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## St. Mary's Moves Up in *Business First* Rankings

St. Mary's waved goodbye to the number nine spot in the *Business First* rankings of 134 high schools in Western New York, moving up two spots to number seven on 2018's list.

St. Mary's has seen tremendous growth from both an enrollment and academic standpoint over the last several years, rising a total of 19 spots in *Business First's* poll since 2014.

St. Mary's Head of School Kevin Kelleher attributes the sharp uptick in enrollment and rankings, in part, to the school's new organizational structure: "St. Mary's has seen a lot of changes in the past year. Our entire administration brings so much to the table, which ena-

bles us to really welcome the best kids and families into our school," Kelleher said. "The Class of 2020 is the biggest we've had in years, which shows that people are really beginning to see what we've always known—St. Mary's is

atop the high school scene in Western New York."

Kelleher continued, "We have everything on the academic level to prepare our kids to get into the best colleges, and the *Business First* rankings are

quantitative proof of that. Combine this high standard for academics with our family-like atmosphere, and our kids are able to really excel outside of the classroom too—whether it be in athletics, in the arts, or in some other type of club. Every student can find their own niche, their own place at St. Mary's," Kelleher said.

All of the pieces are in place for St. Mary's to become the school of choice for a whole new generation of Lancers.

### HIGH SCHOOLS (WESTERN NEW YORK)

#### 7. St. Mary's HS

Overall rank: 7 of 134 (ahead of 95.5%)

English: 11 of 134 (92.5%)

Math: 12 of 134 (91.7%)

Science: 16 of 134 (88.7%)

Social studies: 3 of 134 (98.5%)

District: Lancaster



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## Important St. Mary's Information

The complete 2018-19 school calendar, summer reading assignments, partial school supply list, and all other important SMH information can be found online at [smblancers.org](http://smblancers.org).

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A1

## Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I hope you have all been enjoying this beautiful summer immensely! The August edition of *The Marian Gazette* was certainly a treat to work on, and I greatly look forward to another year— my last year, at that— of serving as the editor of this newsletter. Make sure to keep an eye out for all that's in store for you during the 2018-2019 school year!

It can become rather difficult to accept that the inevitable end of our long-awaited summer vacation is almost upon us, but it's times like these that can serve as a wake-up call to fully appreciate and revel in the final days of summer for all they are worth. The incredulous importance behind savoring the moment is often a lesson best learned sooner than later, especially when referring to Buffalo's wonderful (and rare) warm weather!

Speaking of the concept of "living in the moment," I'm finding myself in somewhat disbelief that I'm on the brink of beginning my final year of high school. After being told numerous times that my four years at St. Mary's would fly by, I now realize the vast amount of truth found in that simple statement as I come to terms with the fact that everything during this upcoming school year will be my "last first."

While it's both exciting and nerve-wracking that my time as a high school student will be over within the blink of an eye as I prepare for college and beyond, the phrase "carpe diem" holds a substantial amount of significance now more than ever, especially for my fellow senior classmates. Our glorious, yet difficult years of youth will be behind us before we know it, therefore seizing the day to the best of our abilities— be it with schoolwork, college applications, or appreciating friendships that may be difficult to maintain within the upcoming years— is the sole outlet for truly living in the moment and giving it our all, one last time.

When I wrote my first editor letter last year, I decided that I wanted to include a quote that I've personally held in high-esteem within each edition of the *Gazette*, and I'd like to continue this tradition of sorts into the upcoming school year as well.

"Rejoice, O youth, while you are young and let your heart be glad in the days of your youth. Follow the ways of your heart, the vision of your eyes; Yet understand regarding all this that God will bring to judgement. Banish misery from your heart and remove pain from your body, for youth and black hair are fleeting." (Eccl. 11: 9-10)

Whether you are young in age or young at heart (or both), I hope the beauty and poignancy found within this Scripture reading may inspire you to *always* follow your heart and enjoy the moment you are currently living in, since life oftentimes makes it tricky to take time out to metaphorically smell the roses.

