

St. Mary's Academy
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October, 2018

Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Mary's:

Our 2018 school year should prove to be interesting and different. As many of you may be aware and for those of you who are not, it was determined during the spring of 2017 we would no longer be a Pre-K thru 8th Grade. We would continue as a Pre-K thru 6th Grade elementary school. While this was not much of a surprise as our enrollment in the 7th and 8th Grades had really fallen off significantly, it did hit us hard emotionally.

In June, we graduated 6 wonderful and well prepared students (ALL passing their Regents Subjects and Spanish Proficiency exams), who will now go on to tackle High School. We are very proud of this, the last, 8th Grade Class to become SMA Alumni.

In closing these Middle School grades we also had to say a very sad goodbye to our Middle School Faculty and dear friends. **Mr. Mark Buckholtz**, who had only one year with us but he was a terrific addition to the SMA teaching staff. SMA will sorely miss, **Mrs. Margaret Merwin**, 18 years as our Middle School Math teacher, and outstanding support, dependable volunteer for all events, and a cherished mentor to students and teachers alike, and **Miss Donna Cuddihy**, who leaves after over 30 years of teaching Middle School Science, and throughout the years, Physical Education and Coaching soccer, girls basketball and softball, and especially coordinating with the 8th grade on the memorable fun loving Halloween Themes. All will be in our prayers and our hearts for years to come.

SMA remains resilient through all these changes and we are excited as we embark on a new, challenging, and happy school year here at St. Mary's Academy. Our enrollment is light but the children's faces are still eager, bright and shining and grace our halls with enthusiasm. Our Principal, Mrs. Amanda Patten Goyer and our beloved Pastor, Father Tom Zelker continue to lead, support, and be beacons of light and hope here at SMA.

We continue to find grants and donations of funds for building and educational improvements for our school and our teachers and students.

Our first fundraiser, The Cow Plop & Car Show was Sunday, October 7th which was a big success. Our prize for having the cow "plop" in your square is \$1,000.00 and Mrs. Margaret LeStage, grandparent of 2 of our students, Norman and Margie White, was our winner this year. While the weather was a little wet in the morning we did have 46 beautiful classic cars, trucks, and motorcycles, that braved the elements and lined the Town of Hoosick Athletic Field, Mr. Michael Cram of Clifton Park, NY with his 1968 Buick Firebird won Best of Show. These vehicles made a nice backdrop as we all await that special moment when the Cow Plops!

As always, in the fall we hold our Annual Alumni Appeal. This letter serves as our request for your financial help with this years Alumni Appeal. At this time we do not foresee making the usual phone calls. Our Alumni have been very generous in the past and last year you, our alumni, raised almost \$7,000 for SMA. We are so very grateful to you, Alumni and friends of SMA, for your continued support. This year we hope we can depend on this annual generosity once again.

SMA continues her promise to provide quality Catholic education as we have been doing for over 127 years. If you plan to give, you may do so in a couple of ways. You can visit our website www.smahf.org, and use our on line giving link, just click on the site and follow the prompts or you can return tear off section included here and mail to St. Mary's. (Attn: Alumni Appeal)

Last, but definitely not least I want to extend a **BIG THANK YOU** to all who helped us celebrate our milestone of **127 years** of St. Mary's Academy this past August. Our Alumni Weekend was very well attended for both our Golf Scramble and our Alumni Banquet. It was wonderful to see so many alum return and share stories, golf, dance and just have a terrific time. Thank you for all you do!

Pat Kennedy Hayes '69 

Upcoming Events 2018-2019

All event info will be available on our website

November 20 10 a.m. Free Pancake Breakfast for all family and friends of SMA

Saturday, December 15 Annual Holiday Cabaret 6pm-11pm

Entertainment by West Side Drive

Saturday, January 26 Catholic Schools Week Kick Off

Spaghetti Dinner at SMA (following 4 pm Mass)

March 8, 15, 22, 29 April 5, 12 Lenten Fish Fry Every Friday during Lent at SMA

Eat In or Take Out 4:30pm-7pm (or sold out)

June 8 5th Annual Duck Derby 3pm

St. Mary's Academy 2018 Annual Alumni Appeal

Name _____ SMA Class Year _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail: _____

Pledge/Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Paid by: Check# _____ Credit Card: ___MC/Visa/Amex

Card Number _____ Ex. Date _____

Security Code _____

Does your company match funds? ___Yes ___No

SMA Tax ID for your records:

14-1753421