



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC CLASSICAL SCHOOL
GRADES Pre K - 8**

Classical Education
in Service of the Family



ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017



2256 S. Logan St. Denver, CO 80210 | (303) 722-7525 | lourdesclassical.org



AMDG

Dear Friends of Lourdes Classical,

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School is flourishing due to your generous donations and sacrifices, thank you!

We have something refreshingly different to offer the families at Lourdes Classical. The goal of our school is first and foremost to help students on their journey towards sainthood. We are also proud that our graduates go out into the world as leaders with conviction and knowledge.

As you will see through this annual report, Lourdes Classical offers something so unique; our families understand what a blessing Catholic Classical education truly is for our students. In the following pages, you will read stories about the way God is working through this school and the blessings of our spiritual and academic success, the increasing trends of our enrollment, and our financial profile.

May God bless your generous hearts and continue to draw you closer to Him now and always.

In Christ,



MISSION STATEMENT

Under the patronage of our Blessed Mother, the mission of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Classical School is to support parents in their role as the primary educators of their children. Our rigorous classical training draws out of students their natural desire for wisdom and virtue. By fostering a love for truth, beauty, and goodness, we seek to form disciples of Jesus Christ, set free to realize their full potential by living joyfully in accordance with the truth revealed by God through nature and the Catholic Church. Classical education seeks to foster a love for learning in every student that will inspire the student towards lifelong learning and love for Christ.

CLASSICAL EDUCATION IN THEORY

- Classical education seeks to recover what has been largely lost; that is, **return to the original purpose of education.**
- The classical approach sees the purpose of education as **forming human beings for excellent, virtuous living.**
- Classical education strives to lead students to discover knowledge that is ordered, coherent, integrated, and is rooted in the wisdom of the past, particularly in western civilization.

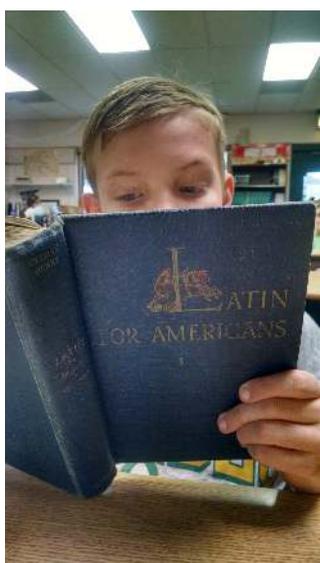
3 STAGES TO CLASSICAL EDUCATION

- **The Grammar Stage (K - 3rd grade)** – The grammar stage is foundational in classical education. It has an emphasis on memorization and poetry.
- **The Logic Stage (3rd - 6th grade)** – This stage adds a level of depth to the information the student has acquired in the grammar stage and gives the inquiring student the right tools to answer the many questions that arise.
- **The Rhetoric Stage (7th - 8th grade)** – It is during this time that the focus becomes writing and speaking beautifully and persuasively in defense of the integrated truth they have acquired.



CLASSICAL EDUCATION IN PRACTICE AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

- Lesson plan objectives are based on what truth the students will behold.
- Students cycle through the four pillars of the Catechism.
- The fullness of the faith is always presented in an age-appropriate manner, but never watered down.
- Students are taught a love for their culture through the integration of Western Civilization and Christianity.
- Classical education trains the mind to think orderly in all subjects.
- Primary source documents are used more frequently than textbooks to foster a deep love of learning.



WHY LATIN?

- Studying the official language of the Church aids in Christian worship, theological studies and discipleship formation.
- Latin's rational structure helps students develop precision in higher order of thinking.
- It helps students discover and make sense of the truth found in all content areas.
- Latin is found everywhere: in history, science, literature, logic, English, Scripture and theology.
- Studies have repeatedly shown that Latin students consistently outperform their peers on standardized tests.



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Students attend daily Mass four times per week, adoration weekly and reconciliation monthly.
- Faculty and staff help cultivate vocation discernment and preparation.
- Students have demonstrated an increased relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist and their understanding of the Old Testament in relationship to the Sacrifice of the Mass.
- Last year, we welcomed three students into the Christian family through the Sacrament of Baptism!
- In May, we honor Our Lady of Lourdes as the patroness of our school with a procession around the entire campus, followed by the crowning of Mary in the Grotto on our campus.