Sincerely yours,  
Brianna Propis

## Calling all writers!

Do you like to write? Are you passionate about St. Mary's? Do you have a particular interest you'd like to share with an audience?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then come join us at *The Marian Gazette*! We are currently looking for student writers for all of our news sections for next year. If you are interested, please contact Student Editor Brianna Propis, Mrs. Roberson, or Miss Kawa.



School News

St. Mary’s is Here to Stay

Last month, it was made public that the Diocese of Buffalo would be cutting funding to several former Diocesan high schools. In light of this news, some questioned the health and longevity of St. Mary’s High School. Head of School Mr. Kelleher released an official statement to address this matter, which can be read here:

Statement  
June 28, 2018

Statement from Head of School, Kevin Kelleher:

Lancaster, NY – The cuts in funding from the Diocese of Buffalo are disappointing and certainly negate some of the good things we have been doing in working toward financial strength. However, these cuts will not define us.

We are positioned well to continue to serve students in Western New York for generations to come, as we have enjoyed strong and impressive enrollment growth, resulting in a total enrollment of 400 students for the upcoming 2018-19 school year. That, coupled with a strong showing academically in the top 10 in *Buffalo Business First* rankings of 134 public and private high schools (currently ranked #7) shows our strength as the area’s finest co-ed private Catholic high school.

We are thankful to the Diocese for their support over the years and continue to look forward to helping advance the mission and message of the Catholic Church to our students during their four years with us.

Founded in 1904, St. Mary’s High School has been preparing its students to achieve success for 114 years. St. Mary’s High School is the leading Catholic, co-ed college preparatory school in Western New York—a beacon of faith, excellence, achievement, and inspiration.

###

e-mail: [lancer@smhlanders.org](mailto:lancer@smhlanders.org) • website: [www.smhlanders.org](http://www.smhlanders.org)

Lancaster 4th of July Parade



St. Mary’s celebrated Independence Day in style this year at the annual Village of Lancaster 4th of July Parade!

Members of the Lancer Wrestling Team and Lancer First Responders transformed the St. Mary’s bus into quite the patriotic float to participate in the parade.

A special thank you goes out to Mr. Weiss for coordinating the event and driving the bus down the parade route!

School News

Lancers Accepted Into Roswell Junior Robotics Program

Three St. Mary’s High School students will be spending their summer learning about surgical robotics. Junior Jeffrey Zoyhofski and seniors Nicholas Pronobis and Megan White have been selected to participate in the Junior Robotic Surgery Challenge (JRSC) at Roswell Park Cancer Institute of Buffalo.

Zoyhofski, White, and Pronobis were selected from a highly competitive field of candidates, between the ages of 16 and 19 and from across the country, in order to participate in the program. For the St. Mary’s group, the decision to apply to Roswell stemmed from a collective desire to learn more about the field of medicine at an early age: “I am fascinated by the medical field as a whole, but wanted the opportunity to be exposed to different fields before I decide on a college major,” said Zoyhofski.

St. Mary’s AP Biology teacher Mrs. Kathleen Walh-Henshaw is extremely proud of these students: “The application process alone for the robotics program is extremely rigorous,” Walh-Henshaw said. “This whole experience is a wonderful opportunity for these students to really expand their knowledge in the science and medical fields to see if this is a path they want to explore in college and beyond as well as learn the intricacies of robotic surgery, which is an incredibly fascinating field.”

Through the JRSC, students will be exposed to the Fundamental Skills of Robotic Surgery curriculum –also known as the primary method used to train robot-assisted surgeons at Roswell Park. In addition to this exposure, students will have access to workshops and job fairs to really get a feel for the opportunities that await them in the fields of science, technology, and medicine. At the end of the course, students will

receive a certificate of completion in Introduction to Robotic Surgery.

All three St. Mary’s students are excited for the opportunity and hope to get a glimpse of what their future careers may hold: “I really want to immerse myself into the world of medicine and be reassured that it’s something I can see myself doing in the future,” Pronobis said. White agrees, “Right now, I am looking to go into PT or sports medicine, so this opportunity with Roswell is the perfect chance to see different things and get more experience.”



