

Preparing young men and women for college and beyond



As we begin a new school year and new annual fund appeal, we are filled with much excitement! We are proud to share with you that **St. Mary's High School is currently ranked #9 academically** out of 135 public and private schools in Western New York. With this we are also thrilled to be introducing some new curriculum with an emphasis on the important skills to succeed in life. Mandatory courses now include, personal finance and investment, public speaking, college critical writing and leadership academy to name a few. With all of the things that change year in and year out **one thing is constant - our tremendous and dedicated faculty**. None of this could have been accomplished without them. Another constant over the years has been longtime teacher **Mr. Tom Fay**, who would like to share this note with you today:

"Tempus fugit ut habetis jocum, time flies when you are having fun and for the last thirty-eight years I have had great fun at St. Mary's. Amid the struggles and successes of our small, now private, school I have had the privilege and the pleasure to meet, coach, teach and even drive many of the most delightful students, promising athletes and gifted artisans. I am thankful for the past, hopeful for the future and faith grounded in the present.

This school year is my 50th in Catholic education and I have found this to be true. I have learned from my teachers, more from my colleagues but most from my students. Thank you.

As much as St. Mary's has changed in my tenure there has been, is and always will be a constant. That is the challenge and need of financial support. In 1990, when the Diocese of Buffalo made St. Mary's a private, independent school, the financial pressure on benefactors, alumni and parents increased exponentially. The need is always there and any help is greatly appreciated. Please do what you can.

Please pray for the St. Mary's family, past, present and future and its continued success. Donate if you can. Please remember that we are in the presence of the Holy Spirit."

Even if you didn't have Mr. Fay as a teacher, you likely had a teacher during your time at St. Mary's that touched your life like Mr. Fay has for so many students over the years - perhaps it was **Mr. Woj**, who is celebrating his 90th birthday this year. The St. Mary's High School family as a whole, past and present, focus on the value of the educational experience as it prepares our students to be successful in life. **Please consider making a gift** to the annual fund this year to support the faculty, staff and students of St. Mary's High School as we continue striving for success!

Sincerely,

Kevin Kelleher '89 Head of School

a. Repeck

Amanda Rebeck Dean of Advancement and Alumni Relations

P.S. – You can make a gift and an impact right now by visiting <u>http://www.smhlancers.org/support-smh/</u> GO LANCERS!

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