“The Holy Spirit's presence is tangible when walking into Lourdes. The students, staff, and families show such an authentic desire and hunger to live the Eucharistic life. This is especially demonstrated in the Mass by the reverence we see from the altar servers to the respect each student shows approaching Jesus during communion.”

— Eric and Lindsay Kroonenberg
Lourdes Classical Parents



“We chose Lourdes for our growing family because we want our children to become saints. The academics, the friendships, the caliber of the staff...all are important and all are present there, but all are utterly secondary to our desire for our children's holiness and wholeness. We saw clearly that Lourdes was a leader in the business of making disciples, and that's why we drive past half a dozen other Catholic schools to drop our kids there each morning.”

- Dave and Jenny Uebbing, Lourdes Classical Parents

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

While our curriculum is consistent with that set out by the Archdioceses of Denver, our approach in presenting materials differs significantly. With the Classical method to education, we see students more engaged and excited to learn. Students participate in living history museums, poetry recitations, and other methods of learning that offer **experiential learning** and a **depth of knowledge**.



The chart below depicts the 2016-17 8th grade class and their overall core composite growth since 5th grade. While Classical Education teaches beyond the test, the data we capture from the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) demonstrates the students' growth and their ongoing critical thinking ability.



ENROLLMENT TRENDS

- **92%** increase in enrollment since 2010 - 2011 school year.
- Many classes have waiting lists.
- Expected enrollment at maximum capacity of **255** by **fall of 2019**.

Number of Students Preschool - 8th Grade

Year	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	projected 17/18
Total	108	142	166	162	161	165	207	220



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

While the annual tuition at Lourdes Classical is \$4,472, the cost to educate each student is \$6,100. More than half of our 220 students receive additional financial assistance. Our fundraising efforts are crucial to close the gap of tuition, providing a quality education for every student. Our two biggest fundraisers are the “End of Year Matching Gift” and our Annual Gala.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND

The Tuition Assistance Fund provides financial assistance for families desiring to provide their children with an authentically Catholic Classical education and would otherwise be unable to afford the cost of tuition. THANK YOU to the many generous donors, parishioners and foundations who contribute to this fund and provide assistance for over half of the school population!

2017 GREEN & GOLD GALA, *SAINTS & SCHOLARS*



- This year’s event was a huge success! Over 350 people attended and we raised over \$160,000.
- The event was chaired by parent volunteers and thanks to the efforts of school parents, the gym was transformed into an elegant venue for the evening.
- We are grateful to everyone in the Lourdes community who made this such a success and whose generosity enables families to send their children to Lourdes Classical.

END OF YEAR MATCHING GIFT

A benefactor from Our Lady of Lourdes Church offered to match all donations from the parish given to support tuition assistance up to \$25,000. Thanks to this generous incentive, the parishioners of Lourdes raised **\$55,330** for Lourdes Classical students!

**Thank you to everyone who generously supports
Lourdes Classical!**

LOURDES CLASSICAL BY THE NUMBERS

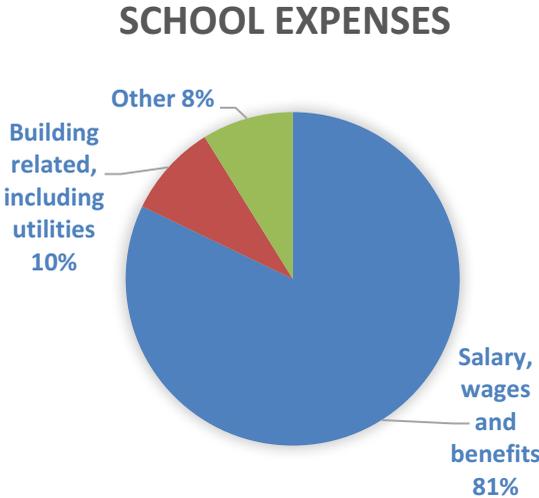
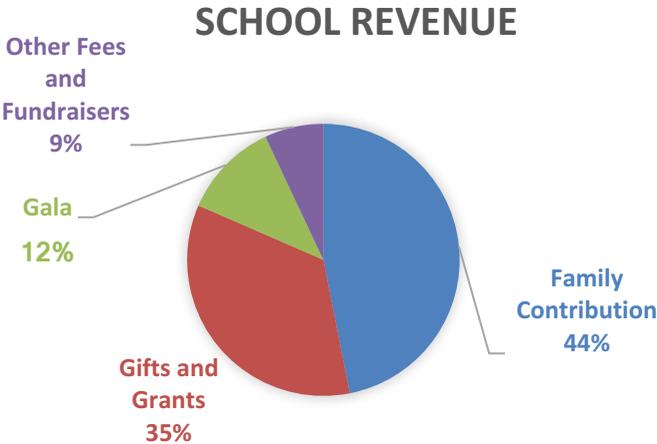
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