Megan White '19, Nick Pronobis '19, and Jeff Zoyhofski '20

Lancers Volunteer at Oishei Children’s Hospital



Some of our Lancers volunteered their time with Stone's Buddies, an Oishei Children's Hospital program that supports families coping with chronic and life-threatening illnesses. These students are living out Franciscan values and experiencing the good that comes with volunteering their times and talents for an incredibly deserving cause.



Faculty Spotlight

Mr. Fay’s Corner



Glod to najlepszy kucharz Dobranoc. Spellcheck not working? It works! This is a Polish phrase meaning "Hunger makes a good cook." Hunger usually implies physical hunger that is often satisfied by pizza, chocolate, ice cream, or perhaps dinner at "Russell's, of course."

On a higher level, hunger implies ideals of peace in families, communities, and nations. It may also include equality, fairness, justice, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Spiritual hunger is satisfied, in part, by the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Sacraments have deeper meaning than symbolic actions. Sacraments are the reality of the rite. In Reconciliation, our sins are forgiven, nevermore to be recalled. In Eucharist, we experience the Real Presence of Jesus. The grace of Holy Communion sustains for this life and beyond. A living force to help us become the person God created in us, and sees in us. Eucharist grace is the strength to deal with the temptations and the "hard times" of life. Jesus is present to us and with us.

Taking care of the physical needs of the less fortunate is a challenge of the corporal works of mercy. Taking care of our spiritual needs is a challenge met by our prayerful, sacramental life. Benedicat vos omnipotens Deus.+

Check back in the Fall for the latest Q & A’s with some of St. Mary’s favorite faculty and staff members and everyone’s favorite “Guess the Teacher” section!

Sports

Fall Sports Set to Begin

Check [smhlancers.org](http://smhlancers.org) for tryout information with schedules and rosters to be posted soon!

### St. Mary's Fall Athletic Info

**Cheer**  
Wed, Aug 15 and Fri, Aug 17  
5:30-7:30pm  
@ St. Mary's High School

**Cross Country**  
Mon, Aug 20 - Fri, Aug 24  
8am @ St. Mary's High School  
6pm @ Como Park

**Football**  
Monday, August 13-Friday, August 17  
8:45am-12pm  
@ St. Mary's High School

**Golf**  
Wed, Aug 15 and Thurs, Aug 16  
3:30pm  
Walden Driving Range

**Men's Soccer**  
Mon, Aug 13-Fri, Aug 17  
6-8pm  
Lancaster Middle School

**Women's Soccer**  
Mon, Aug 13- Wed, Aug 15  
9-11am  
Westwood Park

**Men's Volleyball**  
Mon, Aug 13 - Wed, Aug 15  
4-6pm  
@ St. Mary's High School

**Women's Volleyball**  
Mon, Aug 13 - Wed, Aug 15  
9am -12:30 pm  
@ St. Mary's High School

Fall Athletes—What You Need to Know

Before tryouts start on Monday, August 13th, there are a few important things athletes need to know:

**Every student-athlete** must have a **current physical** from his/her physician on file in the health office **for each sport, each season, and each year** they would like to participate. Private physician physicals are required annually, and need to be current as of the first day of tryouts for that sport. Physicals are good for one year and through the end of the month of when it was performed. Example: Tryouts for a sport starting on August 13, 2018, a private physician physical completed anytime from August 1, 2017 through August 13, 2018 would allow the

athlete to start that particular sport. Of course a new physical would be required as soon as possible following that expiration date. A review with the nurse at St. Mary’s High School will need to be completed prior to tryouts.

**August 13th is the last date for a review with the School Nurse.**

At this July/August review, provided your private physician physical was received and upon review of your pink Interval Health History form, the athlete will be given a **YELLOW ATHLETIC CARD**, which will need to be presented to the coach at the first tryout.

If you have already had your review and have your yellow card in-hand, we will see you at tryouts!



