



PALM BEACH DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

an affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women

977 Squire Drive, Wellington, Florida 33414

pbdccw.org - pbdccw@gmail.com

pbdccwscholarship@gmail.com

"Joy Springs from a Grateful Heart"

January 2026

Dear Parents, Grandparents and/or Guardians:

The Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (PBDCCW) is again pleased to offer the Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt One Thousand Dollar (\$1,000.00) Catholic High School Scholarship Award for the academic year 2026-2027. PBDCCW has been offering scholarships to outstanding young Catholic women for over fifteen years. Three scholarships are awarded each year to one young lady from each of the three Deaneries within the Diocese of Palm Beach who is planning to attend one of the Palm Beach Diocese three Catholic High Schools in the Fall of 2026 as an *incoming freshman*. The Scholarship Awards will be presented to each recipient at the PBDCCW Annual Meeting in May 2026.

The application to apply for this Scholarship is attached to this letter. Please note the Criteria Checklist on the first page. **All fully completed applications must be received no later than March 15, 2026**, so that the Scholarship Committee can review and choose a recipient from each Deanery. Incomplete applications will not be considered. It is difficult to keep track of each applicant's information if parts are submitted separately.

The completed application can be mailed to Ellen Wagner at 143 Berenger Walk, Wellington, Florida 33414, or emailed to pbdccwscholarship@gmail.com. If emailing your completed application, please include the applicant's full name and the word "Scholarship" in the subject line.

It is never too early to start putting together all the information needed!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ellen Wagner
PBDCCW Scholarship Chairperson

Attachments

**The Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt
Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

APPLICATION FORM

DATE OF APPLICATION _____

APPLICANT'S NAME

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

ADDRESS _____
Street _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____ **PARISH** _____

SCHOOL NOW ATTENDING _____

High School accepted to and attending in the Fall of 2026 _____

CRITERIA CHECKLIST/ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED

- Applicant/family must be a registered and active member(s) of a Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Palm Beach. Candidate must be entering her freshman year of High School.
- Applicant must include acceptance letter/confirmation from the Palm Beach Diocesan Catholic High School she will be attending in the fall of 2026.
- A copy of the registration of enrollment will be required when available.
- Applicants must document how she exemplifies leadership qualities in school and parish activities. (see pg. 2- Applicant Profile)
- Applicant must include an essay (approx. 200 words) outlining her values and goals as a Catholic student and how they have influenced her to continue in a Catholic High School
- Applicant must include three independent recommendations, using the form titled RECOMMENDATIONS on pg. 4, 5 & 6 of the application. The three independent recommendations shall consist of one from each of the following three categories:
 1. *School Principal, Guidance Counselor, or Teacher*
 2. *Parish Priest or Religious Education Director*
 3. *Friend or Community Leader*

A letter may accompany the independent recommendation, but completion of the form RECOMMENDATIONS is required. No more than 3 will be considered.

**The Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt
Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

APPLICANT PROFILE (Please Print.)

Applicant's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

First

Middle

Last

Parent's/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

City

Zip Code

Telephone _____

Elementary/Jr. High schools attended. _____

List complete details of following information, e.g.; amount of time spent; description of involvement, responsibilities.

If you require additional space, please use reverse side of this paper.

Hobbies:(Sports, Music, Art, Drama) _____

Parish Involvement (youth groups, ministries, volunteer)

School Activities and Awards (student government, clubs, and class officer).

Is there a course in which you are interested?

How did you find out about this scholarship? - Through your Parish, School Guidance Office, or a member of the Council of Catholic Women.

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Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

ESSAY FORM (Please print legibly)

APPLICANT'S NAME

PLEASE PRINT IN 200 WORDS OR LESS YOUR VALUES AND GOALS AS A CATHOLIC STUDENT AND HOW THEY HAVE INFLUENCED YOUR CHOICE OF SCHOOL. (You may attach a typed copy.)

**The Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt
Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation for:

Applicant's Name

Parish/School

This Applicant has applied for the Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Scholarship Award. Your evaluation and comments will help facilitate the selection process.

Please evaluate the applicant as follows, using a point scale of 1-10, with 10 being the highest score.

MATURITY

INTEGRITY

ATTITUDE

LEADERSHIP

ACADEMIC MOTIVATION

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Summary comments describing this applicant.

Please state how long you have known this applicant and why she is worthy of this scholarship.

Please print your name _____ **Relationship to applicant** _____

Signature _____ **Telephone number** _____

SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO STUDENT/FAMILY FOR INCLUSION IN APPLICANT'S PACKET

**The Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt
Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

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CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

All the information on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked by an authorized official, I agree to give proof of the information that I have given on this application. Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted. Applicant agrees to an interview by the Scholarship committee if necessary.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE _____

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN

DATE

Relate any additional information or unusual circumstances you feel the Selection Committee should consider in the selection process. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Signature _____

**The Fr. Clem Hammerschmitt
Palm Beach Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
\$1,000.00 High School Scholarship Award 2026**

CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

This is to certify that:

and/or her family is/are a registered and active member(s) of this parish.

Reverend

Pastor

Church of

Phone _____

Date _____

**FULLY COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS
MUST BE RECEIVED
NO LATER THAN**

March 15, 2026

**MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS
TO:**

**ELLEN WAGNER
PBDCCW HS Scholarship Chairman
143 Berenger Walk, Wellington, FL 33414
Or EMAIL
pbdccwscholarship@gmail.com
Please indicate Scholarship and
Applicant's Full Name in the Subject Line**