



December 16, 2024

Dear Friends in Faith,

On January 18th – 19th, there will be a special collection to benefit the students of St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech. These students receive the education services they need thanks to the generosity of parishioners across the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and we thank you for your part in making that possible.

St. Anthony School Programs offers an inclusive education to children ages 5-21 with Down syndrome, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and other special needs. DePaul School for Hearing and Speech teaches children who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have severe speech delays to listen, speak, and learn. Together, St. Anthony's and DePaul empower students to become active and contributing members of their local communities. With your help, through this special collection, we can support our students' spiritual and academic growth, and give back the joy that they share with us every day.

We have been blessed to have the support of parishes throughout the Diocese, and look forward to your continued support this year. Here is how you can help the children of our programs:

- Please publish the enclosed flyer and/or graphic in your bulletin, or display in your parish community spaces, to make parishioners aware of the Diocesan collection and of these two critical programs in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
- Please encourage your parishioners to participate in this special collection, and help them understand the impact that their support can have on the positive outcomes of the youngest members of our faith.
- Please remind your parishioners to update their Faith Direct accounts, or direct them to the appropriate online giving resources, so they may also contribute to this special collection.

We know that, through your support and prayers, God will continue to work through our programs to help our students succeed and grow. Not only that, but we know that this special collection will also help us reach families within the Diocese whose children would thrive with our services. Thank you for your support, and for opening your heart to these children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ruth G. Auld EdD'.

Ruth G. Auld, EdD
Executive Director
DePaul School for Hearing and Speech

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mark Sieg'.

Mark Sieg
Executive Director
St. Anthony School Programs