## Alumni News & Updates

### Grand Reunion Recap

In June, St. Mary's celebrated all alumni, particularly those with graduation years ending in 3 and 8, at the first annual All-Class Grand Reunion! We had a wonderful turnout, especially from the Class of 1963.

All the Lancers in attendance had a wonderful time, and we look forward to continuing this new tradition of celebrating great company with great memories and great food.



### Join Us for the Classic Car Show & Chicken BBQ—Aug. 19th



Looking for something fun to do on a summer Sunday afternoon the whole family can enjoy? Stop by St. Mary's on August 19th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the 23rd annual Classic Car Show and Chicken BBQ! There will be some amazing cars to see, plus leave the cooking to us and pick up some chicken dinners for \$10.

Are you a St. Mary's student looking to get a head start on some service hours? We need YOU! Email Ms. Rebeck at [arebeck@smhlancers.org](mailto:arebeck@smhlancers.org) for more information on how to help out at the Car Show.

### St. Mary's Golf Tournament is Fun for All

St. Mary's held its 19th annual Golf Tournament on June 25th at Lancaster Country Club.

The weather could not have been more perfect for a summer afternoon on the course! Everyone in attendance enjoyed a wonderful round of golf followed by a delicious dinner in the club house.

Prizes and awards to the day's winners were also presented.

Please join us for next year's Open! Stay tuned to [smhlancers.org](http://smhlancers.org) for more details!



## Student Beat

### #LancersLastLecture

By: Brianna Propis

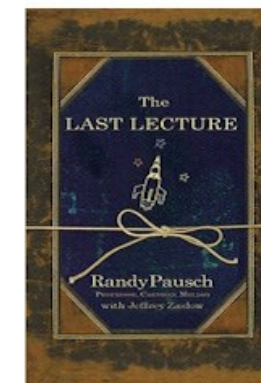
Summer reading typically has a few negative connotations attached to it. When students are reminded of the assignments during the final days of class, it's practically a guarantee that a fair share of eye rolls and huffs are to follow. However, the St. Mary's English Department has certainly outdone themselves this year with their selection of books for each student to *hopefully* peruse and enjoy—namely Randy Pausch's *The Last Lecture*. Pausch's memoir dives deep into both the joys and tribulations of human existence (using his own experiences as reference, of course). He doesn't refrain from providing audiences with an authentic glimpse into his upbringing, career, family, and experiences (most notably, his battle with cancer). His wonderfully optimistic insights and worldviews are incredibly inspirational and can easily leave readers with a plethora amount of "food for thought." The memoir is undoubtedly a poignant, yet uplifting roller coaster ride that students would certainly not want to miss—no matter what your prior beliefs on summer reading assignments were!

\*If you're a student at St. Mary's who's already completed or just beginning to read *The Last Lecture* (you still have time!), make sure you enter the English Department's contest to potentially win an awesome prize! How can you enter? Simply post a picture of yourself with the book on your Instagram or Twitter account using #LancersLastLecture. The most creative post will receive a prize. Good luck!

### Summer Reading 2018

## All-School Read: *The Last Lecture*

By: Randy Pausch and Jeffrey Zaslow



### #LancersLastLecture

Post a photo of you reading *The Last Lecture* with the hashtag, #LancersLastLecture on Instagram or Twitter for a chance to win a prize!



Student Beat

The Different Faces of Buffalo

By: Alyssa LaMartina

Hello! I hope you are having a great summer thus far! For this month’s *Marian Gazette* article, I decided to stray from my normal Buffalo locations and focus on the faces that make Buffalo the vibrant and diverse city it is. Captured in several different locations, these portraits portray a variety of individuals who call Buffalo home. I hope you enjoy!

Let’s begin in one of Buffalo’s prime locations for the holiday season: the Broadway Market, located on none other than Broadway Street. Starting off as a community meeting building, the Broadway Market has grown to host a thriving Eastern European culture. It was known for its exotic foods and imported goods. Although times have changed, the Broadway Market still provides a variety of family-owned businesses who regularly vend there. The Broadway Market harbors a bustling Easter scene, which any Buffalonian is sure to have experienced. I traveled to the Broadway Market during the Easter season myself and managed to snap a few shots of average people during any, old day.

