



St. Philomena

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

*Education,
Anchored in Faith*

9377 ST RT 119
ANNA, OH 45302

October 22, 2025

Dear Supporter of St. Philomena Montessori,

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

The history of St. Philomena Montessori School has been marked by a radical dependence on the Holy Spirit to provide for the needs of the children. From the unexpected donation of two complete sets of material for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to the staff members who contacted the school seeking employment at just the right time, SPM has witnessed how God generously provides for His children through our school.

Our Annual Fall Appeal for 2024 was no different. We saw a need for staff development to maintain a standard of excellence for the children, so we stepped out in faith to ask you for help to fund staff training. Once again, the Holy Spirit worked through the hearts of the faithful to provide for that need. **Thanks to each contribution, we exceeded our 2024 annual fund goals which yielded:**

- Classroom Management Certification for nine staff members
- Primary/Toddler Montessori Assistant Certification for five staff members
- First Aid, CPR, AED Training for four staff members
- Continuing Education for three staff members at the Cincinnati Montessori Conference
- One staff member began the process of Certification in Lower/Upper Elementary Montessori Education
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training Course scheduled at our parish in the coming year

On behalf of the staff and especially the children of St. Philomena Montessori School, thank you for your support and prayers!

At SPM, we are particularly proud of our talented staff. Together they have more than 130 years of teaching experience! Eighty-six percent have Montessori Certification/Montessori Assistant Training. Sixty-four percent of the staff have a bachelor's degree, and 36% hold a master's degree. Currently, 36% have Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Religious Education Certification. **These well-trained and dedicated staff members are the foundation of SPM's exemplary program!**

That's why this year's Annual Fall Appeal is all about investing in the strength and stability of our school. We need your help to build upon the foundation of excellence that has been so carefully cultivated. Your support will:

- Help us increase our preschool scholarship fund so that an education anchored in faith can be available to any child.
- Allow us to retain our outstanding staff with competitive pay, which directly benefits our students by creating a sense of stability and continuity.
- Assist us in continuing to build funds to secure the school's future growth.





God's children deserve the best we can give them. In today's world, an education anchored in faith is a precious gift. Listen to the words of parents whose children attend SPM:

"Our children love attending SPM. We feel at peace as parents because we know they are in such a rich, faith-filled, and joyful environment."

"Sending children to a private Catholic school is counter-cultural, and we wondered if this was the right choice. I asked my husband, what would the Holy Family do? We decided that the Holy Family brought Jesus to the temple, and we would do the same by enrolling our children at SPM so as to have a community of faith supporting us in our vocation."

"Mass and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd has positively impacted our family, as it has led us to have deeper conversations with the boys about their faith."

Your gift this year will have a tremendous impact on our students which will be visible daily. Our 2025 Annual Fund goal is to raise \$60,000. We pray that the Holy Spirit will reach the hearts of the faithful with that still small voice which can renew the face of the earth! **We know that God cannot be outdone in generosity, and we continue to practice that radical dependence on Him to provide for the needs of His children. So we invite you to consider reaching even higher than our goal of \$60,000!**

You may use the enclosed envelope and donation card to mail in a donation. **We've included an extra envelope and donation card for you to pass along to a friend or family member who would like to support St. Philomena Montessori as well.** You may also go to our website at www.spmohio.org and click on the support tab to donate online using your credit card. To learn more about tax-advantaged ways to give, such as making a qualified charitable donation with the required minimum distribution from your IRA, please contact me.

Please know that we pray for our supporters regularly and we are grateful for your prayers for St. Philomena Montessori School and all the children it serves!

Gratefully,

Carrie Winhoven
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P.S. Your donation in any amount helps us reach our goal of \$60,000! Please consider partnering with us to make a difference in the life of a child!