Our mission, as a ministry of the Catholic Church, is to serve all families who are seeking a Catholic Classical Education. We work hard to make sure that no family is turned away because of financial difficulties, thank you to everyone who helps make this a reality.

2016 - 2017 School Year Breakdown

- **Student Enrollment:** 207
- **Cost to educate one student:** \$6,100
- **Number of students receiving financial aid:** 104
- **Average Family Contribution:** \$3,040
- **Average Family Size:** 5

FINANCIAL RESULTS



TOTAL REVENUE: \$1.4 MILLION

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1.3 MILLION

LOURDES CLASSICAL STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	FY 17	FY 18 Budget
Revenues		
Tuition*	\$ 629,002	\$ 728,281
Gala, net**	166,908	155,000
CSAF, Catholic Foundation, ACE/Schmitz	267,702	274,600
Private Grants & Scholarships	142,258	140,375
Year End Gifts & Match	55,330	50,000
Other gifts, Bequests, etc.	32,931	36,000
Scrip & Other Fundraising Activities	27,721	27,300
Student Fees & Other Income	93,706	69,885
Total School Revenue	1,415,558	1,481,441
Expenses		
Payroll & Related	1,021,397	1,215,866
Building & Related	104,904	107,543
Other Expenses	130,595	114,177
Total Expenses	1,256,896	1,437,586
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 158,662	\$ 43,855

* FY18 reflects 4% tuition increase + increased enrollment

** Revenue of \$217,786 and \$205,000 less fundraising expenses of \$50,878 and \$50,000 in FY17 and FY18

*We love Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School! We are very demanding about our child's education; we want a **rigorously academic curriculum** with an **authentically Catholic environment** in all facets, and a **caring community** that would help our son flourish. At Lourdes we found all three!"*

— Dr. Tim Gray, President, Augustine Institute; Consultant, USCCB Committee on Catholic Education, Parent of Lourdes Classical Alumni



*"With the breakdown of the education system in our country, we are thrilled to support the Catholic Classical Education offered by Our Lady of Lourdes, because it seeks to form its students by **cultivating wisdom and virtue**, seeking the truth in all things, recognizing **Jesus Christ as the fullness of truth.**"*

- Lourdes Classical Donor

*"Lourdes Classical is everything we wished we had when we were young: A vibrant and authentic **Catholic Christian identity** combined with the Classical approach, which nurtures a **genuine love for learning** and forms the mind to truly think about the material at hand. Add to this the **extraordinary administration and teachers** who truly believe in their mission, and you have the recipe for one of the best Catholic Schools in the nation."*

— Kyle Mills, Denver Catholic Biblical School Graduate, Lourdes Classical Parent



OUR SCHOOL STAFF



Mrs. Crandell
Administrative
Assistant



Miss Deline
PreK Aide



Miss Tetreault
PreK Teacher



Miss Dam
Kindergarten
Teacher



Mrs. Kubier
Kindergarten
Aide



Mrs. Zelasko
1st Grade
Teacher



Miss McGinn
2nd Grade
Teacher



Miss Hicks
3rd Grade
Teacher



Miss Defilippis
4th Grade Teacher



Mrs. Salazar
5th Grade
Teacher



Mrs. Johnstone
Latin Teacher



Mr. Beach
History & P.E.
Teacher



Mrs. Heule
Literature &
History Teacher



Mrs. Fraser
Performing Arts
Teacher



Mrs. Phillips
Visual Arts
Teacher

Not pictured:

Miss Pawelek
1st - 5th Grade Aide

Mr. Defillippis
Math & Science
Teacher