October. A notice will be sent out in advance so that you can make plans to attend. In the meantime, here's a little information to get to know us!



## Fundraising **FACTS** ... did you know? ...

- Each year our school cafeteria is transformed into a restaurant for our annual Spaghetti Dinner. It's a 43 year old tradition here at St. Gabriel and raises about \$10,000 each year for our school.
- Our annual, themed Dinner Auction is a lively opportunity to get great one-of-a-kind items by outbidding your neighbor and raising funds for our school. Themes have ranged from "Back to the '80's" to "Casino Night". An average of \$22,000 per year has been raised.
- Our annual "Walk with Angels" walk-a-thon, introduced just 9 years ago, has raised nearly \$100,000 for our school with 100% participation from our students.
- St. Gabriel has been hosting Bingo since 1992 with net proceeds supporting school funding. It is our highest producing fundraiser, having made close to \$900,000 so far for St. Gabriel School! It is held at Finnagin's, a non-smoking facility in Northtowne, every Wednesday night.
- PTE sells SCRIP gift cards and coupon books year round with sales available after all weekend Masses and through the parish office. Our school receives a portion of every card and coupon book sold.
- St. Gabriel School regularly participates in the Snake Saturday Parade. Our parents, teachers and students design and build a float for entry. Families are encouraged to walk in the parade and show their St. Gabriel Pride. Our school has won prize money for our floats for the last several years.



## Interesting **STATS** ... did you know? ...

PTE can help you help your child. Statistics show when you are involved in your child's school, your child reaps the benefits. PTE provides ways to get more involved in your child's education and meet others who have similar interests. When your children see you volunteer at school, they know you care about them and St. Gabriel School.

## **FAMILY FUN Events** ,, did you know? ...

PTE hosts an annual Trunk-or-Treat Halloween event with food and fun for the whole family! Hot dogs, chili and warm drinks provided for all! All families are invited to decorate their trunks for an entry into the "Best Dressed Trunk" contest while our costume-clad students trick-or-treat from trunk-to-trunk!



## Spending **REPORT** ... did you know? ...

PTE uses fundraising funds to provide many things including books, materials, supplies, fieldtrips, health screenings, playground maintenance, school building improvements, teacher support and training, marketing, scholarships and school social activities - just to name a few!

## **PTE SERVICE PROJECTS**... did you know? ...

St. Gabriel parents, teachers, staff and students are proud of the service they provide to benefit our school and community. They join in to provide valuable services on projects we would otherwise hire out. These service projects include painting, flooring, gym renovations, landscaping and playground maintenance – just to name a few!



As you can see, fundraising is a big part of St. Gabriel PTE and helps offset various expenses incurred during the year, funds scholarships and helps keep tuition expenses low. In support of these fundraising efforts, each school family is asked to make an annual service commitment to work 25 hours each year. At least 20 of these hours is spent working fundraising events. A maximum of five hours can be spent performing specific work similar to the PTE Service Projects noted above. Should a family choose not to work, they are required to pay \$750 or \$30 per hour for each unearned hour of the family's 25 hour commitment.