

OBTAINING A PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE

Please visit Wilma in the St Joseph's Parish Office (in the parish centre, cnr Main North & Vagues Roads) with your child's baptism certificate. If your child is not baptised, a copy of the parent's certificate needs to be sighted. This information is transferred onto the preference certificate.

Please be aware that when your child starts at St Joseph's School there are diocesan fees (Attendance Dues and Catholic Special Character Contributions) which are charged to each family.

As the parish priest would like to meet you and your child, if possible, the signed preference cards can be picked up from him, on the third Friday of each month, at 3.00pm from the St Joseph's Parish Office. A priest is also available at Christ the King Parish Office, 90 Greers Road, on the first Friday of the month at 3.00pm and at St Albans School Office, 17 Sheppard Place, on the second Friday of the month, also at 3.00pm. Parents need to make sure they also complete and sign the preference card before returning it to the school/college concerned.

Integration and Catholic Education - Attendance Dues & Catholic Special Character Contributions

All Catholic Schools charge Diocesan Fees made up of Attendance Dues and Catholic Special Character Contributions. Attendance Dues are a legally binding charge on all parents and caregivers who have enrolled their children at a Catholic school. This is payable, unless in special circumstances, the charge has been waived by the Proprietor of the school for specific issues associated with a family. Attendance Dues are the compulsory property and insurance fee used to pay for the costs of new school classrooms, gymnasiums and other buildings, pay off existing mortgages and pay for the insurance on all school property.

In the Christchurch Diocese the Attendance Due charge for 2020 is \$330.00 per year or \$82.50 per term (including GST) for each first, second and third child. The account is invoiced at the beginning of each term, from the parish, and must be paid to the parish.

The charging of Attendance Dues is authorised under the Private Schools Conditional Integration Act (1975) and are used to pay for costs associated with the land and buildings for the Catholic Schools in the diocese.

Where a parent has four or more children at a Catholic primary school their attendance dues invoice will be for three children only, i.e. the fourth child, and any further children, will not be charged.

At St Joseph's Parish, parents are asked to set up an automatic payment, as this is the preferred way for payment. It is easier on the parents and assists the parish enormously in paying the diocese. You also have the option of paying on invoice. Unpaid fees are handed over to the diocesan debt collector.

The Catholic Special Character Contribution is collected on behalf of the Catholic Education Office and is used to cover costs associated with the provision and delivery of professional development and advisory services in support of Catholic Special Character in Catholic primary schools in the diocese. This Catholic Special Character financial contribution is tax deductible. The Diocesan Catholic Special Character Contribution is \$50.00 per year of \$12.50 per term (no GST) for each child.

Attendance Dues - \$82.50 per child per term

Catholic Special Character Contribution - \$12.50 per child per term

Totals = \$7.31 per week; \$31.67 per month; \$95.00 per term