This first picture captures a jazz musician preparing for a performance that day. As he read over his music and gathered his thoughts, I was able to take a picture of the scene.



This next picture was taken in the Broadway Market as well, at a small diner counter. A father had brought his three sons with him to grab some breakfast. I wanted to document this nostalgic and relaxed Sunday Morning.



This final picture from the Broadway Market was taken of a hat vendor. He worked in a small area, surrounded by the hats he was selling and fitting to individuals. When I asked if I could take his picture, he gleamed and stood proudly around his hats, telling me how much he loved to have his picture taken.



Continued on p. F4

Student Beat

7 Reasons to Watch: The Prince of Egypt

This month, senior Nicole Gorny tells us why *The Prince of Egypt* is an underrated film and one not to be missed.

1. Music

Throughout the years, Walt Disney Studios has garnered a plethora of attention for their award-winning music and film scores. From *Mary Poppins* to *Frozen*, it’s hard not to think of the company when awards for best scores or animation are distributed. However, *The Prince of Egypt* is not a Disney movie— rather, it’s a Dreamworks film. One of the founders of Dreamworks, Jeffrey Katzenberg, was a chairman for Disney and later kick-started his own company. Released in 1998, *The Prince of Egypt* has groundbreaking songs that break away from the typical Disney sound and instead provide a fresh take for cinematic— especially animated— musicals. In fact, both Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey provided the vocals for the Academy Award-winning song featured in the film, “When You Believe.”

2. Animation

Dreamworks Animation Studios has been around since 1994 and made some of their first movies using CGI (computer-generated images). *The Prince of Egypt* was Dreamworks’ first shot at using traditional animation (hand-drawn). Although it was released four years after Dreamworks was founded, the details in the animation are very impressive.

3. Not Just a Biblical Tale

Most people tend to harshly critique a film that’s based on Biblical tales or elements. While some films have proven themselves to fall within this realm and are not as entertaining or faithful to general storytelling components within the context of the Bible, *The Prince of Egypt* breaks this stereotype. When God is discussed in the film, the animation helps bring out audience members’ own interpretations opposed to shoving beliefs down their throats. A great example

of this dynamic is the burning bush scene in which Moses speaks to God for the first time. Through its soft animated movements, *The Prince of Egypt* allows viewers to experience what Moses truly felt and saw despite not actually being present during the event. The film is both an informative and enjoyable depiction of Biblical tales.

4. Parallels



Both images depict darkness. In the left image, Moses, after having a dream about his past before he was adopted, wakes up to find the proof that his adoptive father ordered the deaths of innocent children. The right image takes place just before the Tenth Plague, in which Moses spoke to Ramses (Moses’ brother) while Ramses’ son stood below the image of the babies being thrown into the Nile. It’s symbolic of Ramses’ son being a part of the next plague that mirrored the death of Israelite children years before. There are several other examples of powerful imagery throughout the film that adds a sense of depth not often found in animated movies.

5. Different Points of View

While handling the heavy subjects of slavery and discrimination, *The Prince of Egypt* doesn’t shy away from offering different, varying perspectives. For example, Seti (Ramses and Moses’ father) finds Moses upset over a hieroglyphic depicting the murder of the infant boys that led to Moses’ adoption. When hugging Moses, Seti chillingly says: “...they were only slaves.” This not only offers a new perspective, but also mirrors the way in which people in our world today view certain situations. In replacing the word “slaves,” that sentence can be

used for just about any modern discrimination.

6. The Evolution of Character

After the opening sequence, there are multiple scenes with Ramses and Moses together, but their relationship is different from other interpretations of Moses’ story. For example, in most versions, Ramses hates Moses because he knows he was



born a slave. However, *The Prince of Egypt’s* Ramses doesn’t know this at first and therefore views Moses as his brother. Their relationship isn’t full of hatred that fore-

shadows future events; rather, it’s two brothers who enjoy being with each other. Towards the beginning of the film, Moses is immature and carefree. While Ramses gives into these personality traits as well, he also worries about pleasing his father since he is next in line to be pharaoh. In Moses’ words, Ramses “cares too much.” In Ramses’ words, Moses “doesn’t care at all.” As the story progresses, these roles reverse as Moses grows less selfish and cares more about liberating his people, while Ramses doesn’t care about Egypt’s sufferings during the plagues as long as his own personal desires are met.

7. Brotherly Bonds

While the plot relies heavily on the well-known biblical tales of Moses and his family, at the end of the day, it’s a story about two brothers. Ramses is a pharaoh who prides himself on maintaining his ego and a country he must support. He was brainwashed by his father who thought of him as a disappointment. Moses, on the other hand, has trouble when he discovers he was actually adopted and born a slave. Upon learning this, his whole outlook on life and self-image is shattered, and he begins to struggle with his real identity. Years later, when Ramses and Moses are reunited, there’s a desire on both ends to attempt to rekindle their brotherly bond.



Student Beat

Allentown in the Place to Be

Continued from p. F2

The next portrait location is the Allentown Art Festival. Beginning in 1958, the Allentown Art Festival brings a large variety of artists to the Elmwood area. Starting out as live painters lining the streets, Allentown has grown substantially, hosting a vibrant group of individuals each summer.



This first picture is of a musician playing an oboe for the crowd. As I walked amidst the festival, I heard beautiful music and was soon able to locate the source.



My last portrait is of another musician. As I finished my walk in the festival, I noticed this guitar player under a distant tree. He sat secluded, strumming some chords, in his own world.

I hope you enjoyed this special article of *The Marian Gazette*! There will be more to come next year. I hope you check it out!

The Brotherly Bonds of The Prince of Egypt

After nine out of the ten plagues occur, there’s a scene in which Ramses and Moses come to a place with a great deal of sentimental value to them both. At first, Ramses is angry with Moses, but Moses begins reminiscing on the mischief the two caused when they were younger. Ramses corrects Moses’ story, then begins to grow angry again, telling Moses that he’s always gotten him into trouble. At this moment, Moses can’t see Ramses, but the audience can. A smile creeps on his face as he plays with a ring he once gave to Moses. He turns around, his voice much softer, and says, “But you were always there to get me out of trouble again,” placing his hand on Moses’ shoulder and asks, “Why can’t things be the way they were before?” Even after feeling betrayed by Moses, there’s still a part of Ramses that holds onto the idea of letting him in his family again, despite knowing Moses isn’t his biological brother. At the end of the day, he loves him and still views him as his family.

*\*A prequel to The Prince of Egypt was released by Dreamworks in 2000, titled Joseph: King of Dreams. While I believe the prequel film does not hold up to the original film, I still suggest checking it out for yourself. Both films can be found on Netflix, and The Prince of Egypt is On Demand with Spectrum.*

School Calendars - September 2018



September 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	LABOR DAY 3	4	Faculty/Staff ONLY 8am – 2:30pm 5	NOON DISMISSAL First day for all students Special Schedule Opening Liturgy Fac/Staff Meeting 12 – 3:30pm 6	Registration deadline for 10/6 SAT Exam 7 Opening Dance 7 – 10 pm	8
9	Meet the Teachers Night 6pm 10	Lancer Parent Partnership Meeting 6:30pm 11	12	13	14	15
RPM Retreat Departs 16	RPM Retreat Returns 17	18	19	No After School Activities Open House 5 – 8pm 20	NO SCHOOL Open House 5 – 7pm 21	22
Homecoming Week 23	24	Walk-A-Thon 25	26	Powder Puff & Bonfire 7pm 27	Lancer 5K Run 6:30 pm 28	Homecoming Dance 7-10pm 29
30						

Check out [smblancers.org](http://smblancers.org) later this month for the September 2018 lunch menu!

For the latest school calendar updates, please visit [smblancers.org](http://smblancers.org).